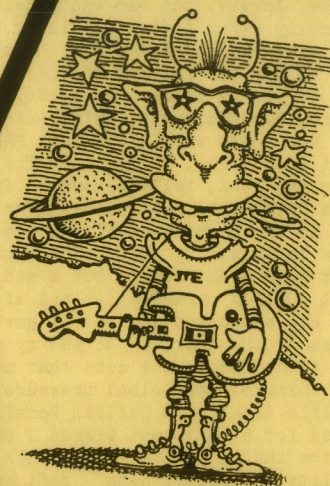


MUSIC & ELSEWHERE: THE NewsZine > Fall '95

MICK MAGIC
6 FARM COURT
FRIMLEY
CAMBERLEY
SURREY
GU16 5TJ
U.K.

TEL:
+44 (0)1276
684209



GREETINGS
PLANET
EARTH...



Hi there! Great to be back with yas again as Summer fades to a close for us up here in the Northern Hemisphere. Hot!??? Never known a Summer like it. Oh, apologies to the goths for the constant use of bad language. That's TWICE I've used the word "Summer" now, sorry. Bugger, just used it again. Oops. Anyway, S****r's all over now, huh? It's better if I write it as S****r really, I wouldn't want to upset the likes of Andy Sacrifice, Janis Kalifatidis and Mike Pougoumas, natch. Wow though, it just went on and on and on. It's actually been up in the 30's in England (that's the 80's in old money) for the best part of two months, totally unbelievable...a whole Wimbledon fortnight passed without any rainfall! I think today (normal British S****r day; overcast, cool, raining) is the first day in ages I've been fully dressed, been sitting around in just a pair of shorts for the most part. Sorry to those of you that are eating while reading this. Well anyway, knowing England, we won't see the s*n s*****g b*****y in the sky again now until next May. It only takes one thing in this country to bring fine weather to an end...a Bank Holiday Weekend, specially the one the Reading Festival is on (it finished yesterday). And the end of August Bank Holiday means September is upon us and it's M&E Newszine time again, so it's sharpen up the pencils, fresh ribbon in the typewriter (oh yeah, we're all hi-tech here, ya know) and out with the Letraset. And that's always the first thing that pisses me off when I start an M&E Newszine...the bloody Letraset! I mean, what language is the stupid stuff devised for??? Swahili??? It's certainly not English, I'll tell ya that much. First things to go are the A's, E's, S's and T's...notice they are the cornerstones of the English language! Exactly! And what do ya get left with? J's, K's, Q's and bloody Z's! Oh yes, dead common, aren't they? In Martian maybe. Oh, how could I possibly get by without doing the headline, "Jousting With The Kings And Queens Of Zanzibar"? So tell us, Letraset people, what


kind of subversive plot is this??? Are ya trying to destroy the English language or what??? You give us a handful of E's, yet bloody millions of Q's??? There's nothing else for it, I'll have to start a band called Jkqz. Not looking so smug now, are you? Ha! Be nice to get back in my taxi next week and get back to being pissed off about sad old flat-capped farts in Metros. Anyway, the M&E Newszine isn't meant to be for complaints about stupid typesetting sheets and drivers who do 28 mph all the time, it's meant to be interesting tales of life in the underground, so I'll start off this ish with our M&E staff holiday to Zanzibar and an amazing day's jousting with their Royal Family...

Hey...that picture on the left here, kinda looks like an album cover, don't it? No...surely not...a MAGIC MOMENTS album??? So soon??? But it's only been 3 years and 8 months since WHITE HAWK ATOMIC came out! Okay, so they were still burning witches at the stake the last time we released an album, but it's finally happened, sorry to shock you so drastically, but it had to happen eventually, huh? I mean, we've already used more excuses than Monty Python's "cheese shop" sketch, haven't we? Sorry, the album won't be out this decade, the cat's got it. It's a bit runny, you wouldn't like it, sir. But seriously, folks...25th October 1995...it's out...honest! Advance promo cassettes are circulating the globe as I write these very words... little round silver discs are being pressed in the factory at this very magic moment (please God...don't let the fucking factory explode!)...nothing can stop it now...can it??? Er...nice roughs, Thayen, can we have the finished artwork now????? Pretty please??? Yes, once in a hundred years, a MAGIC MOMENTS album happens.....



Oh look...it's another one of them funny little adverts...an exploding keyring!
 Seriously though, this one is a lifesaver, trust me, I'm a spaceman. The amount of times this gadget has saved my arse when I couldn't find my keys (I have the one that responds to Albanian Folk Tunes, I'm not big on soaps), all I do is whistle the opening bars to "Three Goats In A Fountain" and BANG! The hole in the wall tells me exactly where my keys were, voila! Didn't know I could write in French, did ya? Mais oui, je suis un voiture, voulez vous coucher avec un arbre bleu. Impressed? Thought ya would be. Anyway, the man who provides all this snazzy artwork for us is our friend, Roy Connolly (that definately isn't how you spell, Connolly, is it?), and he drew the groovy axe-wielding alien for the title banner on the front cover too, nice man. So a big ta to Roy for all the snippets of his artwork that appear through these hallowed pages. If you're interested in Roy's etchings (oo-er!), you'll find him at 26b North Crescent, Haverfordwest, Dyfed, SA61 2HZ, Cymru, UK, and say hi from us!

Now where was I? The last M&E Newzine went out at the start of May, so let's take it from there. So our Lulu The Space Babe (aka Leonie Jackson) had recently come back to the fold, fully recovered from being mega poorly, the final recording session for the CREAVOLUTION album had been booked and life was all sunshine (oops!) and roses again. So one night in early May, me, Lulu and her man, Ian, all trekked off down to Aitch's in Godalming to see the mighty KAVA KAVA and SERIOUS PLANKTON at a GUILFIN benefit gig. Great night, but a sadly abysmal turnout for two such fine bands. With typical GUILFIN organisation and efficiency, the doors opened a couple of hours before anyone had sound tested, but it gave me a nice chance to natter to people. Thayen Rich, one of the anarchic wildmen of the GUILFIN team was on the door, so he was my first victim, seeing as how I had to talk to him about our CD cover, what he had most kindly agreed to do. Hey...the dude that used to do "Robo Hunters" for "2,000 A.D." was doing a MAGIC MOMENTS album cover, yo! Calm down, Magic, think of your blood pressure. He then proceeded to impress me with his amazing skills of salesmanship, selling the totally incredible total of 0 Guilfin Benefit Tapes...PLUS another 0 of the M&E KAVA KAVA tapes, making a grand total of 0 for the night. I sulked for a while and wished I had that kind of talent, but life goes on. So I had a natter with DR.BROWN, coz they were there too, nice bunch, we like them. Then SERIOUS PLANKTON took to the stage (dramatic licence in play here, quite some time had passed in reality) (reality: noun - soft option for people who can't handle hallucinogenic drugs) and began to play their hypnotic festie ska rhythms, but no point exciting you about them coz they've split up now, so you'll never get a chance to hear them anyway. But life goes on. Come the break, I bumped into Inga Leru, one of the guest vocalists on our new CD (oh, have I already mentioned we have a new album out soon?) and she was well excited coz she didn't know it was going on CD. Well, I'd only just found out myself. Look, I don't want you to think I was neglecting Lulu and Ian, I wasn't, I was just flitting around a lot, I like flitting. Oh yeah, Inga...well, Inga gave me a big kiss (that's the way I remember it, though I confess I'd had a few pints by then) and was very happy about it. Then I spotted Richard Allen arriving, the gov'nor of the UK's most worthwhile record label, DELERIUM, and publisher of FREAKBEAT, the happening psychedelic zine that happens more often than Halley's Comet. Fortunately, he didn't see me coming, so I got a chance to chat to him too and persuade him to send me a review copy of the new KAVA KAVA CD, nice man. Then 'twas time for the mighty KAVA KAVA to take the stage...ta-ra! They've been one of my fave bands since the first time I heard them actually, and they played their hearts out to the couple of dozen people who'd been smart enough to come along, first time I'd seen them with the extra guy on sax and didgeridoo too, wild stuff. But anyway, I won't bother reviewing the gig coz I'm going to review the album in a minute, suffice it to say they are an extremely impressive live band, very tight, very visual, very worth seeing whenever you get the chance. Well, we all enjoyed the night muchly, but this was all supposed to be a GUILFIN events. I've been to quite a few and they are always excellent. As with all FIN cells, they don't make a penny, so they really do need ya support to be able to carry on spreading all them happening dates around. Any and all contributions are welcome, you can make contact with them at P.O.Box 217, Woodbridge Meadows, Guildford, Surrey, GU2 6FF, UK, an SAE gets a GUILFIN newsletter...



CANT FIND YOUR KEYS?
 SAVE PRECIOUS TIME WITH AN **EXPLODING KEYRING!**
 SIMPLY WHISTLE THE OPENING BARS FROM A FAVOURITE SONG AND THE KEYRING WILL EXPLODE - INDICATING LOCATION IN A FLASH!

CHOOSE FROM:
 1: SOAP'S SIGNATURE TUNES
 2: ALBANIAN FOLK SONGS
 3: BIRDSONGS OF BRITAIN.

NOT SUITABLE FOR CHILDREN UNDER 36 MONTHS OR ORNITHOLOGISTS

KAVA KAVA - "YOU CAN LIVE HERE" (DELERIUM RECORDS - DELEC CD/IP 024 - UK DISTRIBUTION: VITAL)

Ah, the incredible Pat Fulgoni in good voice once more, soulful, like the Godfather Of...er...Psychedelia! This is like Traffic Jam with Led Zeppelin and The Average White Band in their wilder moments, pure psychefunk, space cadets. Such a tight sound, music that makes you wanna listen and groove, plenty here for ears and feet and soul, natch. This time ya gets a sax on top too, sits well on the funky poppin' bass (hey, the little guy can play!) and the groovy sixties organ (a Hammond, no less) and the fine rhythmic drumming, acid jazz, dudes. It's Pat's voice that always draws my attention, but that's not to take away from the rest of this exceptional combo, just that Pat is a doubly exceptional vocalist, like a fusion of Jim Capaldi and Robert Plant, nuff said? And ya gets psyched up Led Zep riffs, driving funk up rhythms that bring back memories of Lighthouse from the early 70s, glids and echoes and far reachin' green Gong driven psyche, and no bullshit, how many hairy psyche bands would dare call a track "Hippy Bollocks"? Shit, these guys should be a legendary supergroup, buy the album and help make it happen! Also available by mail from Delerium at P.O.Box 1288, Gerrards Cross, Buckinghamshire, SL9 9YB, UK. Magic's Rating: **SERIOUSLY EXCELLENT!** (On M&E: Kava Kava - "Bdoing Phht" - M&E 266 - C46) P.S. When the CD ends, leave it running for an extra bit at the end...

Before we knew it, 'twas Friday 19th May and it was time to drive all the way across London to sunny Plumstead for the last session of the CREAVOLUTION album (oh, have I mentioned we have a new album out soon?)! Six tracks were already finished, four were waiting for Lulu's delightful voice to grace them, so me and Lulu and Ian (a supportative boyfriend, take notes, guys!) crammed into the Nissan Micratron and headed north. Well, sort of north-east really, just saying "north" has more impact though, don't ya think? Lulu and Ian took their own food, claiming this was to do with their vegetarian diet and NOTHING at all to do with all the horror stories I'd written about Marc Bell's cooking (even though they are all true). Come early evening, we arrived at BRAINDEAD STUDIOS, ready for a hard weekend's work, and I have to confess to having a certain liking for Marc's bubonic culinary talents, as well as his wife, but we can't mention that. Mind you, I can mention that her charming little lad, Francis, put a full pot of yoghurt on a chair she was sitting on, which was a great source of amusement to all of us. The sight of her standing there with a mass of live bacteria hanging from the back of her jeans will live with me for a long time.

Anyway, one extremely grinding weekend (and lots of platefuls of greasy bubonic food) later, we left for home, drained and shattered (relieved, in Ian's case), but happy that the album was finished. Marc looked very happy that it was finished too. So did his wife, Jane (private joke). Well, "finished" is maybe not the best word, we still had to do the final mixdown, but at least all the actual recording work was 100% definately done and there was nothing more to do on it at all! Remember I said this in a few pages time, okay? Of course, before you do the final mixdown, doing a set of rough mixes is most advisable, so all on me lonesome, a flying one night visit to BRAINDEAD was arranged for Thursday June 8th. "Rough mixes won't take long," said Marc. The words echoed in my mind as I arrived back home at three o'clock the following morning. The following day, all I had to do was listen to the roughs...AARRGGH...it was the stuff of nightmares, lead vocals buried in the mix, lead guitar solos that were either too quiet or too loud. "That's why you do rough mixes, isn't it?" Marc said smugly on the telephone. Hmph. I needed a holiday before facing the daunting task of doing the final mixdown for real.

The first two weeks in June had made it the wettest on record, it just rained and rained and rained (I love England), and it was a few degrees cooler than it should be at the onset of S****r. Our holiday was arranged to start on Saturday 17th June, and that morning arrived, still raining, I looked skyward and said "cheers, God, we owe you one." Blackpool beckoned. Oh deep joy. Our original plans had been different, we'd been invited out to California by our good friend, Kevyn Dymond, we'd really been looking forward to it, specially me, I've seen "Baywatch". But things had kind of changed with the sad discovery that my father had cancer of the lung. It came as such a shock. It's a strange thing, like you know your parents aren't gonna live forever, but when the powers that be suddenly whack a time limit on it, it hits home very fast. Well, me and Sammi decided we've got the rest of our lives to do California (Kevyn permitting, natch) and that not knowing how much longer dad would be around, maybe something of a last family holiday would be nicer. Sammi's family have a villa on Tenerife, we thought that would be a lovely place for it, but then my dad won't fly and my mum won't sail...er...how about Blackpool? No planes or boats needed to get there...ah, but my

mum doesn't like motorways either. Nevertheless, she and my dad were in the car with me and Sammi by nine that Saturday morning, ploughing north (genuinely north this time, no dramatic effect) up the M40. Sammi's family (The Knott End Mafia) have places in and around Blackpool too, including the lovely little Knott End Cafe by the ferry point (ferry run by cousin Craig, or "spam" as we call him, behind his back). On top of the cafe is this huge apartment, looking out over the bay of Knott End and across the Wyre to Fleetwood. Ooh, luxury, it's like something out of "Dallas"...four bedrooms, three bathrooms, steam shower and sauna, an airbath the size of a football pitch, a living room the size of London. Wish I had lots of money. Thinking about it, I wish I had SOME money! Anyway, like some miracle, that was the week the weather changed from being the wettest and coolest June on record, and the heatwave cometh, becoming the driest S****r in England since Shakespeare's time (William, not Robbie). We had a really nice week, went into Blackpool to catch a couple of shows, like the Ice Show (some seriously psychedelic lighting in that, lasers and all), Ken Webster's hypnotic show (he is brilliant, makes Paul McKenna look very tame), had a nice day up at Lake Windermere, including a boat trip out from Bowness Bay (my mum went on a boat!) and I got sunburnt. Oops. It was kinda sad to see dad getting breathless so easily, but he had a great week too. I remember telling him that he had to live long enough to see our album get to no.1 in the charts, but he said he wouldn't have lived THAT long anyway, and I pointed out that nobody liked a smart arse. It's funny how these little crises bring families back together. Ya know how when you're a kid, you go off on holiday with your folks and think it's great...then ya hits ya teens and the same idea is repellent...like what would ya friends say!??? Then something like this happens and you realise your folks were never so bad anyway, hell...my mum even likes Hawkwind! Suddenly, at 37 years old, going on holiday with my folks was great fun again. I'm not looking forward to the end, I'm trying to psyche myself up for it, but I don't think you can ever truly be ready for something like that. I mean, my dad's a nice guy, I'll miss him. But we're all trying very hard not to get sad about it, we just want whatever time he has left now to be fun, so jokes about scattering his ashes on mum's best carpet are coming out thick and fast!

We all split up one day in the week, mum and dad opted for a quiet day in Knott End (Sammi's dad calls it "God's waiting room") while me and Sammi hopped off down the motorway to Manchester. Well, exotic Salford to be precise, to visit one of my own musical heroines, Clare Durrant of OTHERWORLD. It's unfortunate we picked the day of the S****r Solstice, coz it meant Clare had plans for later, so we could only have a few hours there (in spite of the 100 mile round trip, huh, Clare?!). But she looked after us very well and gave us coffee. Biscuit would have been nice. She lives in a Salford tower block, the sort of place where I have to stay away from the windows or my knees quake, and a groovy little place she has too. Psychedelic graffiti daubed on the walls, exotic musical instruments scattered around the place, African drums, oriental one-string violins, stuff like that. It was really nice to meet her and we invited her to come visit us in August sometime, but she never did (sigh), must have been busy or something. At the end of our visit, she was off to one Solstice gathering or another, so we took her and her backpack and dropped her off in Manchester, the back up the M6 again.

Oh, and there was one more thing we had to do before we left Blackpool...The Big One...yeah, that new Pepsi Max Roller Coaster...the biggest and fastest in the world. I suffer with vertigo (fear of heights, not a collection of early Black Sabbath albums), so maybe it wasn't the smartest of things to do. While you stand waiting in the queue (for the benefit of Europeans, this means an orderly line waiting for your turn to go on something, a quaint old British custom), a recorded voice tells you that you are about to experience "vertical reality". "You will climb to 235 feet tall!" Thanks for that, nervous, me? "Then you will drop at 60°!" Oh cheers, anyone seen my brown trousers? "Reaching speeds of around 80 miles per hour as you plummet earthwards!" Gee, sounds swell, I'd run away if my legs weren't frozen to the spot. Our turn came, Sammi dragged me into the little car thing. I fastened my seatbelt and pulled the bar down till it pushed right into my stomach and made my face turn blue. It started moving, I looked at the rail leading up into the sky, no point praying for mercy, I'd be up there with him in a minute anyway. Whew, some view up there, you can see all across Blackpool, out past St. Annes. It keeps climbing. Then ya can see Preston, then Birmingham, then London, then Paris, then the rings of Saturn...then the car in front of you drops out of view and you know you're at the top...of course, you do what you'd expect, you panic. Suddenly, you can't see any of the cars in front of you, you can't even see the track anymore...and you plummet down what looks like a vertical drop from where you are sitting, you can't even feel the seatbelt and metal bar anymore as the g-force throws you backwards. Sammi's knuckles turned white next to mine as she gripped the handrail for fear of death, she was shouting her head off, "shit, shit, shit, shit!" At the end of the ride, I asked the next couple to get in our car if they could possibly pick up my stomach on the way round, I seemed to have left it behind somewhere. And now I believe in near-death experiences. Never again!

Holidays over, it was back to normal, back to the wait for the final mixdown, life goes on, though there were moments on that rollercoaster when I thought it wouldn't. Anyway, I was booked in at BRAINDEAD STUDIOS for the whole weekend, 14th-16th of July, but I actually had quite a busy weekend planned the week before that. On Friday 7th, Thayen Rich was due round to discuss all the cover art for the CD, I was really looking forward to it. I mean, an artist of that much talent doing our album cover! Oh, did I mention we have a new album coming out? Tick tick tick tick. Well, by mid-evening, I'd began to give up all hope of him ever getting here and started on a bottle of Vodka, snuggled up on the sofa with Sammi to watch a movie. The phone rings. I'm a little the worse for wear by this time. It's Bruno De Angelis, the creative force behind the incredible Italian band, MANA ERG, and he'd now moved to live in London. Who the hell would leave Rome to live in London??? Bruno would. He said he'd probably come down to visit tomorrow (Saturday) and would ring in the morning, and that's about all I remember from the conversation, good stuff is that Stolly! Finally, soon after midnight, we decided Thayen definitely wasn't coming and Sammi dragged me feet first into bed. The next thing I knew it was Saturday morning, Sammi had gone to work and someone was knocking at the door. I'm damned if I can remember who it was now, but they came in for a while and I was nattering away to them when the phone rings again. I picked it up to be greeted by this foreign accent, "Hi Bruno," I greeted, "Hi Mick", came the response. I asked if he'd be coming down today, but he said he couldn't make it and that he had to meet with Wayne Hussey. What a coincidence, Mike Pougounas from THE FLOWERS OF ROMANCE was due in England soon to meet with him as he was producing the next Flowers album. My statement was greeted with much mirth. "No, seriously." I said. Mirth prevailed, and the conversation continued to make less and less sense. And I asked how he was enjoying life in England and whether or not it had been worth leaving Rome for and was he still planning to live in England permanently. "No," he said, "we fly back on Wednesday." "Oh, back to Rome?" I inquired. "Yes, back to Rome, ha ha!" Came the reply. "But you'd told me you were living here permanently, no?" I said. "No, no, back to Rome, ha ha!" Shit, had that Vodka scrambled my brains or what? "Look," he said, "we might be able to get down today sometime, call you later if not." "Okay, bye then." "Bye, Mick." Tick tick tick tick. The day passed, no Bruno, still no Thayen from yesterday either. The phone rings early evening, the foreign accent tells me sorry they couldn't get down, followed by an even more confusing conversation that made much less sense than the morning one. But anyway, being composed (ha!), there was something I had always wanted to know...the band name, MANA ERG, like how exactly do you pronounce it??? "How do you actually pronounce your band's name?" I asked. "The Flowers Of Romance, ha ha!" Came the answer. "No, you foreign shitbag, I'm serious!" I shouted. "Hey, Mick, I gotta go now." Sammi was sitting out in the garden, I told her Italians were weird out of the kitchen window, she said she knew. Are you catching on yet? I was just starting to. We have a little phone code in the UK, you dial it after you've received a call and it tells you the telephone number of the caller. It wasn't Bruno's number. So I dialled it and found it was a Greek run hotel in Shepherd's Bush, south west London. Finally, it dawned on me that the caller was actually not Bruno at all, it was Mike, he was in the UK this week, not next! Oh, he thought it was ever so funny that little old Magic hadn't realised it was him, so I told him he was an utter bastard to let me blabber on about Rome when he actually was flying back to Athens! He laughed even more. Hmmp!! So anyway, he explained that he and Theo (boss of their Greek record label, WIPE OUT) were meeting with Wayne Hussey on Sunday, but we could drive up and meet them both on Monday (or was it Tuesday) evening. Life is so confusing sometimes. I phoned Bruno after I'd finished talking to Mike (for the third time in all, but the first time when I was actually talking to him without thinking he was Italian), desperate for sympathy. He thought it was really funny too. Hmmp. Bloody foreigners.

Still, my weekend would not need to be a total washout just coz Thayen hadn't turned up or called, Bruno had called but not turned up and Mike had called twice pretending to be Bruno and not turned up anyway. Tomorrow, Sunday 9th July, was still a day to look forward to, SONS OF SELINA were playing in Frimley! YEAH! Neil, creative force and singer with SOS had been onto me a few weeks earlier to ask if I could find them a gig locally as they'd be passing through on the way back from a festival in The Netherlands. My good mates, SERIOUS PLANKTON (R.I.P.), had arranged to play with SOS at the White Hart in Frimley. Now this was gonna be nostalgic, we did our own second ever gig there was back in the July of '87, plus it would be nice coz I'd never actually met SOS in the flesh before. The whole thing had been a bit of a rush job, Neil had got a photo and some singles down to me only a few weeks earlier, I'd rushed the whole lot into Adrian Creek at the local paper the day before we went on holiday, it was all panic systems go. But horror of horrors...I'd had a bit of spare time on the Friday (July 7th) due to a certain artist

not turning up, so I'd sat and read through the WHAT'S ON section of the local paper...and no SOS photo...no SOS article...no even vague mention of SOS...not even listed in the gig guide. Visions of Adrian Creek impaled on a very large blood soaked spike filled my mind, I smiled while he caused himself more pain, wriggling to try to stop the loose change falling out of his trouser pockets. Then suddenly I snapped back to reality and realised that nowhere in Frimley sold impaling spikes. Unless you could get a self-assembly one at MFI? Anyway, in with the SOS package, I'd also sent him all the latest news on M&E for him to ignore too, which he did, along with ignoring the SOS gig. Finally, two months later in August, the piece on the left appears in the WHAT'S ON section, which is a very complimentary piece (even though it does make us sound like a bloody multi-national corporation!), but noticeably lacking in an apology to SOS, who I really think deserve one. Irritatingly enough, now I find out that you can get an impaling spike at the local hardware shop. Still, life goes on.

It must be one of Frimley's strangest export industries — but business is really booming for the Music and Elsewhere label.

Set up a few years back primarily as a vehicle to launch unknown underground bands, Mick Magic's label now exports its tapes to an incredible 50 countries.

Over the years M&E has released 354 tapes by around 200 bands — all at very cheap prices.

If you want an idea what some of these bands sound like you must buy "Life, The Underground and Everything", a 33-track/band sampler that showcases some of the space-rock, psychedelia, gothic, electronic and experimental stuff available on the label.

The 180-minute double tape features stuff from better known bands like the Sons of Selina, Twister, The Charles and Blue Velvet, through to the suitably weird likes of Wobble Jaggle Jiggle, The Cyborg Sex Babies and Karp.

Mick, who made his name locally with Magic Moments At Twilight Time, is selling the album for a mere fiver to encourage more people to find out about the fasci-

inating collection of bands on his label.

Send your money to M&E at 6 Farm Court, Frimley, Camberley, Surrey, GU16 5TJ (cheques made payable to S.J. Taylor).

Besides the cassettes, you'll also get the latest issue of the M&E newszine and a copy of the label's complete catalogue, which, not surprisingly, currently extends to 18 sides of A4!

Mick has had to put MMATT on the back burner while he's been building up the label, but the good news is the band finally have an album deal. A CD is expected in September/October... more news as soon as it's available.

*Although M&E specialise in underground-style bands they are interested in receiving demos from all good local bands whatever kind of music they play. Send your demo to them at the above address.

agreed with him too much and minutes after our mutual abuse and handshakes all round, he was running for the toilet, explaining he had what is known medically as "the shits". Their drummer, affectionately known as Cummi Pants, joined him (nothing funny going on, he was suffering too). Fortunately, SERIOUS PLANKTON were playing first, but I won't bother telling you about them coz they've broken up. Finally, SOS took to the stage, all six of them. Richard Allen (of their label, DELERIUUM) had said they were good live...whew...he joketh not, they are something else. I felt a little sorry for Neil, singing away with his butt cheeks clamped tightly together, just in case. But their set was unmarred by any sudden dashes to the other end of the pub. Though there was actually

a reasonable turnout to the gig in the end, no thanks to Adrian Creek, the weather kind of beat the situation and virtually everybody sat outside. Well, you can still hear very clearly outside, but it must be a bit depressing for the band, playing their hearts out to an invisible audience, specially when they'd been playing to a large festival crowd the night before, bless 'em. So finally, at the end of the night, we'd all (except Neil's bottom) had a very enjoyable time and Neil promised us a new SOS live tape to release (see new releases). If ya get a chance to see SOS live, don't miss them, they are really superb. Slipping laxatives into their beers, however, would probably not be greeted with a warm smile.

The following day, Monday 10th July, Thayen had arranged to come round to discuss the artwork. Again. That's not to discuss it again, merely that he'd arranged to come round again. Yes, we'd sorted that much out with him at the SOS gig the day before. He had explained that he'd been to Somerset where, apparently, telephones haven't yet been invented. Anyway, this time, to our surprise, he actually turned up, along with his good lady, Sara, she makes hats. It was still baking hot and disgustingly humid as we all sat in the living room at Mmattland, merrily dripping together, and that was with the fan on. It was so hot that nobody even thought to do the favourite visitor's joke; "Oh, we knew Magic Moments had to have one fan." Ha ha ha, huh? A couple of pizzas and much artistic discussion later and all was settled, so I drove Thayen and Sara to Woking station to get the last train home to London. And it was still hot...at midnight, I drove back with all the windows open and it felt like people were hanging on to the side of the car pointing hair dryers at me. It's just paranoia, there was nobody there.

Tuesday night came, me and Sammi hopped into the car for our trek up to Shepherd's Bush to meet up with Mike Pougounas and Theo Kritharis. Shepherd's Bush is a bloody annoying place, there's this huge one-way traffic system all round the green, so you end up having to drive half way to Notting Hill Gate and back to be able to get into the road where Mike and Theo's hotel was. As we spotted the hotel and went into a side turning just past it, Sammi was sure that two odd looking foreign types had said "Mick." I ignored them, can't be too careful with foreigners, you know. They said "Mick" again, so I reversed the car back to them. "Hi, Mick." Said one of them. "Oh, you must be Bruno." I replied. Well, how was I to know Mike had had his hair cut recently, he didn't look anything like his photos anymore? Finally, we found somewhere to park (no small feat in London, I can tell ya) and got to do the handshakes and stuff. They explained they were meeting with some guys on the green later on and suggested we all went and sat up there and started on their nice bottle of Ouzo. We decided that Sammi was driving home. Mike said the meeting with Wayne Hussey had gone very well and we continued to chat about life, the underground and everything, whilst taking in a little London drama. The green was filled with all manner of people, enjoying a quiet evening (well, apart from the deafening traffic that surrounds it) on the grass (green variety that grows everywhere). Apart from one little crowd, the sort of people you're pleased don't live next door to you. They were drinking heavily, one of the women punched one of the men in the mouth and they staggered around gesturing at each other and swearing loudly. "Welcome to London," I said to Mike, "city of culture." After this, my memory starts to get a little hazy...um...that Ouzo is evil stuff, trust me. I remember two other guys turning up, from the band VENDEMIAN, one was a roadie called Frank and the other was a musician who's name must still be in the Ouzo bottle. The most annoying thing is that he told me some amazingly juicy gossip about Janis Kalifatidis (INTO THE ABYSS/FIGHT AMNESIA)...it was brilliant stuff, wild and great (not that we're the sort of publication to print gossip, obviously), but I can't remember any of it! Oh woe is me. When I told Janis on the phone, he sounded so mega relieved, which just goes to confirm how juicy it must have been. VENDEMIAN folks, if you ever get to read this, please write to me with all the details, we can't let Janis off so lightly, can we!??? Anyway, back to what I can remember of the rest of the evening; I know we all went across the road to a pub later on, but this was after Ouzo and some Vodka, so I couldn't tell you which one. I remember a couple of local guys in there who took some pictures of us all for Mike and Theo, and I remember them climbing up something quite high to get the best pictures they could, then they dropped their trousers and mooned. It seemed very funny at the time, but this was after a couple of pints on top of the Ouzo and Vodka. From there onwards, all I remember is that we went for a kebab afterwards and that it tasted quite good. Next thing I knew the phone was ringing at 6:30 Wednesday morning, the taxi office, I was due mobile. It wasn't long before I realised I was STILL drunk and suggested it might not be a very good idea if I drove that day. When I was little, my dad used to say to me, "beware of Greeks bearing gifts." Some 35 years later, I finally know what the fuck he was talking about.

Fortunately, by Friday 14th I had sobered up a little, enough to hop into the Nissan Micratron and head off to BRAINDEAD STUDIOS for the final mixdown of CREAVOLUTION. Oh, I don't know if I've mentioned it, it's a new album we have out shortly. Just me this time, along with a large pair of speakers and a mass of electronic gadgetry. It was a sort of dread-filled journey, I was already worried about it all, like one weekend to mixdown and produce ten finished tracks, about one hour of music in all. It seemed like a daunting task to say the least. And thanks to the train drivers strike, which they thoughtfully had on the day I was driving up there, I had plenty of time to think about it all on the way. When I arrived, I started the long hike up the hill to the studio, and who should be there? Bruno De Angelis! Well, he didn't stay long, but it was nice meeting him anyway. I said he looked much taller in his letters, he said I looked much slimmer in mine. Hmmp. So I would just like to mention that I've been on a diet recently and have actually lost 2½ lbs so far, so there. Oh, I'm asking to get banged up in jail now...er...sorry oh great people of the EC in Brussels! Of course, what I meant to say is that I've lost 11 kgs! Silly me. Sunday night came, and the album was all mixed down and sitting on little DAT cassettes right before my eyes. "That's it," I said to Marc, "it's all finished. I guess that means you won't be seeing me again for ages now." Marc smiled. Lots, thinking about it. Yes, I could drive for home, DATs and ¼" reels all packed up in a little bag at my side. The album was finished, everything now, nothing more to do at all, no more recording, no more mixing, nothing. Like I said a couple of pages ago, remember I said this in a couple of pages time, okay? I got home Sunday night, happy in the knowledge that all we had to do was listen to the finished product, ta-ra!

So, you ever get the feeling the world is out to get ya? Yeah, me too. Our Pete Program came round one evening soon after the final mixdown, along with his Italian girlfriend, Paola. Of course, as soon as you finish an album, you simply feel compelled to make everyone who comes round listen to it, don't ya? Naturally, we value Pete's opinion, coz after all, he did all the synth FX on WHITE HAWK ATOMIC (or was that "overdid"?), right? Now, there was one track out of the ten that I wasn't happy with, and wouldn't ya know it, he picked up on it without me saying a word.

The track was called "Storm". At first, I thought I'd just picked the wrong vocalist for it, and I'd like to point out here that I'm not getting at Inga Leru at all, she is a fine singer, but this song just wasn't her at all. I didn't think she'd thank me for leaving it on the album, not after she'd done such a great job on "Lights Turn Blue" and "Demonic Attack".

Maybe what it needed was a higher range vocal, so me and Lulu went off back to BRAINDEAD on Thursday 27th July to take it all up an octave. The day was an abject failure, Lulu's vocal had made no difference, it was still naff. The truth dawned on me, it was the song itself. The music was fine, the lyrics were fine, but no way did they belong together. The challenge was on, we booked the studio again for Sunday 30th and I had that long to come up with a new set of lyrics for it, not to mention another tune. Two days! ARRGHH PANIC! Fortunately, the tune was easy, we'd used this piece of music (an earlier demo recording of it) to do the theme for FREEDOM OVERFLOW, the wonderful pirate radio station, so that was the tune we went back to. Sunday morning, bright and early, everyone packed into two cars; Lulu, Ian and baby Thea in one, me and Sammi in the other. Sammi drove, I was still doing the lyrics! Amazingly enough, by the end of the day, we had a track we were so happy with, we used it to open the album. Marc looked so relieved when we finally waved goodbye from the car window Sunday night, I can't imagine why. Could it be that after only 3½ years since starting work on it, the album was really finished? Marc probably still has nightmares about it! But, Marc, a firm promise; it's finished, honest. Er...tell ya wife for me? Private joke again! Look, I owe Marc big for this one, he's done a great job on the album for us, even when he thought he'd never see the back of us, so the least I can do is tell you what the guy does; aside from running BRAINDEAD STUDIOS and playing in THE THAMESMEAD ROLLERS, he also works with CANDOR RECORDS and runs TMR PRODUCTIONS. He's a decent and honest guy who provides excellent services and stuff for musicians, no rip-offs, all very reasonable prices, you have my personal guarantee on that, trust me, I'm a spaceman, trust him, he's a great cook. So here's a full list of TMR services and products for yas...

AMPEX 2

MAGIC MOMENTS AT

TWILIGHT TIME

"CREA EVOLUTION" (95)

Ref No. C9 1 Tape Speed 15 7½ 3¼ Date 7/95 Noise Suppression Yes No

GOT A DAT ?

DAT DUPLICATION / COMPILATION

32/44.1/48KHz (analogue or digital i/o), plus noise reduction, SBM, EQ, compression. Mail order or attendance welcome. Approx. £12 per tape, plus tape costs (or send DAT, SAE & full details).

DAT CONVERSION

Your chrome/metal cassette or 1/4" reel tape to 44.1KHz DAT, (analogue i/o), plus noise reduction, SBM, EQ, compression. Mail order or attendance welcome. Details as above.

CASSETTE DUPLICATION/COMPILATION

eg C-30 (3 songs per side-other lengths on request) from DAT, chrome or metal master. i) real time £1.20 per tape (inc:tape) ii) fast £1 per tape (inc:tape). Plus postage at cost or collection. Boxes, inlay cards & labels also available.

VIDEO DUPLICATION

(inc: Nicam Stereo) eg E-30 £1 per tape (plus tape), tinting, compilation, captions, other lengths available on request. Plus postage or collection. Boxes & labels also available.

CASSETTE COSTS

Downsoft C-30 Chrome @90p TDK D46 (ferric) @90p

DAT COSTS

TDK DA-R 16 £6 each TDK DA-R 60 £7 each TDK DA-R 90 £8 each (most other makes & lengths available on request). DAT HEAD CLEANING TAPE - MAXELL R-CL £10 each.

VIDEO TAPES COMPUTER DISKS

MAXELL E-10 £1.80 each MAXELL MF-2DD (10 pack) £6.50 MF-2HD (10 pack) £8

AMPEX OPEN REEL

457 1800' 7" x 1/4" £15 each
456 2500' 10" x 1/2" £40 each (mail order + postage at cost)

BASIC STUDIO RATES

£12 PER HOUR/FULL PRODUCTION TO DAT MASTER (plus tape costs)

BRAIN DEAD STUDIOS

Great atmosphere, secluded hillside view, overlooking central London, easy parking, engineer/producer/musician 15+ years experience, wide range of styles catered for, MIDI or live setups welcome, up to 56 channel mixdown to DAT, songwriting, demos, pre-production, PRS member, many music biz contacts, record label etc. T.M.R.PUBLICATIONS & demo targeting service. Residential available from RIOT GRRL to FOLK & OPERA already catered for!

BRAIN DEAD STUDIOS, P.O.BOX 3775, LONDON SE18 3QR.

TEL: 0181 316 4690

Cheques for tape/studio time payable to Mr M Bell.

Also available STUDIO 99 (Mike Westergaard) At similar rates!

Tel: 0181 854 0860 (one of the best computer/sample set ups in London !)

So finally, as the adventure comes to a close, my most sincere thanks to Marc, we really couldn't have done it without all your help and patience. We won't forget you, promise. Oddly enough, I don't think Marc will forget us in a hurry either!

Now, while we're on the subject of the album (did I mentioned we have a new album out soon?), I heard a couple of days ago from our guest lead guitarist from it, Damien Page of HECATE'S DREAMS, well...until they split up, citing musical differences, as did Pinky & Perky three decades earlier. Not that Damien had anything to do with Pinky & Perky, I really can't think why I mentioned it at all actually. Anyway, Damien is now looking to put a new band together and is looking for some decent musicians in the Gillingham area (or a sensible travelling distance from it around Kent and south east London). He hasn't actually said what instruments he's after, but I'd bet on bass and drums at the very least. All he says is it's a case of "non-shoegazers, non-metallers or non-Howling Wolf impersonators." Nuff said! Musically, Damien is very inventive, he'll never use a chord where a 34 note guitar run will suffice. Imagine a blend of The Cardiacs, The Sensational Alex Harvey Band and The Stray Cats, that'll give you the most basic of ideas. We at M&E rate his music very highly, so it'd be well nice to see him get another band together. Interested parties contact him at 19 Chicago Avenue, Gillingham, Kent, ME7 2DR, and if you can send him a tape of some of your playing, I'm sure he'd appreciate it muchly. Best of luck to ya, Damien, let us know how it all comes together.

GOT A DEMO ?

A&R LIST (M.C.P.S. listed publication)

All info needed to target your demo, whatever style of music! Contents: address, phone, fax, contact name and style of music. Covers Publishers, Managers, Record & Production Co's. Over 900 entries, plus a list of, 'out of date' entries listed as current in other publications! *Only £6.00 (inc: P&P).*

VENUES, REHEARSALS ROOMS & STUDIO LIST

A comprehensive list of over 800 UK establishments. All important information is given. New section for mobile studios. Now includes a free, GIG GUIDE! *Only £5 (inc: P&P).*

MUSICAL SERVICES LIST

If you require any musical services, you need this list, from backdrops to video walls. A multitude of services, a mine of information. *Only £5 (inc: P&P).*

FANZINE LIST

This list now contains over 250 UK fanzines, details where possible include: name, cost, SAE size, contents and contact person, It now includes a review page. *Only £3 (inc: P&P).*

THE LIST (M.C.P.S. listed publication)

A budget priced compilation selected from all the current TMR lists. See what you are missing. Almost 800 entries. Our best seller in 1994. *Only £4.50 (inc: P&P).*

THE DEMO GUIDE (on sale August 1995)

Everything you'll ever need to know, from how to make, package & target your demo! Almost 30 packed pages, b/w photos, loadsa inside info! *Only £6 (inc: P&P).*

All lists are A4, PVC bound publications.

T.M.R. DEMO TARGETING / ARTIST PROMOTION

From as little as £3.50 per package, (inc: P&P & duplication from masters). Replies can be to either, your direct or to our company for a more professional service. Please write for details. Recent success inc: Jupiter Joy (Major TV), CANDOR RECORDS ('Rock On' release, Slade + The Mission) and ELSE DISTRIBUTION (TEL: 01227 700 516) etc.....

Payable to: Mr M. Bell Address: T.M.R., P.O.BOX 3775, LONDON SE18 3QR.

Direct enquiries/orders TEL: 0181 316 4690

Printed by Leaflet Flyers on 0181 665 9655

So anyway, 30th July and we'd finished the album, back to work on the taxis the following day and back to reality. Yuk. Well, sort of reality...like there I am in my taxi, Monday 31st July, Camberley High Street, the temperature is up in the 90's (35° in new money), sweat is pouring off me...I look in a print shop window to my right and what do I see? "It's time to order your Christmas Cards now!" It's July, for fuck's sake, not fucking December! Christmas cards!????????????????? What kind of sickness is this??? You get bloody Easter eggs in the shops on Boxing day already, do we really need to start Xmas in July? Within a couple of days of this, I was driving past a Beefeater restaurant in Farnborough to be greeted by a huge banner on the wall; "Book early now for your Christmas function!" By the end of the week, we started getting junkmail; "It's time to get your business Christmas cards ordered now!" It's not, it's the first week of August, it's time to mend my rubber ring and get some more suntan lotion! When the revolution comes, these bastards will be first up against the wall, I promise you that! We'll have the MD of the Beefeater chain on his knees, we'll stuff his arse with sage and onion and see how he likes it! Shit, do I hate Xmas or what? I certainly don't want to suffer it for five damned months a year! But for those of you who enjoy it, check out our gift suggestion.....

MUSIC AND ELSEWHERE

MICK MAGIC, 6 FARM COURT, FARM ROAD, FRIMLEY, CAMBERLEY, SURREY. GU16 5TJ.

The MUSIC AND ELSEWHERE cassette label is run by MICK MAGIC of MAGIC MOMENTS AT TWILIGHT TIME and they have over 250 releases so far covering such a varied range of artists that I suggest that you write to Mick pronto and ask for a copy of the MUSIC AND ELSEWHERE newsletter and catalogue. As well as write ups and reviews of the tapes on the label you also get news on what MAGIC MOMENTS AT TWILIGHT TIME are up to and stacks on information on other fanzines, tape labels, bands and all that's groovy on the underground home taping front. They've also released a best of sampler, which is a good place to start for those of you who haven't heard of many of the bands on the label. LIFE, THE UNDERGROUND AND EVERYTHING.....180 minutes - 33 bands - 9 countries from MUSIC AND ELSEWHERE 1994 is available from the above address and includes the likes of WOBBLE JAGGLE JIGGLE, X RAY POP, SOSUMI, LORD LITTER, STORMCLOUDS, BURNING DOLLHOUSE and SONS OF SELINA.

PSYCHOTRON 7 - Mick Magic, 6 Farm Court, Frimley, Camberley, Surrey, GU16 5TJ. £1.00. Packed with loads of useful contacts plus all the latest news on Magic Moments At Twilight Time and the Music And Elsewhere tape label. Check it out!

been out of print for nearly a year now, sorry! Contact zone: 28 Churchill Close, Calne, Wiltshire, SN11 8EN, UK.

Funnily enough, Steve made exactly the same mistake as I did when releasing the debut tape by ALPHANE MOON...he reviewed it as "The Echoing Groove"! Of course, it's supposed to be "Grove", but a mistake you spacepsyche groovers are surely entitled to make? Anyway, beyond being a band, ALPHANE MOON are also the new zine on the scene, and a nice little start at 48 sides, A5 size. It has a good "zine" look to it, laid out a bit like a more mystical version of THE ORGAN, which they are obviously fans of (and justifiably so). This first issue was something like a tribute to M&E, for which we are most grateful, featuring reviews of masses of our tapes, interviews with past and present M&E giants, such as SONS OF SELINA, THE ORIGINAL MIND BAND, CABBAGE HEAD and WOBBLE JAGGLE JIGGLE, as well as a nice long interview with the mighty BORIS OROONIE. The review of our WHITE HAWK ATOMIC tape (right) comes from issue no.1...all the other M&E reviews, coz there's so bloody many of them, have been arranged nicely on the next page, where you'll also find contact details. This ish was a damned good read and I think ALPHANE MOON is gonna be one to watch, for sure, very much looking forward to issue 2. Nice one, Dafydd! (Even though your better half does do all the work!) Now to a few questions you raised in the WHA review; yup, the intro from "Radio Armageddon/Blitzkrieg!" does indeed come from the very gritty and realistic BBC movie, "Threads", though it's not a straight lift, there was much mixing involved, trust me! That was actually my sequencers, Rolf Harris was busy that week. The irritating Smashie & Nicey DJ is actually Garry Lee from FREEDOM OVERFLOW, and they're not actually links, they ARE lifts, straight from his radioshow. Why? Coz we lurve him! Thanks for a very thoughtful review, guys, though I don't think Garry Lee will be subscribing now!

Talking of Garry "Smashie" Lee and his erstwhile partner in crime, The Black "Nicey" Widow, let's do just that. You know...talk of them. FREEDOM OVERFLOW is still up and running and doing it's bit for the cause of alternative broadcasting up there in Colchester. Garry sent me some cassette recordings of some of their latest extravaganzas, nice to see they're still using the theme we did for them a couple of years ago, imaginatively called "Freedom Overflow" (bugger it, you come up with a better title!), nice people. Garry's other obsession is with very old MAGIC MOMENTS stuff...particularly some of the collaborations we did with poet, MAL CIESLAK, back in '87. And he keeps playing them, the utter bastard, will he never let us forget the one that sounds like Inspector Cleusea on hard drugs??? Um...Cleuseau? Cluseseau? The comic French detective that Peter Sellers used to play. Ho hum. As I was saying, they're still up and running, Garry describing their local service (Colchester area: 93 FM) as more on than off. There's also a monthly show that goes out on shortwave (last Sunday of each month from 10:00 GMT: 6290 khz) which ya should be able to pick up all over the place. Plans are afoot now for a legal (what's that?) version of OVERFLOW. The station, DECIBEL FM, is currently searching for sponsors and backers, any closet millionaires reading this? And finally, Garry is trying to track down JOHN BARTLES, who seems to have shut down his Springwater, NY postbox now. So if ya see this, John (or anybody else who knows where he is now), please drop Garry a line. Likewise, if anyone has current info on the German punk/anarcho label, RECORDROM, Garry would love to hear from you. Contact zone: 2 Grenfell Close, Colchester, Essex, CO4 4AQ, UK. And don't forget to ask how Garry's little Willy is getting along. (Don't be sad, it's his son!)

DELETION NOTICE - BARRA

And sorry to inform you that with immediate effect, BARRA's tape, "The Mini Album" (M&E 258) is no longer available from us. I thought this was a good place to mention it as there's a review of it, from ALPHANE MOON, reprinted on the next page. Obviously, we're very sad to be losing the band I personally rated as the best on M&E, but there's sadly nothing we can do about it. The orders came from the band's management, who own all the rights to their material. I questioned the motives of their manager...and he threatened to sue me...so I better not do that again. Mind you, I'm quite flattered he considered me worth suing...hey, I'm moving up in the world! Okay, I confess, I didn't exactly question his motives politely. Anyway, the resolution was that the BARRA album goes immediately, the track on "Life, The Underground & Everything" (MMATT 42) stays until we update it, which will probably be April '96. The good news is that BARRA material will still be available, inquiries should be directed to Clive Parker, Global Management, 22 Glenton Road, London, SE13 5RS, UK. Oh, and congratulations are in order to their wonderful singer, Tracey Anne Sparkes. She gave birth to a baby boy, Thomas Matthew, on Tuesday 27th June, 8 lbs, he's gonna be a prop forward for England, huh? In spite of the problems she endured throughout her pregnancy, you'll be happy to know that the birth went very smoothly indeed and that her bladder is actually functioning properly again now. Why do people tell me these things??? Ha ha! All good things to you, Tracey, stay in touch.



D.I.Y IRON-ON TATTOOS

NOW YOU CAN AVOID THE NEEDLE AND STILL COVER YOUR BODY IN A WIDE RANGE OF TRADITIONAL AND ORIGINAL DESIGNS!

- ALL THE FAVOURITES INCLUDING:
- MR. NATURAL
 - CHRIST CRUCIFIED
 - MATING ZOMBIES
 - THE FOX HUNT
 - NAUGHTY POPEYE.



USE STEAM SETTING.

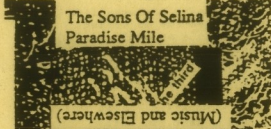
And now we start our little trip around the subterranean cosmos, checking out some of the many fine zines and things...the truth is out there! Starting point is ACID TAPES, home of Steve Lines, just as well known for being a member of STORMCLOUDS. They haven't exactly been away, though they have been a tad quiet for a while, so this is so's ya know they have not vanished from the face of the Earth. Steve's newszine, TRY ACID 15, has recently hit the mailboxes, featuring reviews on the latest AT releases (AT is one of the best underground psychedelic labels there is, incidentally), other reviews of interest to the psyche fraternity, plus all sorts of little snippets of info about folks who are well worth the effort to contact. Including me, nice people. Them two little clipping on the left come from the latest ish, our thanks to Steve, natch. Oh, but don't try to order PSYCHOTRON 7, it's

 After a lengthy but nevertheless atmospheric introduction, (lifted from the BBC production of 'Threads' if memory serves) Magic Moments at Twilight Time plunge into the highly kitsch 'Blitzkrieg' - a fanciful tableau in which thermonuclear warfare induces orgasms as opposed to cancer; Mick Magic's sequencer going like the proverbial clappers, or is it Rolf Harris' proverbial wobbleboard on speed? Whichever is fastest. Who is that irritating Smashie and Nicey DJ doing the links? And Why? The immediately following 'Aftermath' and 'Psychotron' allow lead vocals Lulu centre-stage authority courtesy of [hard] rock steady bass and the deliberately understated key-boards which serve to lull oneself towards her languidly dark intonations, oblivious to the deadly cargo they may convey. Well frankly, this death-by-sub-atomic-transuranic-electro-plasma-ray-gun motif can only be pushed so far [sic] and tends to obscure the often quite poignant subtleties of for example 'White Cathay' or 'Acidic Heaven' but at thirteen tracks (yes, count them) you are invited to shop around a bit. And there are indeed some surprisingly arresting moments (at twilight time etc.) where such references as Hawkwind, Tangerine Dream et al cease to apply, notably the near sublime 'Pandora'. Fair enough, MMATT may seem to rely too much at times on their assumed sci-fi comic-book narrative perhaps to the point of detracting from their demonstrable competency, but even the most jaded of palates can't fail to be completely blown away by that acutely-sustained guitar on the final eponymous track. Pass the mescaline and mushroom soup...

MAGIC MOMENTS AT TWILIGHT TIME

'WHITE HAWK ATOMIC' - MMATT 34.1

After a lengthy but nevertheless atmospheric introduction, (lifted from the BBC production of 'Threads' if memory serves) Magic Moments at Twilight Time plunge into the highly kitsch 'Blitzkrieg' - a fanciful tableau in which thermonuclear warfare induces orgasms as opposed to cancer; Mick Magic's sequencer going like the proverbial clappers, or is it Rolf Harris' proverbial wobbleboard on speed? Whichever is fastest. Who is that irritating Smashie and Nicey DJ doing the links? And Why? The immediately following 'Aftermath' and 'Psychotron' allow lead vocals Lulu centre-stage authority courtesy of [hard] rock steady bass and the deliberately understated key-boards which serve to lull oneself towards her languidly dark intonations, oblivious to the deadly cargo they may convey. Well frankly, this death-by-sub-atomic-transuranic-electro-plasma-ray-gun motif can only be pushed so far [sic] and tends to obscure the often quite poignant subtleties of for example 'White Cathay' or 'Acidic Heaven' but at thirteen tracks (yes, count them) you are invited to shop around a bit. And there are indeed some surprisingly arresting moments (at twilight time etc.) where such references as Hawkwind, Tangerine Dream et al cease to apply, notably the near sublime 'Pandora'. Fair enough, MMATT may seem to rely too much at times on their assumed sci-fi comic-book narrative perhaps to the point of detracting from their demonstrable competency, but even the most jaded of palates can't fail to be completely blown away by that acutely-sustained guitar on the final eponymous track. Pass the mescaline and mushroom soup...



The Sons Of Selina Paradise Mile (Music and Elsewhere) Welsh band right? Maintaining their cultural identity right? Huge chip on their collective shoulder? Manic Street Preachers tawdry rhetoric? Max Boyce even? Wrong, people. Plunge yourself into the psychotic dementia of The Sons Of Selina's opening track 'Kalgan', with tightly screwed-down slick guitar and a whacking great bass line. 'For Want of a Better Name' introduces one of their patented massive take-no-prisoners riffs that stamps itself indelibly on the memory with the diplomacy of a size eleven Doc Marten, and coupled with the mesmerising keyboards, well, if the key to a good song was whether you could still remember it half an hour after first hearing, this stuff must surely

have been written in tablets of stone. Likewise with the apocalyptic 'Existing Services' which manages to integrate the gratuitous samplings of Margaret Thatcher and Jonny Rotten - now there's an idea for a comedic double-act. The Sons Of Selina have refined the always precarious balance of free-fall overload with an actual musical theme without in any way subjugating the latter, unlike any number of whimsical sojourns into the tangentially disenchanted land of feed-back hell and sample-U-like. It's not just a case of getting-away-with-it-this-time, they actually know what they're doing.

And they do BIG THEMES such as 'Climb' and 'On a Promise', no words; just the cheesy pseudo-Hammond keyboards and killer guitar punchbagging it out with the bass and the percussion acting as ref. Perhaps however, it's some

kind of linguistic/racialistic reticence here[perhaps I'm talking out of my arse]!!!! surely not. (ed)) but their lyrical content is often hesitant and not very forthcoming. Listen to 'Life is But' and this could just as easily be any East European angst in any equally unsubtle translation, or perhaps though it's just that life's a ***** all over and any language could bear this truism. After the tightly-controlled thematic exercise 'Anxiety' follows the Sons Of Selina's beautiful set-piece instrumental 'Of the First Water' - executed with remarkable dexterity and aplomb, they've definitely got their eye on the prize and by the sound of it they've damned-near got their mitts on it too.

Last up is 'D.S.L.' and if I were sad enough to play it backwards I'd be able to determine whether it was sung in Welsh or not. Hey, but wait a minute; D.S.L.?...L.S.D!

Let another of these bizarre, storic violent behaviour by strange entities reported from Sweden in 1990

(Music and Elsewhere)

Not one for pretentious track titles, the credits number but four: 'This One', 'That One', 'The Other One' and -you guessed it- 'The Next One'. 'This one' opens like you just dived into a waterfall on a hot afternoon, plunged immediately as it were into a richly-textured landscape of epic dimensions, warmth and colour. What we have here is surely an unashamed and quite deliberate generic throw-back to those long-gone, far-flung, halcyon days of ELP, Isotope most of Yes and all of Rick Wakeman -Genesis never really did quite make it. All that is apparently missing is the de-regure Roger Dean sleeve, but where is he these days? What separates this item from a veritable host of other such contenders for a largely unattainable crown, is not least the shoved-in-your-face proficiency, drive and sheer ability which Rory so lucidly demonstrates, but rather, the nimble dexterity with which he manages to master guitar, keyboards, drum sequence progs and generally the Olympic Games together to create with sublime eloquence, an exhilarating fusion of dynamism and irrepressible vitality. And the goods are delivered at a velocity approaching the speed of light, one theme relay-racing seamlessly into the next; big key changes; big chord breaks, but do you see the join? You do not. Anyone fond of their minor keys miserable and pathos-laden is in for a disappointing time with this album. If there is one gripe to register however, it's perhaps that the overall cohesion is so complete as to often deny the listener the otherwise high-lighted quality of guitar and keyboard runs, which if individually picked out would prove impressive features indeed. 'Occam's Razor' [Principle of Parsimony and any other obscure philosophical references on a postcard please] dates from 1990-91 and forgive the pun, but it would be a sad loss if The Invisible Band had, er, disappeared. on 16 December, in the They rushed into the bushes.

"AMBITION" (M+E 054)

Who are The Sons Of Selina? Well if you read the interview cunningly placed elsewhere within here you may glean an idea. I'm listening to 'Dreamshadow' right now and it's not the space-punk we've been encouraged to believe is all the Sons can offer.

Atmospheric it is but it's imbued with a maudlin lyricism, somewhat less than a nuance it hovers over a half remembered pastoral idyll. Lush synthetic voices allure the listener, drawing them in; ie., it's pretty good. This is one of The Sons of Selina's pre-fame tapes. It's incontrovertible evidence of why they got lucky. Could this be 'Relapse' a dirge with off-key off-stage garbled voices that with its idiot stereo panning locates you now in a region of darkness?

Last up is the stylistically never heard of before or since bleep inspired counterpoint harmony narrative of an intavenous [rail] journey through Paris or through some surreal romantic halfrealised experience. This is one of my all-time favourites. This tape abounds with memorable

Climb, Anxiety, Terminus and emphatic tunes focussed into angry at times psyche brilliance. Squeal mono synths soar and howl while cynical lyrics crawl between either ear disconcertingly. if you buy this...ventripotent to say the least!

ALPHANE MOON P.O. BOX 22 LAMPETER DYFED SA48 8YD. UK

'Eclectic Warrior' is the most recent Original Mind Band release. Stirling renditions of old favourites are there ['Dead Mens Shoes', 'The Strange Case of Mr.Remes' et al]. This one's live and premieres several new tunes. This band is not afraid to do what they want rather than just going through 'the' motions. 'Nine Day Wonder' takes in the Small Faces with rolling piano dynamics. This one is married with excellently distorted guitar and as ever aware lyrics that demand to be listened to. Judicial balance between excess and a good tune is always maintained. No matter. Check this band out, buy this one, play it too loud.

I first came across The Original Mind Band at a recent folk fayre. [By Gad! actually this was a year ago]. Their fayre is not folk, though. Which might be a shame. Playing at mid afternoon it was not inspired billing-unlike their playing. Too loud? Probably, but I like it that way. They featured a high kicking lead guitarist and a slinky bass guitar [keyboards and drums were hidden]. All was going well 'till the pa blew a fuse. 'Evolver' is a perfect crystallisation of their live sound. Each song is surprisingly compact-the opening 'Weekend World' is an acerbic three minute's of 'pop'. It is stylistically the odd man out. The 'Strange Case of Mr Remes' wyrms in engendering its alien hypnotism -a tale of abduction [un]naturally. It undulates along with wah powered lead insinuating its presence around a very catchy vocal. A brief interlude serves only to twist the Mr Ben theme into a seedy broken rhythm. And then...an overdriven funk foray into pseudo mysticism and mad conga excess. This is pastiche power pop of an extraterrestrial and praeternatural hue.

SOS EP STILL AVAILABLE FROM M+E - £2.00

SECRETS OF SOUND EP SOS/TOMB/FRANK'S DAD/MMAT. (M+E) The SOS EP opens with a manic howl and the deep vocals of the Sons of Selina. The Original Mind Band on the other hand are in a suitably chirpy mood and sound like they have been raiding the Small Faces' Autumn Store. 'ESP - Won't Go Away' has a strong melody line and slinky squeezed guitar which bounces free. On side 2 Frank's Dad hit an almost funky note with wah guitar on the catchy 'Sack it'. Magic Moments At Twilight Time offer a condensed version of 'Blitzkrieg' - a space age 12 bar blues number where the heavily FXed vocalist sounds like Blondie dosed up on Quark, strangeness and charm.

Hecate's Dreams - The Rape Of The Fly (MUSIC AND ELSEWHERE)

Hecate's dreams make music that 'The Organ' would call 'bendy'. It's full of tempo changes and manic guitar and rhythm passages suddenly slowing into vocal sections. There are macabre song titles like 'Colourful Cyst' and 'Bearded lady'. Its quite psychobilly and the vocalist especially sounds very Nick Cave-ish. For further info contact: M&E

BARRA - MINI ALBUM. (Music and Elsewhere)

Named after a Scottish island, Barra contain elements of both a Celtic and a spiritual nature. Song titles like 'Gnosis' and 'Green Man' bear this out. The Vocals are delivered in a deadly serious voice which is a cross between Juliennne Reaganne and Kate Bush. Indeed the song structure and instrumentation is very close to 'All About Eve' circa 'Martha's Harbour'. Barra write catchy, moody songs containing some nice guitar work and complementary counter melodies. If you like 'All About Eve' and 'Clannad' you won't be disappointed with this album.

COSMIC DANCE SOCIETY: DILEMMA AND THE KING OF THING.

(Music and Elsewhere.) "Play This S*** LOUD" written on a tape never inspires confidence and indeed the first track 'Dilemma of work' is marred in my opinion by the vocals. However there are some nice laid back Astralasia-ish sitar and drum sections on this tape. I liked 'Experienced' (track 2) with its Lou Reed style spoken vocals pulling together a meandering ambient accompaniment. 'More Noise Please' (S2) was heavily delineated into sampled sections moving through stages of ambience to varied trance dispersed with rock guitar and back again.

alphanne moon

While on the subject of babies (as we were with Tracey on page 6), we have another new pair of underground parents to offer our congratulations/commissions (delete as applicable) to, and that's Syd & Lexi. Well, actually, it was Lexi who had the baby, Syd's contribution to the event was all over months ago. Who'd be a girl, huh? Still, they may whinge about having to suffer morning sickness, carrying a baby in their stomach for nine months, getting swollen ankles and piles, but it can't be as bad as shaving, can it, guys? Anyway, Lexi was lucky, baby daughter Blyth came along five weeks early, so at least she didn't have to go the full distance! Tuesday (what is it about Tuesdays???) 1st August was the happening date, by the way. Make the most of it, you two, coz after 18 years of sleepless nights and endless cleaning up after her, she'll leave home and only come and visit once a month when she wants to borrow some money!

Well, Syd & Lexi's zine, SHOES OF QUALITY 6, has just hit the mailboxes, and thanks to them both for the bit about M&E (right). This one will probably be the last one for a good while, babies are an amazing drain on time and money, and any networker will tell you that both of those are totally essential. They've certainly been incredibly active over the years, also well known for their music (TUOB), their jewellery (BEDIZEN) and them wacky FIS compilation tapes too, so I guess they've earned a rest. Not that they're gonna get it...ha...first baby...they'll learn. So write them supportive letters and be patient waiting for answers, they won't have much spare time, and buy their nice jewellery and tapes and records, coz they won't have much money either, poor things. Makes you wonder why folks have babies really, don't it? I mean, have you ever seen one? They're these sort of shapeless pink blobby things, equipped with multiple orifices, each of which produces infinite quantities of it's own particular brand of foul matter. Yeuk. Turns your stomach, doesn't it? Anyway, don't let me put you off, you enjoy being parents, I'm sure it's a barrel of laughs really. Send your condolences to Syd & Lexi at P.O.Box 2267, West Mersea, Essex, CO5 8HF, UK. Mothercare Gift Vouchers welcome.

MUSIC & ELSEWHERE: Have just released a Gothic compilation tape called *All Things Dark & Beautiful*. Included are KISS THE BLADE, FLOWERS OF SACRIFICE, INTO THE ABYSS, FLOWERS OF ROMANCE, GRASS HARP & others. £3.50 payable to S J Taylor. They are also looking for more Gothic bands to promote via their label/catalogue. Interested parties can send demos to Mick Magic, 6 Farm Court, Frimley, Camberley, Surrey, GU16 5TJ, England.

went to see it a couple of weeks ago, we do so love mindless action movies, but sadly we couldn't spot Phoenix on account of never having seen her, save from a xerox of a photograph in which she looked like she had no nose. In spite of our eyes being glued to the screen for noseless goth girls, we drew a blank. Okay, there were lots of goth girls, but they all had noses. Maybe this could be the next big M&E competition... "Spot The Noseless Goth Girl In Judge Dredd!" Okay, so it's a stupid idea, so sue me. Anyway, for all the action on the dark scene, contact zone is: 59 Burdett Road, Mile End, London, E3 4TN, UK. Say hi to the rats!

Talking of animals (we mean the rats, not Phoenix!), another little plug for our friends at the HOPEFIELD ANIMAL SANCTUARY, Paula & Ernie Clark, along with all their friends of various amounts of feet. We received their S****r newsletter recently, which included the very sad news that Charlie the horse has passed away. It must be absolutely heart rending to work with all these poor animals day after day, then losing them in the end, which only goes to show what great people Paula & Ernie must be. Anyway, the sanctuary is a charitable institution and forever in need of your time and/or your money, so if you can help in either (or both) of those ways, I know they'd be delighted to hear from you. There's all sorts of ways you can make donations, like you can adopt an animal (no, you can't take it home!), support the open days, join their Club 200, organise events for fundraising, have a Hopefield collection box in your shop, advertise in their newsletter, donate items to be sold or raffled, the sky's the limit. It's a wonderful cause, animals are so often the victims of humankind, it's nice if we can manage a little payback sometimes, huh? Contact zone: Sawyers Hall Lane, Brentwood, Essex, CM15 9BY, UK. (01277-201110)

To a creature of a different sort, a dragon, well...a SMOKIN' DRAGON, to be precise. Issue 14 has appeared recently, now in a cassette-zine format for the first time, having always been printed before. The tapezine is edited by Adele Bray, and she does lots of the talking on the tape too, it's absolutely packed with info through it's 90 minute running time. Music comes from LOVE LIKE US, plus there's a letters section, various audio-journalistic contributions, a poetry section (well, no zine is perfect!), music reviews (including a very good one for our "Life, The Underground & Everything" compilation set, though I would like to say that it's actually £5, not £2!), interviews (including one with our mate, Steve Andrews) and gig reviews. Seems the tapezine format is fast catching on of late, what with the electronic one, SEQUENCES, plus SUPERTROUPE as well, certainly makes a nice change to be able to sit back and have a zine that reads itself to you! Heaven for the bone-idle! I shall ignore Sammi's comment there too. Contact zone: (NEW ONE): c/o Richie's Tattoo Studio, Colemans Tailors, 24 Newington, Liverpool, L1 4ED, UK. Order a suit too!

GOODBYE, ORGAN

Well, what can I say? This is one farewell I hoped I'd NEVER have to write, but all things must pass, or so they tell us. After ORGAN 38 exploded onto the scene as a most professional A4 magazine, they tell us it's the end.

Sean Worrall, creator of the mighty zine, tells us that things have got totally out of hand now, that big green monsters are eating up all their time and money and that the relatively new ORG RECORDS label is going from strength to strength and burning up 25 hours a day, 8 days a week. Not sure about his statistics, but I think we get the point. So, the end result is that we've most likely seen the last issue of THE ORGAN zine as was, though it's not all completely over yet. It will now appear monthly as a free A2 fold-out flyer (and subscription holders will get these automatically until all the postage has burnt up the rest of their pennies), so you know where to send your SAEs, right?

Sean & Marina have done so much to support the underground movement over the year, eight of them, to be accurate. We first made contact with them back in the S****r of '88, then it was a small fanzine produced at the West Surrey College Of Art & Design, just down the road from us in Farnham. Over the years, we've been happy to watch it grow into the biggest and most popular zine of it's kind in the UK, and pretty well known around the rest of the world too. It's topped our annual "Zine Feedback Charts" for the last seven years straight, it's really always been in a league of it's own, we shall miss it lots. Shit, it's like losing an old friend really. But like I said, Sean & Marina's contribution to the underground has been immeasurable, so I figure we all owe them, and I hope everybody who's had the benefits of THE ORGAN over the years will support them now as they evolve. If you do a zine, do some reviewing for the fine output on the ORG label, offer them some free advertising space. If you do a radio show, give their material some airplay, it's well worth it. If you're a music lover, send off for their mailorder list, there's some great stuff on it, and go along to some of the gigs they put on too, great bands guaranteed. From all of us here at M&E and Magic Moments At Twilight Time, we wish all at ORG RECORDS a great future, thanks for everything, we won't forget you, ever.

Well, I don't know that the UK underground will ever be the same again without the might of THE ORGAN to back us up, I know it's gonna hit us hard, but I guess that kinda throws down the gauntlet now...who picks it up? There are some fine zines out there, but few have so far hit the scale the ORGAN managed. I've seen some very promising newcomers lately, so there's always hope. The underground needs zines like THE ORGAN, I don't think any of us could survive without them, it's not as if most of us can afford to advertise in the NME or anything, is it!? Create and survive, that was always the message from THE ORGAN, let's go!

MUSIC & ELSEWHERE is a non-profit project, set up to help promote the many fine bands playing styles of music that don't get many favours from the so called "music industry". So no, it's not really a business, but then it's no hobby either, more a way of life. The project is financed by M&E also operating as a tape label, and we've released over 300 of them so far, so we can offer the discerning music lover a very wide choice of sounds from a very wide range of countries. Primarily we do spacerock, creative artrock, gothic, psychedelic, kitsche psychopop, electronic teknoit, progressive rock, off the wall, experimental, avant garde music and elsewhere. But there's a few more things in the catalogue too, we don't like playing to rules, we simply put out what we think deserves a shot. And our supporters matter to us, so we're always open to suggestions. So what can we offer? For starters, an incredibly impressive range of cassette albums for only £3.50p a piece (okay, so a contribution towards postage on top would be appreciated), which we suspect you'll find beats the arse off your local record shop. Our supporters also get a copy of our rather large "BEST OF CATTY LOG" to tell them all about M&E releases, ideal for the odd month when you have nothing else to read. We do a three times yearly M&E NEWSZINE, often 10 pages (A4), packed with little articles about the underground world in general, bands, zines, radio shows, M&E new release reviews, other reviews of things we think you'll like, subterranean gossip (what...me???) humour and our underground music charts. And what's more, it's totally free and sent to our supporters automatically. You want more? Well, you also get a fast, friendly and personal service from people who are more than happy to give you the time of day, coz that's the underground way.

So you wanna get involved? But there's so many bands you have never heard of?? Not sure about the quality you can expect?? Here's the answer. "Life, The Underground & Everything", a 2x90 cassette compilation featuring the best of the M&E catalogue, 33 bands from 9 Countries. Of course, you may have a strong taste for electronic music, so you could try our special electronic showcase instead SHO-03 "BETTER THINGS ARE ELECTRIC" (90 minutes for £3.50) Some of the fine electronic music from the M&E catalogue. On the other hand, you may be a die-hard gothic fiend, so then you could try our special gothic showcase SHO-04 "ALL THINGS DARK & BEAUTIFUL" (90 minutes for £3.50) Some of the fine and dark gothic sounds from the M&E catalogue. And whichever of our sampler compilations you fancy trying, your order will arrive complete with the full M&E BEST OF CATTY LOG and the current issue of the M&E NEWSZINE. All cheques should be made payable to S.J. Taylor. Foreign currency (notes) is okay, please add 15% for bank charges. MICK MAGIC, MUSIC AND ELSEWHERE, 6 FARM COURT, FRIMLEY, CAMBERLEY, SURREY, ENGLAND, GU16 5 TJ.

"IT'S WHAT'S GOING DOWN IN THE UNDERGROUND"

Extracts taken from the M&E information sheet

ORG RECORDS

THE CARDIACS - "BELLYEYE" (CD SINGLE 11mins) ORGAN 011 CD (Dist: Pinnacle)

9

Well, Sean must be a very happy bunny indeed, having his favourite band in all time on his own label! The mighty Cardies have done it again too...I stuck this in my CD player and thought "yeuk, this sounds awfully conventional, what are they playing at?" Didn't like it at all. Played it again the following day and I thought, "what was I thinking of? This is actually pretty damned good and far from conventional!" Within a couple of days, I found myself singing it all over the place. The Cardiacs effect, I call it. You have to "work" yourself into their music, but the rewards justify the efforts, always. "Bellyeye" may sound a bit odd at first listen, but then it goes off at all sorts of tangents afterwards. "A Horse's Tail" is more familiar Cardies territory, bursts of Sarah's sexy saxophone, manic rhythm changes, memories of "R.E.M." (we talk of the classic song, not that old American band that my mum likes), rampant inventiveness and total feelgood music, luvverly big (big? Nah...huge) sound. But I said "huge"??? No, The Cardies would prefer I said "massive", and rightly so. The final track of the three...Pinky & Perky on acid? Twittery psychedelic kitsche with a string quartet, honest, guv! The Cardiacs lost the rulebook ages ago, and I sincerely hope they never stumble upon it by accident. Magic's Rating: SHEER GENIUS!

THE MONSOON BASSOON - "REDOUBTABLE" (MC EP 18 mins) ORGAN 013

"They don't sound like The Cardiacs!" Sean shouted down the telephone at me, "So don't say they do!" Hmmm. Well, sorry, but I think they do sound just an eensy bit like them, whatever Sean says, if a tad heavier. But no, I don't want to take anything away from them, they are not clones, they have a nice sound developing here, all of their own. Oh look, the female singer is called Sarah! Coincidence, I'm sure. Well, ya gets male and female vocals, lots of singalong wacky offbeat choral stuff...oh yeah, I see what Sean means now, it's more influenced by the like of Ring and Gong than The Cardies, some nice odd touches, very unpredictable too. The second track brings a flute into the proceedings, a quirky happy little number. It's quite an ornate mixture all round, we thought. The third track is kind of smooth, that west coast American sound...well, almost. Little sixties undertones, slightly prog in places, some very competent musicianship, quirky lead, everchanging rhythms. And perhaps not unremarkably, the whole EP sounds so much better second listening, a hallmark of lasting quality. Magic's Rating: PRETTY DAMNED GOOD BEGINNING...ENCORE!

The Cardiacs CD is available in all good record shops, both the above are available direct from ORG, contact zone being: Unit 206, The Old Gramophone Works, 326 Kensal Road, London, W10 5EZ, UK.

While we're reviewing, I have a couple more CDs here to do, so may as well do them here...

THE ORIGINAL MIND BAND - "SMILE ALL THE DAY" (CD SINGLE 13 mins) SPINNING LIONEL OMOO2

An independently released CD single from the OMB, looking more like Madness in every picture I see! Well, the opening shot, the "A side", as it were...what can I say? It...er...suprised me muchly. It's like one of those happy go lucky Mungo Jerry "In The Summertime" type songs. You know the sort...like "Seaside Shuffle" by Terry Dactyl & The Dinosaurs (aka Brett Marvin & The Thunderbolts)! Seriously, I wouldn't joke about something like this! Bright fun and sunshine, Dexy's Midnight Runners "Come On Eileen" and stuff...this is the sort of record that tops the charts for six weeks and people will play at parties for years and years. Um...and to be honest, we all liked it. We picked up our rubber rings and danced round the living room to it in our swimming cossies! Got some very strange looks from the cat. C'est la vie. The other two tracks are more what we've come to expect from the OMB, funky early 70s influenced psyche stuff, yas! Jethro Tull meets Cream grooving with Jimi Hendrix. Man, but that opening track stunned us some! It's not that we think they're wrong for doing it, hell no, it's a great song, not like all tacky crap or anything, just fun, and there's nothing wrong with that, power to 'em! Magic's Rating: BEACH PARTY...YEAH! GREAT STUFF! Available from P.O.Box 397, Swansea, SA2 7YB, UK, for the princely sum of £3.25. SAE/IRC for OMB newsletter.

LIVES & TIMES - "SECRETS OF THE UNKNOWN" (MC ALBUM 45 mins) NO IMAGE RECORDS NI CASS 5

Well, seems we at M&E have been something of an inspiration to Lives & Times, they've finally put out a cheap cassette! Now you get a chance to sample their exquisite music for the kind of prices you're used to paying! Say "thank you, Magic." What you get here is a collection of material from their very latest, all the way back to their first album. Oh, that was a CD too, you're looking at a band that were brilliant from the beginning, no shakey early demos here! Tight and skilled musicianship from Richard Wileman as always, invention ever present, and the voice of Lorna Cumberland gliding like an angel above the proceedings. Bright picked electric guitar, symphonic keys...sounds almost mainstream? Oh no, don't be deceived, that great depth of imagination is never far away, expect the unexpected. They can do gentle music without sounding wimpy, electronic without meandering on without aim, they can power up with dirty guitars whilst still sounding crystal clear. Shades of Judy Tzuke, All About Eve, Kate Bush, The Cocteau Twins, all things bright and beautiful, from distorted guitar hits to brilliantly played classical nylon. No words can really do this band justice, so take this low price opportunity to find out for yourself. Magic's Rating: SO NEAR PERFECTION! Available from P.O.Box 1428, Unit 4, Newcombe Drive, Swindon, Wiltshire, SN2 1ZY, UK.

MMATRIX

The inimitable Mick Magic's newsletter contains plenty of underground contact addresses plus news. Send SAE to find out more. Also check out M&E tapes if you wish to feast your ears on some fine underground releases. 6 Farm Court, Farm Road, Frimley, Camberley, Surrey, GU16 5TJ.

Well, we normally lock up the mailbox at midnight August 31st, but this late arrival has only got here 1st post Friday 1st September, so let's bung it in since we're still on the UK section anyway, huh? BEWARE THE CAT 3 has just arrived and it's come on a way since it's debut, now sporting a nice glossy card cover, 44 pages (A5) with a 4 page (A4) supplement on demos and fanzines. And a promise to publish quarterly to boot! This zine comes from our mate, Scott Osborne, also boss of NOISEBURGER RECORDS, and originally made contact with us as manager of ANIMAL FACTORY. BFC3 is nicely laid out and that makes a change coz it's much easier to find things. Ya gets pots of reviews, both "proper" and

"demos", cartoon strips, interviews with SHUDDER TO THINK and BEATNIK FILMSTARS, an informative article on the unknown dangers of blisters (I've had them, they're hell), a letters page and all manner of stupidity. The supplement also tunes you in to a few bands waiting in the proverbial wings, plus gives a lot of info on other zines doing the rounds, hence the little bit on us (up a bit on the left), though "The Mmatrix" became the "M&E News" quite a while back now, but they been busy, they weren't to know! This is getting to be a very good zine, another one maybe to pick up the gauntlet dropped by THE ORGAN? Who knows? Amazingly enough, they're finding it tough to get enough demos/cassette albums to review! WHA...??? Well, we know a band or two, so I have a real solid feeling you might be hearing from the odd one before too long, Scott. Yup, a good little zine, check it out at your convenience. Contact zone: P.O.Box 6355, London, N15 6PD, UK. Oh, and Scott wants to know where John Bartles is too.

Hey, so who says crime doesn't pay? Those of you who've been with us a while might remember we got a good telling off a few years ago by THE PTOLEMAIC TERRASCOPE for featuring a bog standard PPL copyright notice on one of our early tapes. Well, we didn't know, did we? This was like eons ago, before we connected with the world underground network! All was forgiven when we explained that we were truly pure of heart and deed and didn't know it was meant to be some kind of corporate nightmare. After this, we sent our PPL membership certificate to Phil McMullen, the magazine's editor, and told him to do with it whatever took his fancy, we then promptly forgot all about it and forever changed our copyright notices to far more amicable and precise ones. Well, that was about '91 (I think), and we thought no more of it ever since...until Saturday 3rd June when a PPL royalty cheque arrived... for £8.80! Crime does pay after all! We didn't know wether to cash it or frame it! So, we got £1.76 from the BBC (no problem, they can afford it), £1.89 from commercial radio (hey big spender!), £4.30 from public performances (really???) and 85p from dubbing (what's this, an honest person who copied one to play in his car???), thus making up the £8.80, presumably after PPL have taken their commission. We were awestruck. Gobsmaeked. Within days of this, we were given voting powers in PPL decisions, getting invited to their Annual General Meeting and even given a choice on the assignment of rights over use of our music on Internet services! Ah, the power and the glory! I ran round the corner and showed my mum the PPL cheque. She smiled, "I always knew you'd make it big one day, little Magic." She said, "Even though you have always been a bit of a weirdo." I shall treasure the computer printed payment schedule till the end of time. Meanwhile, me and Sammi are discussing what to do with our ill-gotten fortune, but we promise it will not change our lives at all. Well okay, we have been talking long vacations in the Bahamas, maybe even buying our own island in the Pacific somewhere, but we won't become all pretentious and you'll all be welcome to come stay with us for holidays. And okay, so we ordered a private Leer Jet (complete with M&E logo on the wings) this morning, just after putting in our bid to turn the Royal Yacht, Britannia, into an underground music floating venue. But we're still Mick & Sammi to our friends!

Ah, but our power in the musical establishment does not end there! Ta-ra! Not just bigwigs in the hallowed halls of PPL thanks to our enormous £8.80 royalty earning potential (I wonder what EMI got?), but also I'm to be included in that bible of the industry...THE INTERNATIONAL WHO'S WHO IN MUSIC! I mean, me, little old underground network Magic!??? Gobsnacked again, I was. Ya can't BUY your way into this thing, it's like invitation only. Magic...hmmmm, I should be about next to Madonna...sounds nice! Ha! This is the honest truth, really, pretty promise... this here (right) is the actual "proof copy" of my entry into the 2nd volume, to be published in August '96. Hey, I even get the chance to purchase a copy of this enormous tome at the special discount price of £75! It may be £20 cheaper than the full published price, but I politely declined anyway, not being one to flaunt the new found wealth our PPL cheque has brought us. But shit...all my secrets are out now...my real name, everything...oh dear! Thankfully not everything though, like it only says "divorced" instead of "divorced twice". And my education picks up from "night school", missing out my secondary school years. I'm kinda pleased about that, not that I mind all you folks knowing, but not all these strange types in "das musik industry". My first secondary school was France Hill in Camberley, but I got expelled from that one. Well, ya see, we had this clever idea for getting an afternoon off school...we phoned the police and said there was a bomb in the school (this was in '72, soon after the IRA bombed Aldershot)! They didn't see the funny side of it at all. Worse still, the headmaster saw through it and we never even got the afternoon off. Except me, I got the rest of life off school. After Easter that year, I started at Weydon School in Wrecclesham, much against the wishes of their headmaster, a most unpleasant individual called Chambers. Things went okay(ish) till Christmas, when me and my old schoolfriend, Snowdrop, decided we fancied a little Xmas drink on the last day of term. So we nipped round the corner to the off-licence, removed the school tie and blazer and popped in for a few cans, which we promptly knocked back. So far so good, but the story ends with us getting a lift back to school, extremely drunk, in a police car. Mr. Chambers was not pleased, Snowdrop got a severe telling off, I got expelled. Fortunately, he softened a bit over the Xmas break and gave me another chance. Oh joy, I lasted nearly two terms, until I walked into a Technical Drawing lesson with dozens of daisies and buttercups platted into my hair. For this most vicious of breaches of school discipline...you guessed...I was expelled again. Third time lucky, no more school for me. No, I got a private home tutor after that, and old Mrs. Busby was real nice, got on fine with her. Three mornings "schooling" a week, the rest of the time all to myself, so now ya know why it had to be night school later on! Apart from that, the entry is fairly complete, only things to pick up being that we changed the name of the album from "The Spirit Of Darkness" to "Creavolution" at the last minute and that they omitted masturbation from my hobbies, but then ya can hardly expect them to know everything, huh?

Okay, joking aside, there is a certain significance to my getting in this book, being that it actually acknowledges the role of the underground network in music, so this means something to ALL of us, it's no personal glory trip. I was invited to recommend others for inclusion in the book too, so I duly put forward the names of Sean Worrall (for his outstanding contribution via THE ORGAN), Lord Litter (who I consider mainly responsible for the strength and size of the worldwide underground network) and Marc Bell (for the amount of work he does helping new bands find their feet in a normally hostile business). Strength in numbers, that's four of us in there, and it's very gratifying to finally have the importance of the underground confirmed by the "establishment". Shit, there's hope for us all yet! I hope very much that this is a positive step forward for the movement as a whole, that our non-commercialistic hype-free way of doing things will become increasingly more "normal" over the years. Pigs might fly? Don't be so cynical, the police have had helicopters for years!

COMPETITION RESULTS»»»» Yes...the bit you've waited for!!!

Finally, we give you the answers to the competition we had in the last ish (Rise '95) of the M&E NEWS, so here goes...1: the East German band Lord Litter used to sing with was Das Freie Orchester, 2: the German scumbag that had done a London gig without telling me about it was Janis Kalifatidis (trick question, he is Greek really, he only lives in Germany), 3: the old punk zine done by the singer from the Sons Of Selina was called Crud, 4: the famous 70s zine written (in part) by UK TV presenter Danny Baker was Sniffin' Glue, 5: the hit single that Neil Diamond wrote for The Monkees was "I'm A Believer", 6: the German scumbag that kept moaning about the cold when he visited us was Janis Kalifatidis, 7: the underground musician famed for his disgustingly unhygienic cooking is Marc Bell, 8: the "funeral drum" on "Captain Lockheed & The Starfighters" was played by Twink, 9: The Pink Fairies and The John Barry Seven's thing in common is that they both played the classic instrumental "Walk Don't Run", 10: the German scumbag who was gonna be sending me some marzipan choccy bars soon by way of an apology was MEANT to be Janis Kalifatidis...but I'm still waiting for them!

And the winner is...the person with the most correct answers is...the only bugger that bothered to enter is...congrats to; DON GALLAGHER of Twinbrook, Northern Ireland! He won an enormous pile of vinyl, lots of singles and LPs and he was thoroughly happy about it. See...it was a REAL competition, there really WAS a decent prize, and he won it and you didn't, so there!

The only problem being that there was two prizes...and only one entrant...so we still have the other prize. Look, we have a nice copy of THE ADDRESSBOOK OF FANS & RECORD COLLECTORS (2nd EDITION) on computer disk sitting here in the M&E office, still waiting to be claimed. So we'll make it much easier for you this time...if you want to win a copy of the disk, all you have to do is complete the following phrase in no more than the length of an average Mills & Boon novel;

"MICK MAGIC IS UTTERLY AND TOTALLY WONDERFUL BECAUSE..."

Now that should be really piss easy for you, shouldn't it? I mean, there's no shortage of reasons, are there? The winning entry will be picked totally at my discretion, no correspondence will be entered into, I will not be cited as co-respondant in your divorce case, bribes of marzipan choccy bars will be taken into consideration, no purchase is necessary (but entries arriving without an accompanying order will be thrown in the bin and spat on lots). Closing date: 1st January 1996.

MUSIC & ELSEWHERE, Mick Magic, 6 Farm Court, Frimley, Camberley, Surrey, GU16 5TJ ENGLAND. Mick sent us his newszine which includes detailed and humorous articles on many underground networkers from all over the world with whom Mick is in touch. This is where you can read about us and FIGHT AMNESIA! as well and about scumbags (like us) in general. The truth is that we forgot to call Mick on his birthday (which is on April 21st, thought I'd mention this here...) and even worse, we didn't send him the marzipan chocolate bars we used to send him the past years. But that's not all! We also forgot to ring him up and let him know that we were playing at the Marquee, so Mick had no idea about that gig and was really upset as he really wanted to come. What can I say? Shame on scumbag me. My apologies (pronounce it in German for better results), won't do this again. You see, these are the side-effects caused by FIGHT AMNESIA! Never forget to mention anyone in it, but then my face contacts suffer under my own amnesia! And I will never mention again that Mick's place is the coldest place on Earth. I promise, so just forget that I wrote this here...Somehow I thought that Frimley was just near Athens...

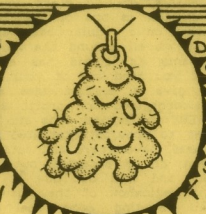
Okay, I know that most of you are in touch with Mick, but for the new ones, this contact is highly recommended, since this is the biggest and most interesting tape label on Earth (and perhaps in outta space as well) with more than 300 tapes released. Send IRC for list and further information!

No, I feel really guilty now...I mean, poor old Janis got it in the neck all last issue, all through the competition, having to put up with me calling him a scumbag. And just coz he came all the way from Germany, did a gig only a few miles up the road from me...and didn't bloody bother telling me! Well, they say confession is good for the soul, and to the left here is Janis' confession, taken from issue 6 of his zine FIGHT AMNESIA (appropriate title, we think). Okay, Janis, all is forgiven. And anyway, we got our own back...when his band, INTO THE ABYSS, played at The Marquee in London on August 12th, he told us in plenty good time, put me and Sammi's names on the guest list...and we didn't go! Ha ha ha! Actually, it was coz we were both very broke at the time, but fuck it, let him suffer, he doesn't need to know that. Right, just leaves it to say that FIGHT AMNESIA is currently the most information packed contact directory on the face of the Earth and also features an interview with SIELA and tons tons and more tons of reviews. INTO THE ABYSS's latest album can be found in the M&E new releases section in a few pages time. Contact zone: Alicenstr. 27, D-64293 Darmstadt, Germany. Send him post-it notes, a memo pad and a wallchart sized year planner.

MAGIC Mick (R M Lancaster), b. 21 Apr 1958, Wimbledon, England. Managing Director of Music and Elsewhere Label; Musician (Guitar, Keyboards); Composer. Divorced. Education: Night School; Open University. Career: Managing Director of Music and Elsewhere, promoting new bands especially "underground" bands; Studio work with own band; Appearance on BBC Radio 5. Recordings include: With Magic Moments At Twilight Time: Psychotron O, 1988, Zoen Nostalgia, 1989, White Hawk Atomic, 1992, and The Spirit Of Darkness, 1995. Publications: The M and E News, a three times yearly magazine. Membership: Mensa. Hobbies: Cinema, especially silent movies; Chess. Current Management: Music and Elsewhere. Address: Music and Elsewhere, 6 Farm Court, Farm Road, Frimley, Camberley, Surrey, GU16 5TJ, England.

LUCKY TALISMAN

STEEPED IN MYTH THIS HANDSOME PENDANT IS SAID BY SOME TO BRING THE WEARER GOOD LUCK!



DESIGN BASED ON AUTHENTIC COPY OF THE BLESSED BOGIE OF ST. IGNATIUS

ACTUAL SIZE

HAND-CRAFTED BY ADENOIDAL BELGIAN ARTISANS FROM 100% NATURAL SUBSTANCES. MANY TESTIMONIALS FROM ASTONISHED CUSTOMERS.

skint distros
poor fanzines+comix
tiny businesses
nervous networkers
struggling bands
folk who move about a lot
shy penfriends
@ctive anarchists
hunt saboteurs
paranoid people
cja protesters
cheap posing bastards

want a PO Box?

WARNING: the Post Office will rip you off! They charge a fortune, cause you major hassle if you move, and they don't guarantee your privacy!

Don't be ripped off. Use our PO Box. There's lots of room. We'll forward your mail quickly & cheaply, with 100% security.

INTERESTED? Send an SAE to our secret HQ & we'll get some helpful info off to ya...

SHAREBOX
c/o 6 Mayflower
Crawley
RH10 7WH

Here's a dude that can do with help, he's Knut Gerwers and he's working on a videofilm project on the much lamented Bob Calvert. Knut is interested in getting hold of any info or material on Bob, particularly film or video footage of the great man, be it of his solo performances, or with HAWKWIND. Audio interviews, photos and slides are also very much welcome. If you think ya can help Knut on this one, or know somebody who can, please do get in touch, Bob Calvert deserves all the tributes he gets. Contact zone: Forster Str. 50, 10999 Berlin, Germany. Tel: +49 (0) 30-618-3649 Fax: +49 (0) 30-262-8713

ADVERTISEMENTS <<<<

Talking of HAWKWIND...take a look at this from EB/METRONOM no.54 (right). Okay, so while we've never denied that we sound a bit like Hawkwind, or even that the Hawks are one of my own fave bands in the universe, I emphatically deny that we ARE Hawkwind! Spot it? There's a review there for our "Flashbox Vol.1" tape (on Echtzeit) and next to it is the "Tape-Charts" from the same page...notice who gets credited at no.3? Most amusing, Carsten! Ha bloody ha! That apart, we're most flattered to be in the Top 5... albeit under our secret alterego name! Carsten, incidentally, runs the EBU'S MUSIK label and publishes the EBU'S CHARTBREAKER zine, mostly crediting bands with the correct name and not that of their major influences. You'll forgive us if we slip up sometimes and accidentally refer to Carsten's zine as "Smash Hits", won't you? Right, having chastised Herr Olbrich, we'll get on to telling yas about EB/METRONOM (it's OK, Gisela, we don't blame you!); this is one of those rare anomalies, a proper magazine (as opposed to a fanzine, for want of a better term?) that is totally underground friendly. Edited by Gisela Lobisch (who knows her Hawkwinds from her Magic Moments), it presents a wonderful overview of the alternative music scene, giving page after page of band articles (Toy Dollz, Deus, Adam Ant, Motorhead, Mudhoney, Nitzer Ebb, Sparks, The Yawn...I mean Orb, amongst many others, good variety, no?), extensive gig listings (German, natch), piles and piles of record/CD reviews, including specialist sections on electronic and gothic, comic reviews, videos, books, label profiles and the totally underground friendly cassette scene page by Carsten Smash-Hits. Nuff said? Should be easy enough to find on German newstands, or contact: Hospeltstr. 66, 50825 Koln, Germany. Muchly recommended, in spite of the limited memory capacity of one member of it's writing team. No names, natch!

TAPE-CHARTS (Mai/Juni 1995)

1. PeNdiKel Demo
2. Marco Giaccaria Il Mondo Della Nebbia
3. Hawkwind Flashbox Vol. I
4. Die Beauties & das Biest Four-Track-Tape
5. Lord Litter The World of Lord Litter

Carsten Olbrich

MAGIC MOMENTS AT TWILIGHT TIME
Flashbox Vol. 1
(Echtzeit, Adr. s.o.)
Im Juli '87 wurde ein neues Stück heimlicher, englischer Spacerock-Geschichte eingeläutet, nahm doch diese Band zu diesem Zeitpunkt ihr erstes Stück für "Earthworm Records" auf. Mittlerweile sind alle 10 Volumes der Flashbox-Serie auf gleich mehreren Tapelabels (möglichst ein Tapelabel pro Land) erschienen, und dieses war das Debüt. Bereits beim zweiten Titel "Acidic Heaven" wird deutlich worum es geht, was dann mit "Sister Jody" exzessiv über die komplette B-Seite weitergeführt wird ("Amazing how much noise two people can make, huh?") und ein breites Grinsen überzog mein muschroom-verklärtes Gesicht. "Hawkwind" können es salonfähiger. MMATT aber sind ein herzig-dilettantisches Juwel, welches seine facettenreich-funkelnde Wirkung garantiert nicht verfehlt.

Der vielbeschäftigte Spaceman Mick Magic hat für sein nächstes Plattenprojekt (endlich) einen Geldgeber gefunden. Das "Spirit Of Darkness"-Album wird demnach auf CD mit farbiger Covergestaltung erscheinen. Außerdem verhandelt man mit einem Londoner Vertrieb. In welchem Format das Album bei uns erscheint und wer den Vertrieb übernimmt steht noch nicht fest. Darüber und mehr zu den neuen Mick Magic-Songs erfahrt ihr in der nächsten My Way-Ausgabe. Oder schreibt: Mick Magic, 6 Farm Court, Farm Road, Frimley, Camberley, Surrey, GU 16 5 TJ, England. IRC nicht vergessen!

And to another fine German zine, that's MY WAY, as run by our good friend, Uli Gernand, somebody who stayed with us for two weeks and didn't mention the cold once. So what if it was S****r!? To the left here is a little piece from the news page of MY WAY 34, announcing the forthcoming release of our new album (did I mention we have a new album coming out soon?), and even correctly crediting it to us and not Hawkwind, though it's not called "The Spirit Of Darkness" anymore, maybe one person too many asked me if we were "slaves of Satan". Ho hum. Anyway, the name change was a very late decision that Uli couldn't have known about in time, unlike Carsten who has no excuse whatsoever as we've been called Magic Moments for nearly nine years. Oddly enough, we never have been known as Hawkwind, that name was already taken. Uli (like Carsten, and Stefan Schwab's Echtzeit) also runs a tape label which has a Magic Moments "Flashbox" volume on it. Nice people. Except Carsten. Uli's label is imaginatively called MY WAY TAPES. And Uli has offered to take on the distribution of our new CD in Germany too, so we'll hopefully be arranging that very shortly. Yes, Uli is a very nice man, just like Stefan, he's a very nice man too. MY WAY - Uli Gernand, Finkenstr. 8, 59192 Bergkamen, Germany. ECHTZEIT - Stefan Schwab, Hohe Warte 1, 91080 Spardorf, Germany. SMASH HITS - Carsten Olbrich, Bottenhorner Weg 37, 60489 Frankfurt, Neverneverland.

2	SOUL COUGHING	Sugar Time	CD Dummy	UK	audiofile Tapes
3	PORTISHEAD	Wandering star	CAS Watching for a...	D/US	Delerium
4	PARACON	If you ask me about...	CD The extasie	UK	Euro Ralph
12	DIRGE	Dead cell	CAS	US	Ralph
13	STROBE	Fix / Stasis	CAS Mask	UK	Fudo/BigCat
14	PARACON	Nothing but frozen time	CAS Watching for a sign...	D/US	audiofile Tapes
15	FAITH NO MORE	Greenfields			

It's obviously been a bad S****r for one of two things that made Germany famous; efficiency (the other being nicking sunbeds). I mean, first we get Carsten referring to us as Hawkwind instead of Magic Moments, then we get Uli calling our album (oh, did I mention we have a new album coming out soon?) "The Spirit Of Darkness" instead of "Creavolution" (MMATT CD 1, just in case I haven't mentioned it yet), now we get Wolfgang Reffert crediting M&E Tapes that we sent him to Audiofile Tapes! Horror of horrors! What happened to the Germany whose trains you could set your watch by??? (Don't try this, use your fingers, it's easier) Okay, so we confess, Audiofile did indeed originally release the PARACON album in the USA, and we did indeed obtain the master from them, but it wasn't bloody Audiofile that sent him the tapes, was it!!!! Signed "outraged", The Old Rectory, St. John's Wood. Okay, I've calmed down now, Sammi says it's just my age. Try talking with parcel tape over your mouth, Miss Taylor. Well, many thanks to Wolfgang (assuming he actually PLAYED the right album) for giving some valued airplay to one of our bands, muchly appreciated. For those of you not in the know, Wolfgang's show is called PLEASUREDOME and goes out on RADIO DREYBECKLAND, an FM broadcast around the Freiburg area. And, of course, Wolfgang is also well known for his brilliant electronic music, DARK STAR, now signed to the STRANGE WAYS label, but still with tapes available on M&E, natch. We even list them in our Catty Log under the name DARK STAR and not Take That. Lucky he doesn't have any tapes on the EBU'S MUSIK label really, isn't it? Anyway, Wolfgang's contact zone coming right up: Kirchstr. 26e, 79100 Freiburg, Germany. Tune in if you're in the area!

Our very good friend, LORD LITTER, may have dramatically cut back on his subterranean activities these days to concentrate on his new band (imaginatively called THE LORD LITTER BAND, wonder how he thought that one up?), but he's still doing his bit on the airwaves for RADIO MARABU (international on shortwave, FM and satellite) and knocking out the odd newsletter, dedicated to making extra work for me, Don and Janis. Ya see, it seems that the ancient Greeks were quite wrong, the entrance to the underworld doesn't involve paying a ferryman to take you across the River Styx at all...all you really have to do is write to one of us three. Well, you learn something new every day, don't you? Had no idea Jorg (LL) was such an authority on Greek mythology. Actually, Litter makes me laugh at times. This is the guy that was "giving up my network activities to play with my own band and have fun!" Oh yeah? So why is he still doing a radio show? Why is he still selling tapes? Why is he still publishing a newsletter? Why do I get 527 letters a week saying "Lord Litter said I should really get in contact with you, Magic!"? Face it, Jorg, you're hooked. You are an addict, a networking junkie. You need to stand up at a Networkers Anonymous meeting and say "my name is Jorg, I am a letterholic." But no, he denies it; "hey, Magic, I could give it up anytime I wanted to, I just got a touch of flu this week, I have this thing under control." Sure ya do, Jorg, sure ya do. What we need is a kind of Betty Ford Clinic for addicted networkers, those poor half-crazed people who need to give over their lives to releasing tapes, doing radioshows, printing zines and writing endless piles of mail...

Doc - "Ah, Herr Litter, do come in and sit down."

LL - "Dear Sir, thank you, I will, yours faithfully, Lord Litter."

Doc - "Now you don't have to talk like a letter, that's what you're here to be cured of, isn't it?"

LL - "P.S. Yes, doctor."

Doc - "Now then, we'll just have to search you for hidden pens, paper, postage stamps, things like that, okay?"

LL - "Dear Sir, (clears his throat loudly, thinks he's doing an audioletter) there's really no need, I haven't got anything!"

Doc - "Well, Herr Litter, let's just make absolutely certain, shall we?"

LL - "Er...are the rubber gloves and KY Jelly really necessary, doctor?"

Doc - "Oh yes, Herr Litter, we had Carsten Olbrich in here last week, he had a typewriter up his..."

LL - "Er...yes, just be gentle with me...ouch!"

Doc - "So what is this writing pad for, Herr Litter?"

LL - "I wasn't sure you'd have toilet paper in here."

Doc - "Now I don't think telling lies is going to help, do you?"

LL - "Dear Doctor, no, yours sincerely, Lord Litter."

Doc - "And why are there pens sewn into the lining of your coat, Herr Litter?"

LL - "P.S. Starch is expensive in Germany these days, we pay too much tax."

Doc - "Anything else you now wish to tell me about?"

LL - "Okay, doctor, I'll come clean, I have some envelopes stashed down my underpants and postage stamps in my socks."

Doc - "Much better, Herr Litter, now you are showing the will to be cured, aren't you?"

LL - "Yes, doctor."

Doc - "Then I will tell you all about our withdrawal programme..."

LL - "Er...could I have it in writing?"

Not that he's doing anything these days, but should you want to get in touch, it's Pariser Str. 63a, 10719 Berlin, Germany.

IRRE TAPES R.I.P.

Oh shit, here we go again...well, we've already said goodbye this month to one of the most important zines in the UK, now we sadly have to say farewell to one of the most important labels in the entire world underground network, IRRE TAPES. "Dear Mick Magic, please sit down, some sad news from here, IRRE TAPES as cassette label is finished, is dead, it's over after 15 years of fighting with the record industry, I stop with all label activities." That was the opening passage of Matthias Lang's letter that greeted me recently, he went on to explain some of the reasons for it, I'll get back to that later though. Matthias is one of those old troopers who seem to have been involved in the network since dinosaurs walked the Earth. Ask loads of activists who inspired them to take part in the first place, many will tell you it was Matthias Lang; who else? The Irre label has probably been the world's best know tape label ever since my network involvement began at the start of the decade, Matthias has also been a tireless journalist, writing for magazines like MY WAY, EB/METRONOM and many others, mainly under the pseudonym of "Mr.Moto". If I just take this from a personal perspective, I realise what an immense debt of gratitude I owe him. He was one of the first few German labels to release Magic Moments music and he really helped us get known all round Europe with endless work on our behalf. When I started up M&E, we again got his full backing, Irre having provided us with a total of 45 mastertapes to add to our catalogue. It would have been so much tougher without him, believe me. Although he had recently slowed his activities, I hadn't really paid much attention to the rumours about him quitting altogether, I thought he'd be back with a bang as soon as his work-related studies were concluded, but now it seems he won't be back at all. I'm hoping he will at least continue with his writing for magazines, it would be a tragedy to lose his voice and experience from the network totally. He tells me he believes the only results of 15 years have been "frustration and some very good friends." Well, I beg to differ. Matthias, you have been an inspiration to many, you have touched many lives, you've changed them all just that little bit, it matters. Personally I think you're quite wrong to say nobody is interested in cassette music anymore. I know in Germany that you face ridiculously high postal charges at the moment, and I know that's limited the amount of promotion you can do dramatically, but far from being over, I think the underground is just evolving again, something it has been doing since the day it began, whenever that might have been. More and more underground bands are getting signed up now, appearing on CDs as much as tapes, taking their philosophy forward into the music industry proper. And even that music industry is now starting to acknowledge the important role of the underground. More and more fanzines are making it into print, more and more underground tape labels are making the leap to issuing CDs and albums. It's growing all the time, and your contribution to that growth will never be forgotten, you're the only person who doesn't seem to realise how big that contribution has been. Still, I've told ya now, so no more excuses! And God alone knows what you're gonna do with all that spare time!??? I hope one day you'll learn to look back with pride on all you really achieved, then you enjoy some time with your wife and children, you earned it!

Now, I said I'm come back to Matthias' reasons for finally calling it a day, and I have to agree that what he described as "the last straw" would have pissed me off quite some too. It seems that the German police raided the home of Carsten Vollmer, the good friend of ours that runs/ran (I'm not sure as of this moment) the CAT KILLER tape label, looking for bootlegs of all things. As I understand it, they took everyone of his mastertapes away to be checked against copyright claims. Matthias was justifiably concerned that he'd be next on the target list, and I'm quite sure that a guy with a wife, children and a respectable job would not want that kind of grief. I have no idea where the German police got the stupid idea that the underground network is some kind of crooked bootlegging association, but I do hope they are fucking proud of themselves, bring back the Gestapo, all's forgiven! I haven't a clue how far the German police are gonna go on this either, or exactly what started it, but I'd rather like to find out. I haven't heard from Carsten since I was told about this, but I'll be trying to get in touch with him soon. If this happens to any other labels in Germany, or anywhere else for that matter, please write and give me all the details, we don't all have to sit back and take this kind of crap, we do have rights, let's exercise them! I think we all forget sometimes, there are THOUSANDS of us involved in this network, we can make a lot of noise if we have to. So any more information from German networkers on exactly what is happening would be most welcomed. Fond farewells to Matthias or letters of support to Carsten would be welcomed too...

MATTHIAS LANG, Barendellstr. 35, 66862 Kindsbach, Germany.

CARSTEN VOLLMER, Cat Killer, Krayerstr. 31, 45276 Essen, Germany.

And all the best to both of you from all of here at M&E!

THE ENTRANCE TO THE UNDERWORLD

Here are three addresses that will enable you to start your personal journey into the underworld. FIGHT AMNESIA is one of the best printed newsletters I know about. It is published on a regular basis and provides you with all kind of worthy addresses from all around the world, coming from basically any "scene". Publisher Janis Kalifatidis has an incredible knowledge about music in general, so if you send one of your products it is guaranteed that the review will give a perfect idea about your creation. One of the biggest and best organised non profit distributions (mainly cassettes) is MUSIC AND ELSEWHERE in England. The aim is to build an audience for the bands/musicians and to provide interested people with music far off the beaten path via releases, newsletters and catalogs. Get in touch and find out how it works. Not all is accepted but it is very definitely recommended to get in touch and find out how it works. And finally the longest running underground radioshows of the whole world: NO PIGEONHOLES, hosted by DON CAMPAU. Sending some real independent orientated material to him more or less guarantees airplay in the S.F. area of America. The activities of these people are all based on non profit idea, so sending extra IRC's guarantees a quicker answer. But don't forget that life sometimes dictates an slower answer ...

FIGHT AMNESIA - Janis Kalifatidis, Alicaenstr. 27, 64293 Darmstadt, GERMANY - regularly published newsletter. 40 A5 pages - send two IRC's to check out an issue, ask for subscription rates

MUSIC AND ELSEWHERE - Mick Magic, 6 Farm Court, Farm Road, Framley, Camberley, Surrey, GU16 5TJ, ENGLAND - distribution, send two IRC's to receive information about how it all works and what is offered.

NO PIGEONHOLES - Don Campau, P.O.Box 23952, San Jose, CA 95153, USA - radioshows, send two IRC's for answer, playlist, info and more.

MAGIC MOMENTS AT TWILIGHT TIME

Anyone that's taken the plunge into the world underground has heard of THE MAGIC MOMENTS AT TWILIGHT TIME (MMATT). The creative outlet of Mick Magic and friends, a self-described "space rock" will certainly have you feeling a bit psychic after a half hour of listening. Mick, aside from MMATT also works on the newsletter MUSIC AND ELSEWHERE, an essential collection of contacts and information on the world underground.

CONTACT: MMATT, 6 FARM COURT, FARM RD., FRIMLEY, CAMBERLEY, SURREY GU16 5TJ U.K.

1) A HISTORY OF THE BAND....

Well, I guess it really started in '86, at least this time around. 25th October, to be precise, that's the day we fused into one being. Confused? Okay let me explain; before that we had been two people...a native Earthling called Mick Lancaster and an alien scientist called Dr. Albert Michael Tron Psd (a doctor of psychotronics). Being small and green as I (alien) was, it gave me no chance to intermingle and get to know the good folks of earth, so I (alien) needed to fuse (an ability common to our race) with a native. Obviously, we needed to pick a place that was of mild climate, politically stable, had a good sense of humor and was at the centre of the world when it came to music...but we ended up with England instead due to a crash landing on Wimbledon Common. They don't build these Ford Escortron spacecraft like they used to. So anyway, I (alien) spotted I (Earthlet) as a fair candidate, already a musician (albiet one that did naff ballads and rude sexist comedy songs in a cabaret) and married to a singer. Kinda convenient. Okay, I (Earthlet) did freak out a bit when I first saw me (alien), but I (Earthlet) was a bit of a misfit anyway and the idea of fusing with an alien wasn't going to make a lot of difference, so we did it. My (alien) nickname as a scientist was Dr. Magic, and since we both shared the name Mick, we went with Mick Magic. So inside our head, we started teaching each other about our respective spheres of musical experience and came up with MAGIC MOMENTS AT TWILIGHT TIME's sound, a kind of fusion of English psycherock with ethnic alien music.

We put together a few demos and got some interest from the London label Earworm records, so set about forming a band. This was easy really as a friend had brought the future members of the band back in time to meet me so I'd know who they were when I met them again later. We only did two recordings for Earworm, then chose the independent path. That original band broke up in the summer of '89. Is there a new one?

2) IS MMATT PRIMARILY A STUDIO PROJECT OR DO YOU PERFORM LIVE AS WELL?

Well, no, we haven't done live work since the demise of the original band, at least not on earth. We did the "White Hawk Atomic" concert on the planet Alpha Nebuli IV to celebrate the fifth anniversary of fusion in '91, but that's it for recent years. So yeah, a "studio project" of sorts. Guess we're a cartoon band, kinda like The Archies. Oh, Lulu The Space Bimbo and Pete Program are real people, but not real full time members of the band. No live work being planned at the moment coz we're currently recording a new album. I know, about bloody time too!

3) YOUR LAST FULL LENGTH RELEASE "WHITE HAWK ATOMIC" HAS BEEN OUT FOR QUITE SOME TIME AND IS STILL SELLING WELL. TO WHAT DO YOU ATTRIBUTE ITS SUCCESS?

Yeah, the album was released January '92 and is still at #4 in the M&E Best Sellers Chart, it's only been out of the top two for the last few months. That's a tough question for me to answer though. Maybe being live, it had more raw feel than the clean clinical sound of our studio releases? Then again, it could be because this was the first album we did after connecting with the world underground movement, so it became the most widely distributed album as well as our top seller of all time. No, I'm not sure, personally I thought "Psychtron 0" was better.

4) LULU'S VOICE IS CERTAINLY ONE OF MMATT'S STRONG POINTS. DOES SHE WRITE THE LYRICS AS WELL?

I write all the music and lyrics. Lulu's talent is definitely that strong and versatile voice of hers (she'll be having a baby in May, incidentally). She's also a musician but doesn't write at all. We generally use a few different vocalists on things, but you can't do that live, hence why she does it all on "White Hawk". She'll certainly be doing a few tracks on the new album, along with a few other very gifted vocalists, film at eleven....

5) WHAT'S THE WORD ON YOUR ITALIAN RELEASE?

None whatsoever so far. Fingers still crossed.

6) YOUR NEWSLETTER THE MMATRIX HAS BEEN ONE OF THE MOST CONSISTENT AND IMPORTANT CENTERS FOR THE UNDERGROUND. HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN DOING IT?

Very kind of you to say so. Modesty forbids me from accepting such an accolade though. Well to clarify things, The Mmatrix zine is now called Psychotron (from ish 7, the current one). The first one came out in July '91, soon after we got things going again after the original band fell apart. It ran quarterly (more or less) for a while, but now it will be annual, coming out every January, easier that way. All the general chatter and stuff goes into our label newsletter, the M&E News.

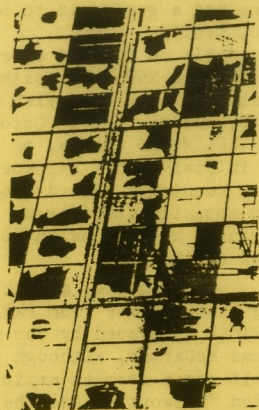
7) DO YOU EVER FEEL THAT YOUR WORK ON THE MMATRIX HAS INTERFERED WITH YOUR CREATIVITY WITH MMATT?

A mega yes to that one! Basically, after trying to get another album out for about a year, around last September we realised it simply wasn't going to happen; so we shut down partially a lot of our networking activities temporarily to allow us to actually finish and release the new tape. And yes! we are seriously enjoying the break. And finally, the new album is making sound progress. It's been kinda hard getting back into writing/arranging/recording mode

again after so long just doing work for the M&E label. I had to remember I was a musician as well as a typist!

8) WHERE DO YOU SEE YOURSELF IN THE NEXT FEW YEARS?

Honestly? Probably still a part-time taxi driver wishing to God he could make a full time living out of music. It's so damn hard these days. I've managed a bit of famous and penniless so far but that's about it. Goals? to reach more people and let them know the world underground exists; to get the media and the music press (beyond the underground) to acknowledge it. And, on a bend front, just to get the real album out (not just cassettes). There are so many bands working their butts off in the underground, us included. 'Be kinda nice if we could all get some kind of recognition for that. I can think of plenty of deserving cases, believe me.



9) LAST COMMENTS?

Last comments? Oh, that's easy...a message to music fans worldwide; check out the underground thing, it's so worthwhile. The multinationals of the music industry don't have it all. It's money first, music second with them. But in the underground we actually care more for the music. Don't be put off because a band produces its music in bedroom studios and home duplicates their tapes; the quality of underground music is probably a lot higher than you'd expect. Being connected with the movement has forever changed my life and many of our label's supporters have said just the same--that they didn't know there was so much great music out there beyond the record companies, at prices that make the odd mistake quite affordable! So if you really love and care about music, support the underground. We honestly can't do without you...until they invent free studios anyway....

Right, let's try to get back on happy tracks now, flipping across to the U.S.A. for one that took me completely by suprise, mainly on account of this interview being one that I gave...ooh...18 months-2 years ago, not quite sure, but it does say that Lulu's gonna "be having a baby in May"...and little baby Thea is 15 months old now! This interview (below) comes from the brand new American zine, ENZYME, produced by EYE RECORDS in Detroit. Doesn't ring a bell? Memory jogger time... remember a band called MISSED IN DIARY who appeared on one of our Guilfin Benefit Tapes? Well, that was the band of our friend,

Jeff Cornett, and the good news is that they are still going (though still no tape on M&E, wake up, guys!) and this is the zine they started work on a couple of years ago. It's been a long time coming, but they've made a fine job of it and plans are now to publish biannually, in March and September. This first issue comes 32 pages long in that funny American size that is almost A4, but not quite (215 x 280 mm). There are four quite sizeable interviews, THE FLOWERS OF ROMANCE, INTO THE ABYSS, LEMON AVENUE (do I detect a goth bias here?) and us, plus the history of coffee, pages of odd bits and adverts, quite a decent collection of underground reviews (including the one for our WHITE HAWK ATOMIC tape, below right), plus zine, radio show and label listings. A very informative and nice looking zine and a good read to boot.

Contact zone; Arthur Grau, P.O.Box 20401, Detroit, MI 48220, U.S.A.

Oh, a couple of updates on the interview, since it's a bit on the old side; "The Mmatrix" and "The Psychotron" zines were both followed by the M&E NEWS and neither of them are still available. The "Italian release" Jeff asks about in the interview relates to an offer from ALEX SCHIAVI to release Magic Moments on CD, dating back to October '93. Alex was then talking about setting up a label called NOISE UNLIMITED (he is, of course, a well established recording artist in his own right too!) in Italy. What happened was that he moved to Brazil, home country of his wife. He is now running a record shop in SAO PAULO, which is why we lost touch for a while. His label is actually starting up out there and we heard from him again recently and he still wants to release us on CD, but now it will be in Brazil instead of Italy, so watch for news on that one.

Mick Magic Music & Elsewhere-6 Farm Court, Frimley, Camberley, Surrey, GU16 5TJ, ENGLAND.-Mick runs a tape label, has loads of contacts worldwide, hundreds of top underground bands on his label and publishes a "cattylog" and newsletter. Bands and zines get in touch for possible M&E release and review in his publications. Mick has had produced a lot of top quality music himself and has many tape albums for sale of his band Magic Moments at Twilight Time.

A5 punkzine, nice angry little articles (and wouldn't we all like to shout "fuck the system" once in a while?), cartoon strips from yet another friend, Roy Conolly, interviews with punk icons, political articles on the aftermath of Vietnam and the ongoing mess in whatever Yugoslavia is called this week and German policemen either, I shouldn't doubt. Contact Thomas is a bit of an artist himself, says to tell yas that if any band or zine want a bit of art, please get in touch with him, and send our love.

Back to the world of "proper" magazines now, and the large article (right) comes from a huge Greek one called THE THING, near as dammit A4 size, full colour glossy jacket and (get this) 100 pages!!! Features include Helmet Die Krupps, New Bomb Turks, Jello Biafra, Greg Shaw and lots of others, plus a four page "rumbles" column penned by none other than PTOLEMAIC TERRASCOPE's (always thought that sounded a bit Greek!) Phil McMullen. Oh, and an interview with Pop Will Eat Itself, but like I said, no zine's perfect. Mega amounts of reviews too, and all kind of other bits and bobs, but it's hard to say what they are, it's all Greek to me. Looks like a seriously good music mag though, so long as you happen to be Greek. And there are lots of them about, Mike Pougounas, Janis Kalifatidis, and our lovely friend Lito Martinou, she being the one that wrote the article about us here on the right. Well, I say "lovely", but then it could be a whole page of piss-taking and abuse, couldn't it? Who knows? The Greeks, they know!

Lito used to be one of the producers of the Greek horror mag, SPLATTERZINE, but that tasteful little tome is no longer with us. These days she's kind of free-lancing (that's a journalistic term, nothing to do with sexual activity), but I can't tell you what other mags she's writing for coz I forgot to make a note of it. Oops. Anyway, whatever it says, it looks very pretty and is a delightful edition to our M&E NEWS, so we thank her muchly. Contact zones.....

THE THING: Dimitris Katsoulakos, 133-135 Papagou Ave., Zografou, 15773 Athens.

LITO MARTINO: 9 Terpsihoris Str., Holargos, 15562 Athens, Greece.

Down under next, to the land of Dame Edna, Posters and Rolf Harris. Yes, those Australians have much to be proud of. Not bad for a race descended from our criminal deportees, huh? The little bits below come from the latest ish of Derek Garland's IGNITE zine. The whole IGNITE operation is getting bigger all the time, Derek is working his way up to becoming a fully fledged networker, and God knows we need one in Oz! The newsletter is now up to 8 sides of A4, featuring news on Derek's band (IGNITE), details

Me olde cobber Mick Magic from (M&E) in the UK has kindly place us on a compilation album filled with lots of great tunes. He tells me we were up against some tuff competition but because we offered "Im more money we got the nod! I can tell you this guy has a great sense of humour. His letters always cheer me up. Drop him a line at 6 Farm Court, Frimley, Surrey GU16 5TJ U.K. Get a copy of his Cattylog or a copy of his Flashbox Vol 10 (Refer our THINGS 4 U)

of his label/distro (IGNITE PRODUCTIONS), an article on Sydney night life by Don Key (ee-ought to change that!), a crossword puzzle (what?) and a big interview with Lord Litter (who?)! And Derek has released a volume of our "Flashbox" series on his label too, nice man, "space fun pop music", er... right. "One of Europe's legendary bands"? Hmm, I like that, very nice man, for a crook's grandson. Say hi to Derek at 47/81 Bath Road, Kirrawee, NSW 2232, Australia. Tell him "the legend" sent you!

MAGIC MOMENTS AT TWILIGHT TIME

"White Hawk Atomic" Cass

This release from 1991 still deserves mention as many people stateside haven't had the opportunity to experience MMATT. Defining themselves as 'space Rock', one listen to Mick Magic and crew and you'll hear why! Analog synth textures, psychedelic guitar riffs and "if Galaxina could sing" style vocals. MMATT is a difficult one to peg for those needing a comparison to stimulate curiosity, I'd have to say imagine the soundtrack to Liquid Sky taken into the garage of the 90's. MMATT 6 FARM COURT, FARM ROAD, FRIMLEY, CAMBERLEY, SURREY GU16 5TJ ENGLAND

To Eire now, and this little plug (left) comes from PARANOIA CRITICAL, produced by our new mate, Thomas McCarthy, although the plug itself comes from an article in it called "Networking And The Underground", written by another friend, Steve Andrews. PC (are those initials intentional???) is a 16 side general punky titbits. Not recommended reading for Young Conservatives. Or zone: 24 Glendine Heights, Kilkenny, Eire (Republic Of Ireland). Oh yeah, and

Πριν από πολλά πολλά (τέλος πάντων, όχι και πάρα πολλά) χρόνια, την μέρα που ο κύριος Mick Lancaster από το Camberley της Αγγλίας αντίκριζε για πρώτη φορά το κόσμο, No.1 τραγούδι στα chart της Αγγλίας ήταν το "Magic Moments" των Perry Como και No.1 στην Αμερική το "Twilight Time" των Platters. Κάποιες δεκαετίες αργότερα, μια ωραία πρωία η φιλήσυχη ζωή του κ.Lancaster ήθεε τα πάνω κάτω όταν μέσα στο σώμα του μπήκε ένας εξωγήινος επιστήμονας από τον πλανήτη Gamma Syndrome και συγχωνεύτηκε μαζί του. Το μοιραίο αυτό γεγονός συνέβει στις 25 Οκτώβρη του 1986 και από τότε τίποτα πια δεν θα ήταν το ίδιο: ο Mick Lancaster έπαψε να υπάρχει και στην θέση του εμφανίστηκε ο Mick Magic, χημικός και μάγος με καλειδοσκοπικά μάτια. Το κοσμολόγο των Μ.Μ.Α.Τ.Τ. προσεγγίστηκε στη Γη την ίδια εκείνη μέρα, μετά από μια μακρόχρονη διαγαλαξιακή περιπλάνηση για να αναεφοδιαστεί με τόνους λυσεργικών κασιμίων. Φαίνεται όμως πως το πλήρωμα προτίμησε να παραμείνει για πάντα στη γη. Έστειλαν το κοσμολόγο σ' ένα μοναχικό ταξίδι στο μοναχικό κενό, πήραν ανθρώπινη μορφή και αποφάσισαν να φτιάξουν μουσική. Για αρχή, έμαζαν και βρήκαν κάποιους άλλους πρώην εξωγήινους και νυν επιφανείς γήινους, μίλησαν μαζί τους και έμαθαν απ' αυτούς πολλά: κυρίως μίλησαν με τους Hawkwind αλλά και τον David Bowie, τους Faust... Οι Μ.Μ.Α.Τ.Τ. ήταν αρχικά συμπεκνωμένοι στην μορφή του Mick Magic, ο οποίος και έφτιαξε τα δύο πρώτα demo: "Willy The Oak Tree's 20th Birthday Party" και "State Of The Art". Λίγο καιρό αργότερα η Shona Moments, η Kate Twilight και ο Jay Time βρισκόνοταν σε trip όταν είδαν μπροστά τους ένα μεγάλο παράθυρο. Το άνοιξαν και πήδηξαν έξω. Προσεγγίστηκαν τότε, σ' ένα μεγάλο, καταπράσινο κίττο, συνάντησαν τον Mick Magic και αμέσως κατάλαβαν πως η θέση τους ήταν μαζί του. Η διείρυνση του σχήματος επισημοποιήθηκε με την κυκλοφορία του mnlP "Time Machine" και έτσι ξεκίνησε η μεγάλη ψυχεδελική εποποιία των Magic Moments At The Twilight Time. Το 1988 βρέθηκαν στη σπηλιά του The Crypt, στο Λονδίνο, να παίζουν μαζί με τους Pink Faires. Ακολούθησε το LP "Zoen Nostalgia" και το 1989 άλλαξαν το σχήμα τους για άλλη μια φορά: τα keyboarders Mick ενώθηκαν με την "ταξιδιάρικη" φωνή της Leonie Jackson και ο ΨΥΧΟΤΡΟΝΙΚΟΣ ήχος των Μ.Μ.Α.Τ.Τ. είχε γεννηθεί! lost in space και γενικά χαμένος σε άλλες διαστάσεις προορισμένος να βομβαρδίζει τους ανυποψίαστους ακροατές με ηλεκτρονικά πυρά, υψηλών συχνοτήτων. Διάφορες καλύτερες ηχογραφήσεις άρχισαν σιγά-σιγά να βγαίνουν απ' τα συρτάρια του Nick, να "εσκοπίζονται" και να βρίσκουν τη θέση τους στις συλλογές "Flashbox" που κυκλοφορούν σε κασέτες και έχουν φτάσει αισίως το νούμερο δέκα! Στις 25 Οκτώβρη του '91, μια ζωντανή εμφάνιση των Μ.Μ.Α.Τ.Τ. στον πλανήτη Alpha Nebuli 4 (αυτά τα λένε οι ίδιοι για να εξηγημαστε...) ηχογραφήθηκε και λίγο αργότερα βγήκε σε κασέτα (είναι δυνατόν να χορσέσει τους Μ.Μ.Α.Τ.Τ. σε μια κασέτα!). Στο "White Hawk Atomic" το "ψυχοτροπικό space rock" των Μ.Μ.Α.Τ.Τ. βρίσκεται σε άγρια κέρια και η εκτόξευση από το ένα κομμάτι στο άλλο γίνεται με ταχύτητα αστρονομική. Δε θα μπω στο κόπο να μιλήσω για τους στίχους και τα λόγια: οι τίτλοι ("Psychojolling", "Acidic Heaven", "Shades Of Purple", "Zen Sequence") μιλούν μόνοι τους -και εξηγούν πολλά!..

MAGIC MOMENTS AT THE TWILIGHT TIME

ALBUM

Mick Magic 6 Farm Court, Frimley Surrey GU16 5TJ U.K.
FLASHBOX Vol 10. (Cassette) \$5

This Cassette is the first that we are going to make available to you from our O.S. friends ... direct from us. What can I say? This guy is a legend in his own time! His music is described as space-fun-pop music. It is quite enjoyable... What more can be said about a guy that has had everything already said about him! If you don't add this to your collection all I can say is you are severely missing out. \$5 is all it will cost you to listen to one of Europes legendary bands. M.M.A.T.T. in case you didn't know stands for Magic Moments At Twilight Time.

REVIEWS

Στο EP "Secrets Of Sound" που βγήκε το 1993 από την S.O.S. Records, οι Μ.Μ.Α.Τ.Τ. βρέθηκαν να ταξιδεύουν μαζί με τους Sons Of Selina, Franks Dad και The Original Mind Band. Για τις 25 Οκτώβρη του '94 (πάλι αυτή η ημερομηνία!) είχε αρχικά προγραμματιστεί η κυκλοφορία του LP "The Spirit Of Darkness", αναβλήθηκε όμως για το Γενάρη λόγω ανακατατάσεων στο προσωπικό του διαστημολογίου και γενικότερων "επισκευών". Ο πολυμήχανος και δραστήριος Mick, πάντως, δεν έχει περιοριστεί στο γκρουπ του: ταυτόχρονα βρίσκει το χρόνο να βγάξει ένα fanzine ("THE MMATTrix") και, κυρίως, να διευθύνει την Music & Elsewhere, εταιρία που διανέμει τη δουλειά συγκροτημάτων από και προς όλες τις Ευρωπαϊκές χώρες. Στα γκρουπ που διανέμει η M&E περιλαμβάνονται οι Original Mind Band, Kava Kava, X Ray Pop, Into The Abyss, Sons Of Selina, Susumi, Lord Litter(!) και βεβαίως οι Flowers Of Romance. Η περίπτωση των Μ.Μ.Α.Τ.Τ. (για όλα έφτιαξε εκείνος ο εξωγήινος επιστήμονας...) είναι σαφώς μοναδική. Η "κουνιμένη" ψυχή τους κατάσταση και οι γενικότερες ανατρεπτικές τους διαθέσεις εγγυώνται πως το μέλλον της βρετανικής ψυχεδελίας θα είναι αρκετά "πικάντικο", αν μη τι άλλο... Για όποιον νιώθει τον εαυτό του έτοιμο να συνδεθεί με τον πλανήτη Μ.Μ.Α.Τ.Τ. (ή να παίξει με τον Mick μια γερή παρτίδα σκάκι μέσω ταχυδρομείου), η διεύθυνση είναι: Μ.Μ.Α.Τ.Τ., 6 Farm Court, Frimley, Camberley, Surrey GU16 5TJ, England. Απ' όσους πάτησαν το πόδι τους στρω πλανήτη Μ.Μ.Α.Τ.Τ. πάντως, κανείς δε μπόρεσε να τον εγκαταλείψει...

ALL THINGS DARK AND BEAUTIFUL

- Compilation -

(Cassette - MUSIC & ELSEWHERE)

A showcase of 'gothy' influenced bands that have full length releases available via M & E. Most of which are known on the international underground and have other releases available, this includes REVENGE OF NEPHTHYS (rousing goth / electro crossover a la Whores Of Babylon), GRASS HARP (German band in the mould of The Mission), SWEET WILLIAM (also from Germany in Joy Division mode), KISS THE BLADE, THE RADIANCE, FLOWERS OF SACRIFICE, THE VENUS FLY TRAP (from 'Rinascita' which is a best of ... compilation), EVASION ON STAKE (reminiscent of Depeche Mode), FIENDS OF ZACHARIA, RELIGIOUS VISION, FLOWERS OF ROMANCE (from Greece, get hold of their album 'Pleasure And The Pain'), SIELA (gothic band from Lithuania), CHARLES and INTO THE ABYSS (cassette version of their album 'Martyrium', they have a new album out).

Contact: M & E, 6 Farm Court, Frimley, Camberley, Surrey, GU16 5TJ.

So what's the big joke? You guys have a competition to see who can be last in with a bit for the M&E NEWS or what? I mean, gates close 31st August, now it's 2nd September and BIZARRE 7 tops BEWARE THE CAT 3 as being the last late arrival (oh, but there's second post to come yet)! Anyway, no great problem, we'll just squeeze it in here. For those of you from the planet Xpargh, BIZARRE is the zine produced by Alex Novak, singer with the wonderful dark band, THE VENUS FLY TRAP, and ish 7 includes a plug thing for our "All Things Dark & Beautiful" M&E Showcase Special (left), for which Alex has our undying gratitude, coz we're nice like that, hence why we thoughtfully delete the word "S****r" all the way through our newszines. B7 features articles on Hyperium/Projekt Records, the scene in Milwaukee, Sundial and Natacha Atlas, plus lots and lots of infos and reviews. It also comes complete with a 90 minute sampler tape, which is probably better than "All Things Dark", if we were honest, so bugger it, get 'em both. Contact zone: P.O.Box 210, Northampton, NN2 6AU, U.K. And do remember to ask about the latest releases from VENUS FLY TRAP when ya write!



MUSIC AND ELSEWHERE

The BEST SELLERS Chart ~ MAY-AUG. 1995

(last placing in brackets)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 01 (01) VARIOUS ARTISTS | - LIFE, THE UNDERGROUND & EVERYTHING (MMATT 42)...180 minutes of underground wonders! |
| 02 (—) The Conspiracy | - Out Of The Blue (M&E 300)...a classy "best of" collection of smooth subterranean/indie. |
| 03 (—) Various Artists | - M&E Showcase Volume 3 (SHO 06)...compilation covering the May '95 M&E new releases plus. |
| 04 (—) Cosmic Dance Society | - Our Gods And Users (M&E 297)...my "release of the season" selection from last time. |
| 05 (02) Various Artists | - All Things Dark & Beautiful (SHO 04)...M&E Showcase Special for the gothic ones. |
| 06 (—) Various Artists | - Around The World In 90 Minutes (SHO 05)...a musical journey around the M&E world. |
| 07 (04) Various Artists | - Better Things Are Electric (SHO 03)...M&E Showcase Special for the electronic ones. |
| 08 (—) Magic Moments At Twilight Time | - Psychotron 0 (MMATT 20)...my own spacerockers' 1988 "best of" album bounces back. |
| 09 (09) Wobble Jaggle Jiggle | - Fresh Today (M&E 112 - DELETED)...just on sales from the first two weeks of May! |
| 10 (07) Magic Moments At Twilight Time | - White Hawk Atomic (MMATT 34)...live concert from the planet Alpha Nebuli IV. |
| 11 (—) Magic Moments At Twilight Time | - Zoen Nostalgia (MMATT 33)...is this some kind of Magic Moments revival or what??? |
| 12 (—) Elza | - Monsters Movie/World Of Elza (M&E 248)...wild sounds from the Ukraine, Can meet the V.U. |
| 13 (—) Sosumi | - I Have No Taste In Music (M&E 301)...weird Zappaesque psycheout from the U.S.A. |
| ** (—) Steve Andrews | - Dive In Deep (M&E 296)...the wonderful dippy hippy music of the Welsh wildman! |
| 15 (—) Kava Kava | - Bdoing Phht (M&E 266)...excellent funky psychedelia and the golden voice of Pat Fulgoni. |
| 16 (—) Jaws Of The Flying Carpet | - Noisy Music For Dancing (M&E 295)...totally off the wall sounds from Canada's finest. |
| 17 (05) Wobble Jaggle Jiggle | - What? (M&E 075 - DELETED)...again just from sales in the first two weeks of May! |
| 18 (—) Invisible Universe | - Transient Age (M&E 225)...fine electronic music from Finland. |
| 19 (—) The Flowers Of Romance | - The Story So Far (M&E 088)...classic gothic rock from Greeks bearing gifts...hic! |
| 20 (—) Andy Sacrifice | - People Juggler (M&E 306)...gothic teknoïd from Darkest Farnborough's other Flowers. |
| 21 (—) Sabotage | - Sabotape (M&E 143)...great electronic based body music from the divine Isabelle and co. |
| 22 (19) The Rotton Kidz | - Green Asia (M&E 235)...evergreen fusion of ethnic Thai music with Canadian improvisation. |
| 23 (—) Sweet William | - Kind Of Strangest Dream (M&E 304)...seriously classy progressive/gothic rock concept. |
| ** (—) Trelkovsky | - Fun Is A Preserved Peach (M&E 305)...highly original album from Austria's Trost label. |
| 25 (10) Barra | - The Mini Album (M&E 258 - DELETED)...'twas the best album on M&E, but sadly no more. |

** = two titles tied for 13th and 23rd places. Well, "Life, The Underground & Everything" continues to rule with a road of iron... whew, and since our next chart goes out on January 1st, it means "Life etc" will have topped our charts for the whole of 1995! And the bad news for bands looking to oust it (oh yes, including ours) is that it's sales are still climbing! Many congrats to The Conspiracy, they've waited a long time for that no.2 placing! Sad to be losing Wobble Jaggle Jiggle and Barra from our catalogue, nice to see all three albums finish in the charts. Very pleased to see our M&E Showcases continuing to prove popular too, five of them in the Top 10. Oh, and I shall be expecting an "I told you so" letter from Steve Andrews any day now! A couple of suprise non-entries from May's releases too...Sabotage's latest, "Les Danses Sauvages", failed to show...while their old "Sabotape" made a comeback???

And the two new ones from The Invisible Band, one of our best selling bands EVER, failed to show too! Sad to see that the live tape from Zartipo (Minsk, Belarus) hasn't grabbed ya fancy yet, it is really superb. The other May release not to show was from Germany's Psychedelic Dancefloor, and both those last two bands have tracks on our new SUBTERRANEAN PSYCHEFEST set, so let's hope they'll pick up next time around. Oh, and finally, very gratifying to see three of my own band's albums up there!

M&E NEW RELEASES



And a nice little batch of new wonderment we have coming up for yas, including two new M&E Showcases, a new Magic Moments album and M&E's first outing on CD, a new album from Into The Abyss and a new live album from M&E favourites, The Sons Of Selina! Plus many many more goodies from around the globe, natch... All M&E/MMATT/SHO tapes are £3.50 each, cheques payable to S.J.TAYLOR. Foreign currency is fine, notes only, please add 15% to exchange rate to cover bank rip-offs...er...charges at this end. Eurocheques in £ Sterling are cool, no other foreign or foreign currency cheques unless by prior arrangement, ta muchly. See our catalogue for complete ordering details if ya needs to know any more than that. Any additions towards postage and packing are most welcome. The two double tape sets, "Life, The Underground & Everything" (MMATT 42) and "Subterranean Psychefest" (SHO 07) are specials, thus a mere £5.00 each. See the review type thing on the next page for the price of the new Magic Moments CD (foreign currency prices already include the 15% addition). And for those of you without a catalogue, here's a brief guide to the star-rating!

*** stars: seriously excellent album, only 20 out of 320 have got ratings as high as this, absolute must!
** stars: very good album indeed, this is the basic grade for getting on "Life, The Underground & Everything!"
* star: albums with a lot going for them, they stand out from amongst the crowds of demos we get, pretty good!
0 stars: oh man, this is REALLY gonna piss Duncan off in a BIG way!

SHO-07 (***) VARIOUS ARTISTS - "Subterranean PsycheFest" (2 x C90)

Well, S****r's all over now, no more fine days, no more festies! AARRGGHH! But us lot here, being the caring folks we are, have decided to save the day by putting together your very own personal festie, three hours worth of it, drawing on the fine collection of psychedelic bands on M&E. Ya gets solid psyche from Stormclouds, Magic Moments At Twilight Time, Sons Of Selina, The Original Mind Band, Cyborg Sex Babies, Burning Dollhouse, Kava Kava, Lord Litter, Cosmic Dance Society, Otherworld, Mana Erg, Cerise Eclipse, Almost Human, Grass Harp, Animal Factory and Sosumi. PLUS...instrumental psyche from Disc, Psychedelic Dancefloor, Nomuzic, The Invisible Band and Alphane Moon. PLUS...live psyche from Dr. Brown, Zartipo, Paradox, Sponge and Alien Planetscapes. Not bad for a fiver, huh? We spoil ya!

SHO-08 (***) VARIOUS ARTISTS - "M&E Showcase Volume 4" (C90)

And so to our regular Showcase, this time previewing new M&E releases from Magic Moments At Twilight Time, Space Invaders, Feces Connoisseurs, Earth, Religious Overdose, Scrooge, Heiland Solo, Into The Abyss, Barking Dogma and Sons Of Selina. PLUS...featured tracks from the bands of the good people who guested on the new Magic Moments album, and they are The Thamesmead Rollers, Twister, Hecate's Dreams, Operattack and Double Trouble. And last but not least, our special guests this time around, from Germany, Edition Grundmann & Neubert. Enjoy!

MMATT CD 1 (no, I can't do it!) MAGIC MOMENTS AT TWILIGHT TIME - "Creavolution" (CD 60 mins)

Come on, there's no way I can do a star rating on me own album, is there? Modesty forbids! (Who's he trying to kid?! The return of Lulu The Space Babe (she's grown up now) in fine voice at the cosmic disco, little green men pick up the story, spacerock with the dark voice of Inga Leru... and strings??? Dry rock and paranoia to military drums, gothic spacepunk with fluttering electronic FX darting from speaker to speaker, the blistering lead solos of Damien Page, kitsche cajun shuffles and the childlike innocence of things that go bump in the night, electro-acoustic Spanish anthems with six part vocal harmonies and synthesizers, a two octave chorale and the voice of an angel cries plaintively over the phase/echo electroverse, Clannad in deep space, Pavarotti jams with Hawkwind, rock n roll through the cosmos. I know Lulu is gonna steal this album totally, but the rest of us were there too! Hey...we're back! CD for a mere £7.50 (this price is only good from us, don't expect it to cost that everywhere!) in Earth money. Other Earth currencies.... Italian - 22,000 L, American - \$13.00, Austrian - 140 Sch., German - 20 DM, French - 80 FF, Australian - \$20.00. For others, it's current exchange + 15%, round up to allow for postage and packing. Not available on cassette, sorry, it's not down to us.

M&E 307 (*) SPACE INVADERS - "Space Invaders" (C-45)

Courtesy of the excellent Austrian label, Trost. Space Invaders hail from Zagreb, which I think is in Croatia this week, and this tape was recorded half there (in Serbo-Croat) and half in Austria (in English). Open with grungy psycherock guitars, quite a wall of sound coming at yas, nicely dry vocal style, wonder what he's singing about? Offbeat psycheriffs, like the Original Mind Band's spacier moments, Hawkwind guitars, should definately appeal to fans of Sons Of Selina and Animal Factory. There's a kinda punky hint in some of this stuff too, chugarama guitars and Hawkbass, a touch of 70s psycherock, Hawkwind and Sons of Selina jam with Cream and an endless variety of startroopers on indie...YAS!

M&E 308 (*) FECES CONNOISSEURS - "Morbidizer Nurunizer Slam" (C-40)

An "unknown quantity" from Germany here, delightfully named too! Teknoid elektro beats, breathy "telephoned" voice opens the gateway to the FC world, weird and interesting, static and dancey, samples and good drum patterns, all sequenced with what sound like real instruments (perish the thought)! There's some fine production work on this, well planned use of the stereo spectrum, it turns your head a good few times, plus teknoid spaced out reggae beats, ambient noize. Yup, we suspect there's a fair bit of talent behind this one. Actually, we KNOW there is!

M&E 309 (***) EARTH - "1" (C-40)

Space, yeah! New to us from Frankfurt, Germany, this is the wild spacepsyche instrumentals of one Wolfgang Erdmann and it smokes! Wonderful electronic atmospheres open the album and connect the tracks into one cosmic extravaganza, instrumental spacerock with some seriously psyched out guitar work. Shades of Hawkwind and Gong on the music side, some stylish bass lines, hints of 70's headpsyche, Blind Faith...oh yeah, U.F.O., that's who that twin lead guitar sound reminds me of, circa "The Coming Of Prince Kajuku", slides towards progressive sometimes with tempo changes and stuff like that. Groovy space things meet Atomic Rooster and U.F.O. on acid minus vocals? Play it loud, VERY loud!

M&E 310 (*) PATCHBAY YUM YUM - "Chaos Remains" (C-60)

Yet another name for the works of Andy Clark, aka Andy Sacrifice, singer with Flowers Of Sacrifice, musician and backing vocalist with the now defunct X-13. This is a series of technology abuse, elektroid re-works of old Flowers and X-13 tracks, brought right into the 90's with a thud. After the gothic symphony opening, get hip with mucho politico voice samples, get down to the gothic teknodanz and Andy's typically dark and deep echoed vocals rolling around your ears. Some nice bubbly sequencers on here, good dance seq's too, tekky things and distorted guitar hits, Depeche Mode meet the Sisters Of Mercy? Ah, but they never loved Eldritch!

M&E 311 (*) SCREAMWORLD - "Screamworld" (C-45)

Another new band to ya now, this lot from all the way down under in New South Wales, Australia. They are a long way from standard M&E fare, but ya know we try hard to find you all kinds of different things, don't ya? So the album opens with gothic picked electric guitar, the doom metal chugs start to build, Black Sabbath meet The Mission, but with a female vocalist, and she's a bit of a belter too, like a female Ozzie Osbourne. Ya gets some nice drumming on this album, plenty of that grinding "Iron Man" guitar sound that made Laney Klipp stacks famous, plenty of gothic riffing, but mostly a kind of doomy metal feel to it, albeit topped by Suzi Quatro on hard drugs and closed off with the strangest cover of "Helter Skelter" I've ever heard. But ya know what? I reckon they're closet wimps! There's one song on the track listing where the title is all written like "****" and stuff. Look, guys, it's called "Cocksucker", obviously, we're all grown ups here!

M&E 312 (*) RELIGIOUS OVERDOSE - "Flatus Flow Rate" (C-50)

And yet another new band, this lot hailing from Aarau in sunny Switzerland, this crew should definately be good for some chocolate bars on my birthday. Well, the band's name conjures the goth image, but they tended to remind me more of the Velvet Underground's more coherent moments, certainly the singer sounds lots like Lou Reed, and that warmed me to them right away. Almost an offbeat progressive rock feel to some of their music, but manic and untamed bits sweep in to take that idea away. Ah yeah, okay, a bit of a gothic element here, reminiscent of Siouxsie's wailing guitar sound on "Spellbound". From cluttered punk through Velvety quiter moments, sometimes dischordant without losing it's laid back sense of cool. Gothic psyche jams, screeching guitars, mellow psyche bits and a hint of My Bloody Valentine. Yup, we like!

M&E 313/314 (*/*) TOMMY MILL HOME - "Die Welt Ist Ein Zirkus, Sagt Der Clown"/"Ballerina" (C40/C30)

Well, it's a long time since last we heard from Tommy, M&E 165 to be precise, but he's back now with two at once, the latter being available as a CD back home in Germany. I really couldn't separate these two albums, so I thought I'd review them together, the only real difference being that one's in German, the other's in English (it's obvious). The title song of the German one comes in like a theme from an old French movie, complete with "la la" femme fatale backing vocals, ah...and Tommy's stylised Steve Harley-esque voice on top. This is a bit fancier than his earlier material, even little rappy bits, but then folksy backing vocals and sounds like harpsichords? No, Tommy never was one for convention. Sabine's female vocals brighten the proceedings without stealing from Tommy's style, and ya still gets all the brass and pianos and...er...balalaikas, honest! Bob Geldof meets Steve Harley? Tommy has a vocal style all of his own. Musically, it's like modern German folk, plus techno, with accordion, Aerosmith riffs, the kitsche of X Ray Pop, but still very 90's folksy too...not losing elements of 70's progressive folk...but not really folksy. Oh, bugger it.

M&E 315 (***) SCROOGE - "Happy What Else" (C-47) ***** RELEASE OF THE SEASON *****

A vast debt of gratitude to Trost, yet again. Not content with giving us the incredibly innovative Sigi Ecker, now they give us Scrooge. Thank you, Trost, we love you! The definite pick of the bunch this time round, wild and creative music, another band that's lost the rulebook, bless them! They hail from Vienna, Austria (doesn't everybody?), a basic four piece with vocals, violin, bass, guitar, accordion, piano, drums, plus guests providing cello, oboe and string bass. Wild line-up or what? So the album start with quiet and odd piano...then BANG! The tempo and volume leap up suddenly and you make a dash for the volume control before the neighbours start banging on the walls. Hmmm, it's like The Cardiacs meet Ring with violins and a highly unique female voice, that of Regina Ausserwoger, and she has some real versatility in that voice too, I think I've just found another heroine. It jumps from offbeat and quiry to an ornate

and gentle progressive feel, like Curved Air. Oh yes, this is one of them VERY original bands. And onwards we go, track two having a definately bouncealong-a-Cardiacs beat to it, though topped with a lightly twee and sweet voice and lots of violin. Then ya gets The Cardiacs on reggae, sudden offbeat rhythm changes, and Regina's even been kind enough to sing in English for us, nice lady. Violin again...imagine Curved Air's "Vivaldi" with Cardiacs abrupt drumming? You're getting there. Oh that voice, I really like that voice. I'll have to send a copy of this to Sean Worrall, he'd never forgive me otherwise. Okay, I know I've already written a love letter to the singer, but she has such a charactered voice, what can I say? I can say the music is totally mesmerising too, coz it is. The gentle violin makes it sound so Curved Air, the quirky nature makes it sound so Cardiacs, but add it all together and it sounds so Scrooge. Fly into a slavonic folk dance, then go wild progressive, accordion and violin jazz it along at the Hot Club de Paris, little folky elements again, then this huge anthem that fills your mind, she sounds like Bjork now, abrasively smooth, fast, slow, fast, X Ray Pop on seriously hallucinogenic drugs, Hot Club violin, Curved Air on jazz, the sweetest vocals, lots of violins, a gypsy dance...oh wow. C'est magnifique. Brilliant. Inspired. Wonderful. Wow!

M&E 316 (**) HEILAND SOLO - "The Native" (C-50)

Trost again, Trost me, I'm a spaceman. Sorry, couldn't resist it. This is a guy I've heard before and liked a lot, so very pleased to have him on M&E, but how to describe it? In elements, methinks. Looped Eastern samples open the proceedings, enter ambient dance drums a-la-Astralasia, add punky guitar hits and totally indie guitar and vocals soon after that, place in a bowl and mix in some psyched out shades of the 60's, including Hammond organ and simply groove it altogether. Flutey Eastern sounds on ambient world beats, Hendrix psycherock with Pop Will Eat Itself vocals, or could it be early Pink Floyd kitsche vocals on the Spindoctors? Indian voice samples, heavy metaldance, a psychedelic headfuck for sure. Then ya gets so cosmic in places, Steve Hillage and Gong with elektroid sitars, like Hillage meets Traffic with a hole in his shoe and they dance to Astralasia world beats and trippy ambience. A creative and enjoyable blend of styles, for heads and feet!

M&E 317 (***) INTO THE ABYSS - "The Feathered Snake" (C-55)

At last, the long awaited sequel to their brilliant album, "Martyrium", and it's every bit as good too. Janis tells me the title is to do with the ancient Aztec culture (yo, a concept album, we love 'em), but it sounds like a kinky condom to us. Anyway, the music...oh yeah, the music; they are definately getting more to the psychedelic/progressive end of the gothic spectrum. A beautiful wall of sound, ornately picked electric guitars, rolling drums and soprano sax, and Janis' voice, dry and dark, but without getting deep and gloomy, and thus the gothic mould is broken. The progressive passages, complete with violin, immediately take me back to Curved Air again, you just can't play that kind of music without jogging memories of the mighty Darryl Way, can ya? Janis's voice, yeah, sort of Bowie meets Bauhaus maybe? They even have a bit of the sound Uriah Heep had around the time of "The Magician's Birthday", psyche/prog again, and it fuses so well with their gothic influences. There's some passionate stuff on here, the reformed scumbag certainly has some power in his vocal chords when he opens up, strong hints of early Bowie ("The Man Who Sold The World" album), like a mixture of so many of my favourite sounds, all rolled into one. Hey...cosmic...very spacey Hawkwind open on one track, like it, electronic storms (Magic Moments rip-off!), gently picked acoustic guitar, topped with E-Bowed electric guitar. Yeah, Into The Abyss continue to impress me by fusing in so many different influences into their gothic framework, the result is little short of brilliance, we salute ya!

M&E 318 (**) BARKING DOGMA - "Barking Dogma" (C-60)

Ah, sunshine (oops, sorry, Janis) and sea, California, Kevyn Dymond and his loyal band of merry...er...mostly women. You know Kevyn maybe better, of late, for his releases under the banner of The Folkoffs, not infrequent visitors to our best sellers charts. Well, Stateside see's Kevyn's newer band on CD now, and he's sneaked us some inlays (ssshhh!) so we can bring yas the tape version. This does have some things in common with The Folkoffs, the fine musicianship for example, and occasional hints of that west coast sound. Let's work through it...the album opens with a type of modern American folk, Ricki Lee Jones with bollocks, and Peggy Martinez's voice is lovely and warm and expressive. Sax, guitar, bass and drums leads us on into bubblegum land, kinda kitsche, shades of Martha & The Muffins. The cruise through James Brown funk and Blondie rapping, a hint of Fleetwood Mac, like all mellow and grewed up. Yes, we're all grewed ups here. Snigger. Oh, you get some male vocals too, including a nice bittersweet duet, just in case you were wondering. Peggy's back...who does she remind me of, great voice, really sounds like...er...Joni Mitchell...um...Linda Ronstadt...er...Suzanne Vega, yeah, that's the one, Suzanne Vega. So it's like modern American folk rock that goes off on tangents sometimes and always holds a bit of humour in there too; sharp lyrics, and you get one track that's 15 1/2 minutes long and is varied enough to be an album on it's own. We like!

M&E 319 (0) THE CONSPIRACY - "Out Of The Black" (C-60)

Well, "Out Of The Blue" has been an instant success on M&E, Duncan wanted to waste no time, but this isn't a new album, just the remainders, albeit cleaned up and mastered to DAT by TMR. So "Blue" was "the best of", whereas "black" is "the rest of". This isn't an album that will win them new fans, but it's a nice collection for their existing ones, and there seems to be plenty of those about nowadays! Through indie rock, AOR country rock, things that sound like Neil Young, soft vocals, folky type bits, some 60s elements (Beatles "Revolver" phase?), some guest appearances from Lord Litter (never 'eard of 'im) and Thomas Pradel (L'Edarps A Moth). No, don't get me wrong, it's not that there's anything wrong with this album, it made our release grade very comfortably, it's just that "blue" was special, so it's impossible to be so thrilled with this so soon after it. Impossible? Hey, Frank Bruno became the WBC World Heavyweight Boxing Champion last night!

M&E 320 (*) SIELA - "Meeting Own Star" (C-60)

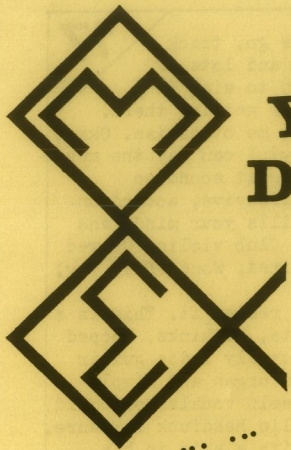
Now this is an interesting little collection to follow on from their "Black Opium Land" tape that we released recently, courtesy of the Unkenrufe label in Austria, though Siela are from Lithuania. This is a set that covers their five years as a band and it's great to hear some of their earlier stuff, alongside some of their latter day recordings, to get a sense of their development. Siela are a very high quality gothic rock band and they are finally due a CD release in the very near future, we were pleased to hear that, they're already very popular back home in Lithuania, listen to the noise of the crowd on the two live tracks! From their early days, ya gets shades of The Cult and The Mission, then the Eastern European identity starts to fuse in, getting to a more ornate brand of gothic rock, gentle picking, elements of Russian folk music creep in, a hint of the Blue Oyster Cult in the guitarwork. Serves as a fine introduction to a fine band.

M&E 321 (**) SONS OF SELINA - "Now Give Me Back My Cake" (C-45)

Oh yeah, M&E's favourite sons are back (and if you haven't picked up their debut album for Delerium, "Nour D'Oui", stop putting it off!), and back with a belter, captured live at the Conwy Festival in Wales, Saturday 29th July 1995. Well, if you've read the rest of this M&E News, you'll know I saw them live a while back and confirmed what I'd heard, like "they smoke"! This is a pretty decent PA recording, "live" enough to capture the atmosphere (shame you can't hear more of the audience, they sound happy), "studio" enough to capture the pure music. The gig opens with a luvverly spacey synth intro, a little funky bass runaround, then they're in, chugging away on the space guitars and Neil punks it up on the vocals, let's just hope he'd recovered from the shits by this time! The usual snappy guitar lines, psyched out spacepunk, Hawkwind meet New Model Army in the cosmoverse. Walls of echoed out lead guitar, War Of The Worlds synths, nice harmonic structures built up with twin lead too (it pays to have lots of guitars!), classic riffs. Oh, that's what the Sons are so great at, coming up with seriously classic and memorable riffs, wether it's the mind-wobbling lead riffs on "Life Is But", the catchy staccato riffs of "Terminus" (their new single, due out in October) or the spacepunk riffs of "Anxiety". Me jealous? Yes, of course I'm fucking jealous! For variety, "Of The First Water" is included, all mellow psyched out guitar, sliding around like Status Quo's "Pictures Of Matchstick Men". Nothing on this album up to the quality of their wonderful cover of "Shaddup You Face", but what do you want? Blood? Have your cake AND eat it, courtesy of the Sons Of Selina and Music & Elsewhere. We spoil ya!

Bye... Whew...18 sides of it, gotta be the longest newszine I've done in ages, but now I've got to the good bit... I've finished! Life can return to normal, I can have some of that spare time stuff! Yo. But first, the bye...

Well, wish me luck with the CD, I'm a tad nervous about it all. Okay, so we're quite well known in the underground network, but now we enter the main arena as completely unknown nobodies, scary thought, isn't it? So keep ya fingers crossed for me, I'm gonna need all the luck I can get, trust me! Particularly on the distribution deal, it's not all signed and sealed yet, looking good, but no 100% concrete contract at this moment (Sunday 3rd September, just gone four in the afternoon, approximately)! Many thanks to all of our friends and supporters out there and particular thanks to the "shy" label who've made the Magic Moments CD happen. And it only took nine years, overnight sensations or what? Ha ha! Somehow, for all of us involved in the network, I think the adventure is only just beginning. Take good care, have lots of fun, catch yas again easrly in the New Year! *[Signature]*



**AFTER 3¹/₂
YEARS IN
DEEP SPACE...**

**THEY'RE
BACK!**



MAGIC MOMENTS

**AT
TWILIGHT
TIME**

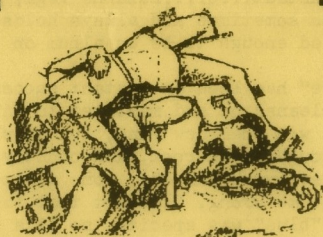
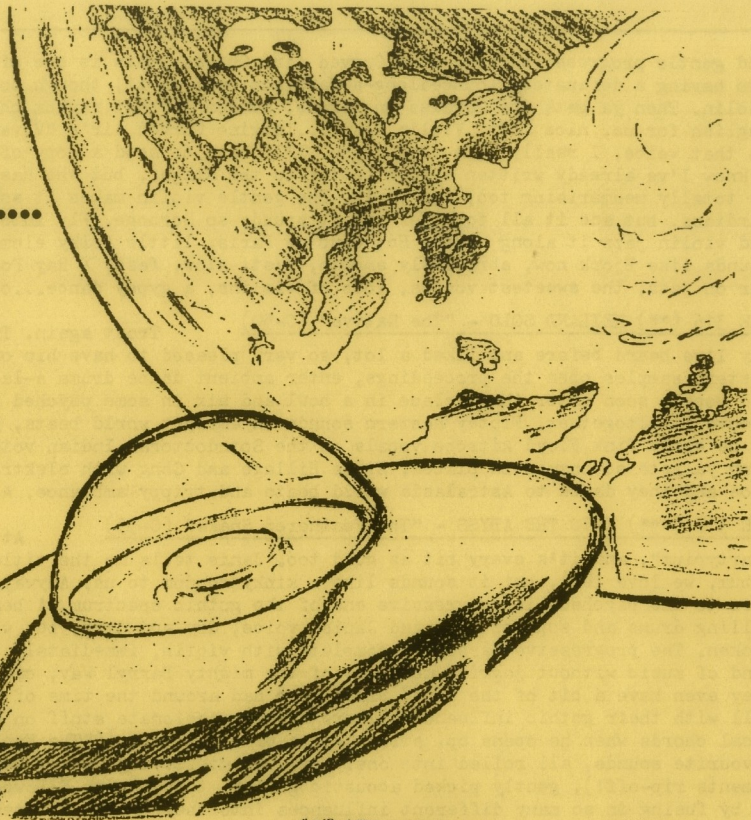
DATELINE: 25/OCT/95

**THE NEW
ALBUM
ON C.D.
FROM M&E**

£7.99
(INCLUDING P+P)

← ONLY £5/15 9M TO YOU THOUGH!

it's a trip!



**CHEQUES PAYABLE
TO S.J.TAYLOR**

M & E U K

6 FARM COURT
FARM ROAD
FRIMLEY
CAMBERLEY
SURREY
GU16 5TJ

M M A T T C D 1



**CREA
VOLA
TION**