

Welcome to The New Roxette

WELCOME to the first issue of The New Roxette, Buckinghamshire's newest music magazine and fanzine, which is your handy FREE guide to all the latest music news and information from around the County.

The original 'Aylesbury Roxette' was first launched in July 1976, and ran for 9 issues until June 1977 and even included a Keith Richards trial special in January 1977.

The Roxette focussed on all the local gigs and up & coming bands, not to mention covering all the latest music related news of its day. It was also pivotal in highlighting the bands associated with Friars; Aylesbury's very own music club and venue, which finally closed its doors in 1984.

Each month The New Roxette will be delving into Aylesbury's historic past, whilst at the same time discovering and developing new music and exciting new bands for you – the dedicated music fan, to check out!

THANK YOU for picking up and reading this first issue, and we hope you will continue to support the magazine, the bands, the music and the local gigs – including Buckinghamshire's largest free live music festival 'Hobble on the Cobbles', which this summer was once again organised and promoted by Aylesbury Showcase on its third August bank holiday anniversary, headlined this year by 'Eddie & The Hot Rods'.

Issue One is a special limited edition (collectors issue) to celebrate the success, popularity and history of Aylesbury's vibrant music scene, past and present, and to highlight the Hobble on the Cobbles, which some may say has not been duly focused on or reported on enough in other such local media channels, considering the size, scope and local importance to the town of such a historic and now significant event.

We hope you enjoy this new magazine, and do let us know what you think...

Feel free to email us your bands news, latest gigs, comments and letters to: office@AylesburyShowcase.co.uk

See you in January 2009, for the next issue of The New Roxette.
Enjoy!

Chris France

"Back in 1976 when I was a callow youth, Pete Frame, myself (Chris France), Kris Needs and several others launched the Aylesbury Roxette, an early fanzine broadsheet to cover the local music scene.

Aylesbury was at that time dominated by the legendary Friars where Dave Stopps presented any number of great artists, whilst I ran most of the small pub gigs which happened at The Britannia, The Kings Head, The John Hampden and other venues in the surrounding towns.

I remember I paid The Jam £20, XTC £10 and The Clash £50 – their first gig outside London, and also booked The Damned, The Only Ones, and local acts like Otway & Barrett, Warren Harry and Marillion.

So many local musicians went on to play in known groups, there are too many to mention.

Now that I am old and grey, it's nice to see Stuart and Jam Central attempting to rekindle the very special spirit we helped nurture in Aylesbury in the mid 70's and I especially welcome the return of Hobble on the Cobbles.

I well remember taking over the Bucks Advertisers office over the weekend to create the magazine (which we published "as monthly as possible") and to write Magenta de Vine's column for her (a scurrilous gossip column which was a very popular feature), then to adjourn the Queens Head for refreshing ale, happy times that seem a long way from my current life living in the south of France, looking after my old label Music Of Life and the estate of the late Steve Marriott.

Anyway, I will be a regular reader and it would be good to hear from any of the guys and girls who were around at that time, so if anybody wants to reminisce, email me...": chris@stevemarriott.co.uk



Kris Needs

During the long, hot summer of 1976 it was not uncommon to find a noisily-guffawing gaggle converging on the bar of Aylesbury Civic Centre [then featuring comfy chairs and booze for sale]. Here, plans were hatched to convince the world into believing that Aylesbury had a thriving rock scene to rival Liverpool in the 60s or New York at that time.

Leading the scheming was Pete Frame, founder of original fanzine Zigzag who was then working at Aylesbury Brewery Company. I was working as a club reporter at the Bucks Advertiser, running the Mott (The Hoople) fan club and had just started contributing to Zigzag. A local guitarist called Colin Keinch was another regular along with a steady stream of aspiring musicians and local female students.

Apart from the omnipotent Friars, Aylesbury already had Chris France's regular band nights at local pubs like the Bell Hotel in Market Square, the John Hampden in the High Street and Britannia on New Street, as well as the Hunt Hotel in Leighton Buzzard. There were a fair number of local bands, obviously the ubiquitous Otway but several more treading these local gigs like Warren Harry, Orthi and winsome folkies Tamburlaine.

This activity got Frame's brain rolling. Why not start a fanzine to not only mirror but stoke a local music scene? He'd use his contacts [not to mention Zigzag's printers in Reading] while France handled the advertising. Ever modest, Pete let France call himself the publisher and managing editor.

The first issue appeared in July with the late Warren Harry on the cover. As well as local band and upcoming gig news, there were features on Warren and my write-up of Mott's recent Friars appearance. Friars promoter David Stopps wrote a column and Robin Pike, who came up with the idea for the club, contributed a fascinating Looking Back piece every month about the club's early days. Pete decided we needed a gossip column and roped in a flame-haired punkette called Kim Taylor, another regular at the local gatherings who he rechristened Magenta de Vine [while writing the column for her]. It looked uncannily like Zigzag – hardly surprising as Pete had laid it out with the same electric typewriter and Letraset!

Reaction was great as the Roxette was given away free at gigs and in Earth Records, David's record shop next to the bowling alley which was another hub of local activity. The second issue followed a month later with Tamburlaine's Frankie Walsh and his girlfriend Twinkle on the cover. ROCK PRESS WAKES UP TO AYLESBURY BEAT BOOM trumpeted Frame's headline on the news page as he related how music weekly Sounds [we had five music papers a week in those days] had made the Roxette subject of a page lead, calling it, 'the fanzine with a

difference' and talking about an 'Aylesbury rock explosion'. Frame also mentioned the Roxette in his family tree for the current Eric Clapton tour, explaining that it was, 'part of my plan to draw attention to the fact that Aylesbury is bristling with creativity and totally removed from the national image of a yob-filled provincial wasteland.'

The issue also boasted a letters page including positive missives from Dr Feelgood and Stiff records' Jake Riviera, the scurrilous Ears Of Aylesbury gossip column, write-ups of Friars gigs by Kevin Ayers and Curved Air [complete with photo of me cosying up to Curved Air's Sonja Kristina!].

Also in 1976, Pete Frame formed us a band consisting of Colin Keinch, Zigzag contributor Paul Kendall on bass, Orthi guitarist Robin Boulton and my Bucks Advertiser colleague Fraser Pierson on drums – with me singing! I'd been playing bongos with Otway for years – as Frame says in the quote he attributed to me 'a waste of time' – but this was a new one as we rehearsed at Frame's country pile in North Marston. Frame had rewritten the words of the Yardbirds' 'Psycho Daisies' to include the line 'Aylesbury's the centre of the universe'. Soon we would be playing the circuit too. We were also terrible!

David Stopps pitched in by holding an Aylesbury Rock Explosion night at the Civic which I missed as I'd buggered my back riding a toy tractor down a flight of stairs. A photo of the entire crowd and groups formed the third issue [Here credit must go to Bucks Advertiser photographer Geoffrey Tyrell, who was the Roxette's photographer and put in countless hours of work].

By issue four Pete had handed the laying out of the mag to the Roxette's editorial board. Me and Geoffrey Tyrell would pretend to be working late then, after everyone else had gone home, I'd do the layout and lettering while Colin and Fraser cowgummed away. Inevitably, this swiftly turned into a mini-party as bigged-up the Aylesbury music scene as a movement of national importance. Eddie and the Hot Rods were local favourites, featuring heavily along with Andy Fairweather-Lowe and a glowing account of the Rock Explosion.

By November, the 'Aylesbury Bucks' were up and running, playing Leighton Buzzard's Tiddenfoot Leisure Centre and the John Hampden. By coincidence, punk rock had come along with its form-a-band ethos and reliance of fanzines. We realised what we were doing had just pipped this seismic new movement at the post! So I'm on the front of issue five in my home-painted shirt, a habit I'd picked up off my new friends The Clash, who'd recently played Leighton Buzzard. It would be a while before Friars allowed punk onto its stage so we were now going on expeditions to catch the new groups anywhere we could. Friars did, however, promote the amazing Flamin' Groovies from San Francisco so they got the page opposite the Aylesbury Bucks. George Melly was in there too.

...to be continued!

The Roxette Round up

THE BLACK HORSE in Lacey Green launches new Acoustic Showcase Night. Contact The Black Horse, Main Road, Lacey Green, Princes Risborough, Buckinghamshire, HP27 0QH for full details and gig listings.

BRIDGEFIELD secure new lead vocalist.

Everyone, please welcome Amanda Reilly to the Bridgefield camp.

www.bridgefieldmusic.com

OKTOBE:R a local acoustic-guitar duo featuring Danny Prendergast and Jerry Playle have been involved in the soundtrack for the German Academy Award winning feature film 'Prinzessinnenbad' (UK title 'Pool Of Princesses'). Released in 2007 the film has been shown in cinemas globally, and the Oktobe:r piece 'Transitions' written, recorded and performed by Oktobe:r is used for the emotional final scene of the film. 'Merrygoround' has been also performed live for broadcast in the Raymond Blanc BBC2 TV show 'The Restaurant', for the new autumn 2008 series.

For more information visit: www.myspace.com/oktoberguitars

Popular music venue THE NAGS HEAD in High Wycombe reopens its doors on 31 October 2008.

63 London Road, High Wycombe, HP11 1BN. www.nagsheadwycombe.com

THE RED BULLETS perform at The Stables, Wavendon, Milton Keynes on Thursday 6 November 2008.

Tickets are £14.50. Box Office: 01905 280800. www.theredbullets.com

For all the latest news, reviews and information, plus a full listing of the current local gigs, visit: www.theNewRoxette.com

Can you sing, dance, juggle or perform?

Aylesbury's Got Talent live auditions

Friars Square Shopping Centre

Sunday 9th November – 11:00am

No age restrictions, but no animals please!

For full details visit: www.mix96.co.uk



Empty Room Promotions

Saturday 8th November
The Radcliffe Centre,
Buckingham.

I've invited some of my friends to join me for this evening, which will be recorded for future release. So why not come along and make this a special night to remember. See you there
Bernie Marsden

This evenings show will be recorded!

Bernie Marsden and his Acoustic Band

Doors 6.45pm tickets £15 in advance £17 on the door
Tickets available from
Vinyl Riches 1B Bristle Hill Buckingham.
The Dukes Music 24 Market Hill Buckingham.
or online from www.empty-rooms.com

rockhopper
Professional
Recording Studio
Pro Tools HD, RADAR

- Record your Demo, EP or Album
- Top flight equipment, acoustics and instruments
- Mobile studio - we can come to you!
- Have your songs professionally recorded and produced

0845 680 0605 www.rockhopper-studios.co.uk
8 Little Balmes, Buntingford, MK18 1TF

Class Act
For all your event requirements
01296 658222
Class Act
soundlightproduction.com

the powders.com

Warm
the powders of

BucksTV
**INTERNET
TELEVISION**
.....Something
for Everyone
www.buckstv.co.uk

Ashdale Investments
Independent Financial Advisors
For
Mortgages, Pensions, Savings,
Investments, Protection,
Wills & General Insurance
www.ashdaleinvestments.com
Aylesbury 01296 483314
St Albans 01727 848070

TALIESIN MUSICRAFT LTD
07889 215164
Proud to be part of Hobbie on the
Cobbles 2008. Provider of sound
engineering & equipment - Stage 3

JAM CENTRAL RECORDS
Sponsors of The New Roxette Gig Guide
jamcentralrecords.com

HE'E NALU
FAIRFORD LEYS VILLAGE CENTRE
AYLESBURY Tel: 01296 392392
BILLABONG headwax PROTEST
DK BAKINE O'NEILL
www.heenalu.co.uk

AYLESBURY MUSIC
proudly sponsor the backbone for
Aylesbury Showcase

3 Temple Street, Aylesbury, Bucks, HP20 2RN
Tel: 01296 392225 Fax: 01296 435400
E-mail: enquiries@amusic.co.uk

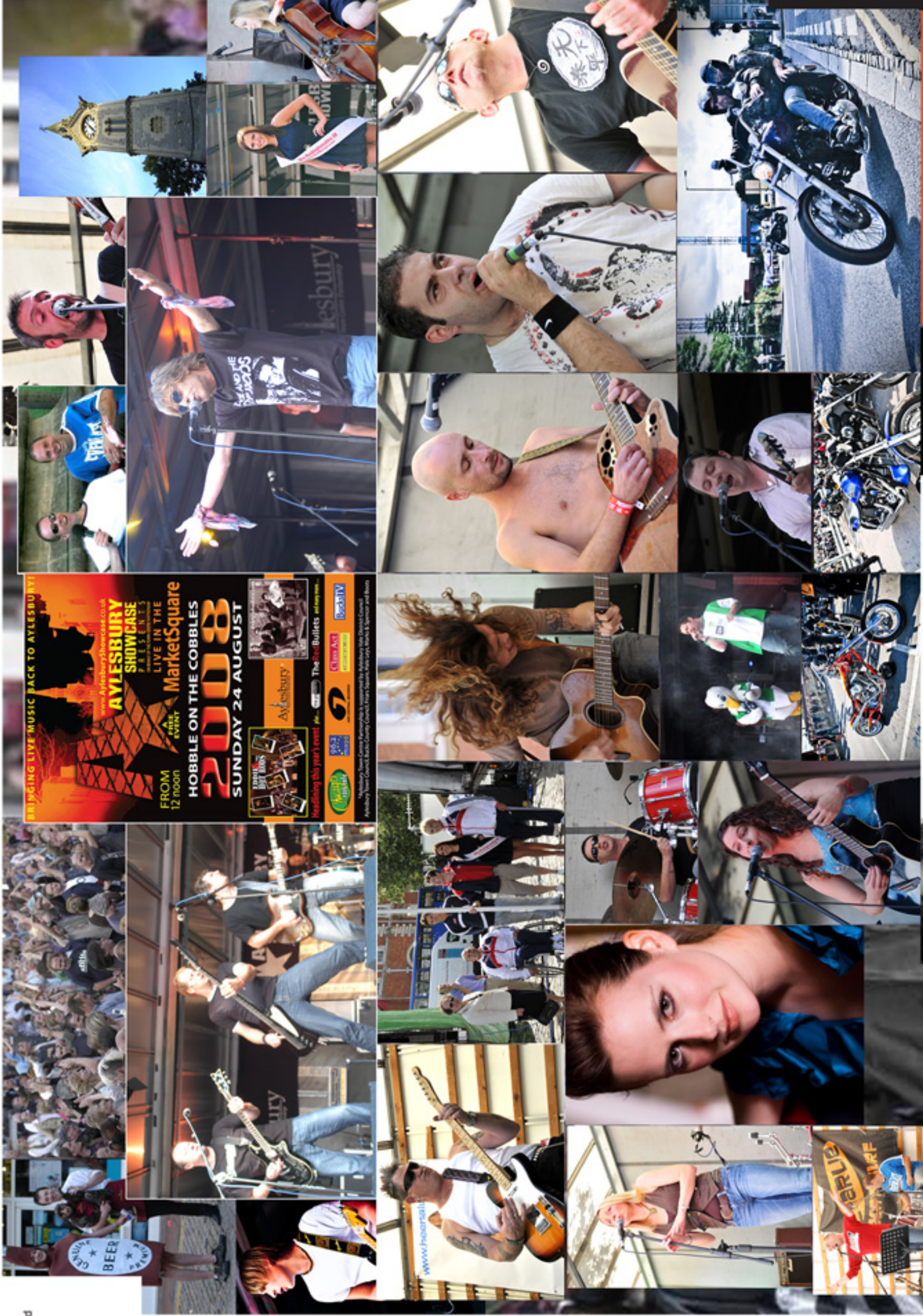
INSTRUMENT RENTAL PROGRAMME
(Hire Agreement regulated by the Consumer Credit Act 1974)

ASTON STUDIO
Print and design services
Specialists in large format, ideal
for short runs and exhibitions
• Any print size available up to 1m x 2.5m
• Superior 12 colour pigment ink system
• Various materials available including Photo Art Paper,
laminated card, vinyl, etc.
• Mounting and laminating facilities
01296 660116 info@astonstudio.co.uk

Aloe Vera - No.1 for Health
Discover the many benefits of Aloe in a wide range
of products suitable for both you and your animals.
We also have the new Aloe Vera -
used for remedies to maintain health and enhance beauty
• Essential minerals for joints and muscles
• Superior germicide - with 75 different natural compounds
• Soothes skin irritations • Supports the immune system
• Moisturises healthy digestive systems and aids food absorption
• Nighttime management - relieve and soothe your discomfort
with our soothing Aloe Vera products and improve overall health
Every product is covered by our 60 day money back guarantee
01296 660116 info@hazewood-group.co.uk
hazewood GROUP
Independent Distributor
Former Living Products

Dulux
dulux.co.uk

If you wish to
advertise in
the New Roxette
contact our sales team
mobile: 07787910187



**TERRY LEE
PHOTOGRAPHY
WEDDINGS
& EVENTS**
WWW.TERRYLEE.NET
0787 429 6806

JOHNSTONS
27 Kingsbury
Aylesbury, HP20 2JA

JOHNSTONS
27 Kingsbury
Aylesbury, HP20 2JA

**Hall
Decorators**

Bucks TV

"I had the pleasure to be hosting on the main stage this year at the 'Hobble on the Cobbles' introducing some great music and wonderful local bands. Chatting to a lot of people most seem to agree with me that this, the third organised by Aylesbury Showcase, had a fantastic family and community atmosphere. It was a pleasure to be in Market Square, and let's not forget the stage in Kingsbury a long side the cafes, it certainly brought the area to life. Bucks TV were busy filming all day and as well as capturing most of the acts performing we also were back stage chatting to them. All these interviews and live performances can be seen on the Music Channel: www.buckstv.co.uk/music

After John Otway in 2006 and the unforgettable Fish and Marillion reunion last year, this year's headliners "Eddie & the Hot Rods" didn't disappoint. A couple of years ago I introduced a relatively unknown unsigned band who gigged a lot in the Aylesbury area....six months later "Scouting for Girls" hit the big time after Radio One's Scott Mills got behind them. This year I had the pleasure to welcome on stage "The Red Bullets" who are my favourite local band of the moment, a talented bunch who I'm sure will follow the same path very soon. If you haven't already

done so, check them out on our music channel.

So what can we expect next year....well I've heard who the potential headliner might be, all I'm going to say is fingers crossed and role on next August!

Bucks TV is your brand new internet television station.....something for everyone, not just music, but sport, community, local people, features, interviews and lots of fun stuff. In fact every time you log on you'll find something new, we're growing every day. Let us know what you think and more importantly what you want us to put on your Bucks TV. richardc@buckstv.co.uk

We are delighted to be supporting and to be a part of yet another come back from the rich Aylesbury music past, "The New Roxette". I'm far too young to remember the original of course! Every issue, after reading about the featured local band you will be able to visit Bucks TV to see an interview and watch them perform an exclusive live performance, in the interactive "New Roxette" version.

..... Enjoy the "New Roxette" and support local music."



BucksTV

Music Fan of the Month

Interview with Fan of the Month – Keith Ballard

What was your first gig?

The Jam + New Hearts at Friars in November 1977. I was 17 and still at school. I was very much into New Wave and was sceptical about going but really enjoyed it.

Have you looked at the Friars Website?

Yes, but don't go back to it too often as each time I do I kick myself because of all the amazing gigs I missed. Hopefully the music scene is really starting up again in Aylesbury with all the interest around at the moment and some amazing local bands.

You were a regular at the Aylesbury Showcase gigs this year?

Yes, this year I have avidly followed all the gigs and found out how good the bands were. In the past I have been to gigs by word of mouth but this year I have been able to find out what gigs are on and where, thanks to updates by Stuart Robb on Facebook as you can't rely on the local press to print accurate information – if they print any! So I have been to more gigs and broadened my musical tastes. You get diamonds as well as piles of mud.

What have been the highlights this year?

Slashed Seat Affair, Pause, Thinking for Tuesday. I hope that Thinking for Tuesday come back with a full line up as it would be interesting to see them as a full band. I used to think The Swamis were a loud heavy metal band but I was pleasantly surprised

and their "Does Anybody Feel the Pain" is a great song and gets the foot tapping!

What about Hobble on the Cobbles?

It was fantastic especially as it lasted most of the day. I have been to the last two and the one this year and always by the end of the day I have aching legs, sore throat, an empty wallet and a full camera! I did think that there were some sound issues on the main stage in the Market Square. Trouble is we have been spoilt by the intimate gigs at The Kings Head on Saturday nights throughout the summer.

Do you feel optimistic about next years Hobble on the Cobbles?

Yes especially to the run up to it and the gigs going on throughout the summer months.

Would you have a dream headline for next years' Hobble on the Cobbles?

Not really, but possibly, would be interesting if Howard Jones played as he has connections with Aylesbury and High Wycombe. I think he would be very popular with most people in Aylesbury and surrounding areas.

You were visible in a lot of the photos taken at the various gigs?

That just happens – being in the right place at the right time!

Where's Keith

Have you seen this man...?
Well, say hello to Keith!

If you see Keith in any pubs or music venues around town, (buy him a drink) & get your photograph taken with him.

Email the photo with the date/location of sighting to us at 'Where's Keith' – and email to: office@AylesburyShowcase.co.uk and if we publish it you will be the lucky recipient of a free CD, AND of course you'll be featured in The New Roxette as well.

What have you got to lose?
Stalkers and Crazy Women Welcome!



Looking back at Friars - Nov. 1976

4th November 1976 - SAILOR

Sailor made five headlining appearances at Friars, the 1976 gig here being the final time they played. They also won the prestigious Friars Aylesbury Cup in 1975 which still adorns nickelodeonist's Phil Pickett's mantelpiece. In Pickett's words, there was no more enthusiastic place to play than Aylesbury. Sailor still plays today where they are big in Europe, especially Germany. Three of the original band, Pickett (who also co-wrote Karma Chameleon), Henry Marsh and Grant Serpell still play. Marsh's son is now the lead singer. Georg Kajanus, the creative force of Sailor is still musically active in solo projects.

www.aylesburyfriars.co.uk



Claire is leaving the Farmers Bar and large numbers of people have gathered to say goodbye. The music tonight is by Fluid Lines who would have blown the roof off the courtyard when they played here in August, if said roof existed.

Calum and Jimmy's creative twin guitar attack has the two instruments meshing and interlocking into one superior machine which takes no prisoners. Bruce, troubled by technical problems joins in late on a borrowed bass although this doesn't prevent him and Ben, on drums and shouty backing vocals, from powering the songs to an even greater level of intensity. New material gets premiered and stands up well beside the current songs in the set, so it looks as if these guys are really on a roll. With their muse still firmly on board they climax the second set by taking The Proclaimers 500 Miles for a turbo charged romp, with manic dancing by Norm Beermonkey and friends. This is, in fact, one hell of a gig.

So, it's goodbye Claire and goodbye summer but hopefully not the last time we see Fluid Lines playing the courtyard. Now, if the place had a roof...

www.myspace.com/fluidlines



Containing studio versions of many live favourites, this has become part of life's sound track round our house over the past few weeks. This EP almost shimmers with intelligence, musicianship and pop sensibility. Peter Edwards (Vocals/Piano), Mark Edwards (Drums), Kyle Hall (Guitar) and Mark Wheeler (Bass) have created a beautifully crafted, played and produced CD which deserves your immediate attention.

Personally, I have to mention Not Tonight, a slow building song close in spirit to Mike Scott's Big Music concept. The almost madly catchy Too Many Barriers. Try banishing this from your consciousness once you've heard it, or try forgetting Songbird for that matter. Then there's Josey Mama, with its gospel intro vibe, which carries resonances of Elton John back in the days when he still made interesting albums and got to do Peel sessions. Also deserving a mention are Spiders And Snakes' creepy arachnoid piano runs and Codfish Aristocracy with its strident guitar and sliding, descending bass line. There are great vocals throughout and the excellent playing and arrangements really reinforce the impact of all the songs.

I can't encourage you enough to get hold of this EP and allow it to become part of your life. And, yes, I know superlatives are easily coined but they are rarely as well deserved as this. Finally all I can say is try to catch these guys live if you can. They should be massive and it's not a question of if, it's a question of when, and it will be soon.

www.theredbullets.com



This is total sonic attack from the Swamis. Everybody Feels The Pain begins and ends quietly with some tasteful cello and delicately picked guitars while the middle section roars mightily, relentlessly and gloriously. The Olive Aquarium rocks fiercely, with intense fast vocals and lyrics from Dan Buckland. Nonionic Gluteral has some iridescent slide guitar, various tempos and an unwavering power. There's also a great freeform bit in there. The whole CD is tightly played with excellent arrangements, phenomenally loud and rocky acoustic guitars from Dan and from Paul Jackson and savage drumming from Matt Banham.

Original and indispensable!

www.myspace.com/theswamis

D'arcspire

Empires rise and empires fall. Governments come and go. Sometimes something comes along that people remember forever; and sometimes things get missed in the blink of an eye. Once upon a time there was a band called D'arcspire.

They played a lot of gigs and wrote a lot of songs between 2000 and 2005 residing at times in London and Buckinghamshire.

..They released a mini-album of 6 songs with Jam Central Records. Songs that the word 'Immense' were created for. A hard rock band with two guitarists that actively wanted to go to war with the string sections they reproduced live through an Apple i-book. Beautiful melodies singing songs of death and destruction, with a kick-arse beat. There were highlights and low times - sometimes in the same day...

..Like driving all the way to Dorset to do an 'audition' gig to support a U2 covers band and then playing crazy golf afterwards to chill out, and dipping into the sea and realising that wearing black (long trousers) in the summer heat was not a good idea. (And the festival even got cancelled after all that).

..Like getting a late slot at 24hrs notice at Sound Republic and as guitarist and singer run to stage to play, the singer says "I. Really. Have. To. Go. To. The. Toilet...!" ominously, as the intro is already playing!

..They even turned up at the Aylesbury Civic Centre to play 'The Profile' being told they would not get a soundcheck, but stayed quiet, smoked some fags and were given one; where they did perhaps a minute of each song 'just to check'. Finished the set 'more than on-time' and were asked if they wanted to do another song. "No - We think we're done... just about there, actually...!"

..Then later in Aylesbury, risking sunburn to play at The Jam in the Park (in Vale Park) 'During Daylight?' on a glorious day - on the same day the singer was 'done' for fare evasion on the train... (Four members got tans, one got sun burn - singer not prosecuted!).

Stand out song on D'arcspire's debut EP 'The Infinity Within, The Finite Without', is probably 'All Sons of Adam'; Iron Maiden-ish intro into a full pelt guitars and orchestra threnody of a woman describing a Christian's dramatic 'falling out of love with' God. Perhaps paraphrasing the words Lucifer Morningstar uttered as he was sent to rule Hades. Sounds mad - but went down very well live.

There is subtlety too - 'Sequel to a Prequel' comes over all 'standing on a cliff at the edge of the world', as acoustic guitars accompany an orchestra and tiny bells ringing, with the diva singing about the passing of love, a problem with chemicals and how failing relationships seem to get dragged out in the early hours of the morning via text messages. (Yep - we've all been there!).

'Never Fade Away' is an anthemic salute to people that have since departed and gone on to legendary status as icons. Lilting strings, and guitars that cement the chorus like tanks rolling across Europe.

There may be more to come - a second album was finished and though not (yet) released, it collected the rest of the songs that they were playing live, and were loved, that no one got a copy of. There are plans afoot for these to be released via download on the Jam Central website. And there maybe more - there are rarities and oddities and songs that were never quite finished before the split.

D'arcspire are playing once more (again) in December. But that's classified information...

www.myspace.com/darcspire2008

'The Infinity Within, The Finite Without' is available through Jam Central Records:
www.jamcentralrecords.com



The Red Bullets

On Thurs 6th November 2008 The Red Bullets will take to the stage at the world famous Stables Theatre in Milton Keynes. The show will be packed with the bands classics such as 'Silent Man', 'Spiders & Snakes' and 'Songbird' plus new work and a few surprises. Over half the tickets already sold so don't miss out.

the
stables

The Laine Dankworth Centre
WAVENDON, MILTON KEYNES

TICKETS £14.50

BOX OFFICE

01908 280800

Thurs 6th November '08

www.theredbullets.com