

The Sound of Fury Fan Club

Newsletter

Issue 6: October – December 2020



Hi there,

Welcome to the latest issue of the Sound of Fury Fan Club newsletter. The year seems to be flying by! The last few months have certainly been a challenging time for all of us and as I write this, we continue to be under restrictions for the Covid-19 pandemic. There is obvious disappointment as events planned are postponed or cancelled, but we hope this newsletter can be a welcome distraction with positive news of a new Billy CD, the potential of unreleased Billy tracks from the famous Joe Meek Tea Chest tapes, plus other exciting news.

To contact us email - soundoffurysecretary@gmail.com or write to - The Sound of Fury Fan Club, P.O. Box 157, Frodsham, WA6 1BY

Update on Billy's Grave Restoration and Improvements

As you will see from the photograph, work on Billy's grave, which was delayed by Covid-19, has now been finished by the contractor and is looking really good. The memorial has been cleaned, the lead letters re-tapped and the guitar re-blackened. The two flower holders have been replaced with two silver ones (one was black previously).



The earth has been removed and cobalt blue chippings laid in its stead.

We are very grateful to the stonemason and the others involved and of course to Billy's Lisa for agreeing to our request to have the grave restored and the suggestion that chippings be added. From a number of chipping and stone colours provided by the contractor, Lisa chose cobalt blue, which seems to have been an excellent choice. The rationale behind all of this work is that restoration was needed anyway and in addition, as time passes, fewer fans would have been available to undertake significant tidying up where soil and plants were involved. Old flowers, dead plants and similar can be easily removed from the chippings by visiting fans but any necessary general stone cleaning and any other work will still be undertaken by liaison between this Fan Club and The Billy Fury Estate.

Obviously, nothing can now be planted and whilst we realise that some fans may not like the changes, this was really the best option for the future. We are also grateful to Lisa, as the owner of the grave, for her courtesy and for taking care of the financial aspects.

Jackie Clark

We at the Sound of Fury thank our Jackie for her hard work over several trying months in getting the issues around the work sorted out and to our great friend Rita Smalley who helped.

Chris and the remainder of the Team.

Mill Hill Meeting

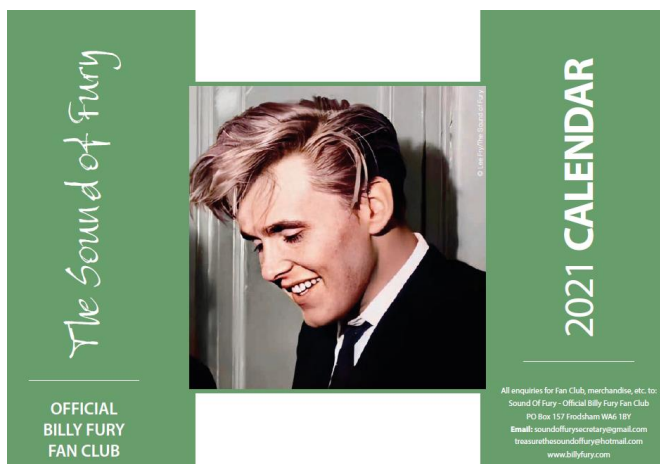
Regrettably under the circumstances, the planned meeting on 4th October at Mill-Hill is cancelled. With the Covid restrictions potentially in place for up to six months, we cannot at this stage say if the usual January meeting will take place. We will confirm in the next newsletter, but please contact the Fanclub directly if you have any questions before then.

Your memories of Billy...

In the next newsletter we'd love to feature your memories of meeting or seeing Billy in concert. Maybe you even had your photograph taken with him! If you'd like to share these precious memories, please do write or email in and we'll feature as many as we can in the next edition.

Sound Of Fury 2021 Calendars

Exclusive 2021 calendars are now available to pre-order via the fan club. These are always super nice quality with 12 amazing pictures of Billy. Order now for just £10 Inc. P&P



Fan-Club Magazine Archive

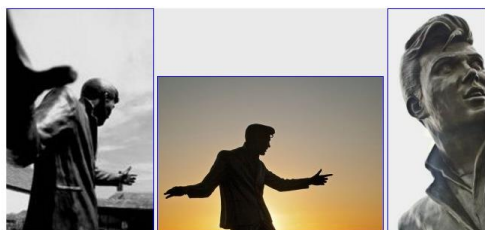
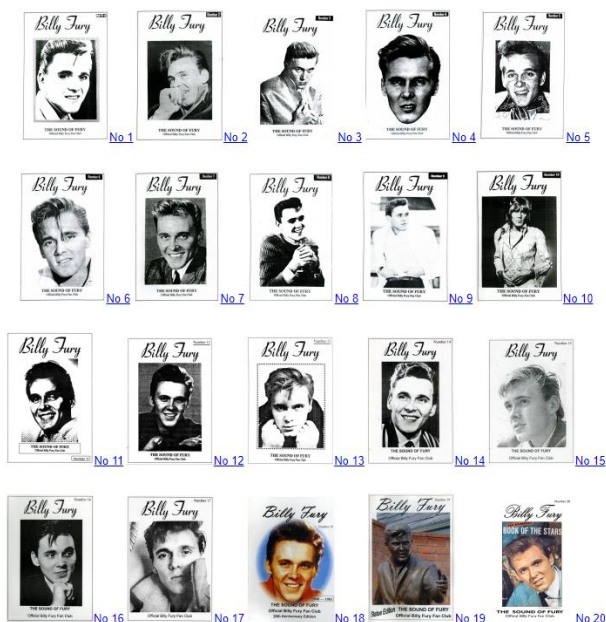
As you know the Sound Of Fury Fan Club has taken over the fantastic Harry Whitehouse website www.billyfury.com This is a treasure trove of information and detail about Billy that is several years in the making.

We are pleased to make the first twenty issues of these fan club Magazines available, 1997 to 2003. Happy reading, more to come later!

[An introduction by Chris Eley](#)

More content and back-issues will be added to the page over the coming months and now all the previous back issues of the Newsletter are now online and can be found on this website.

With special thanks to Alan Coombe for his work and dedication on this.

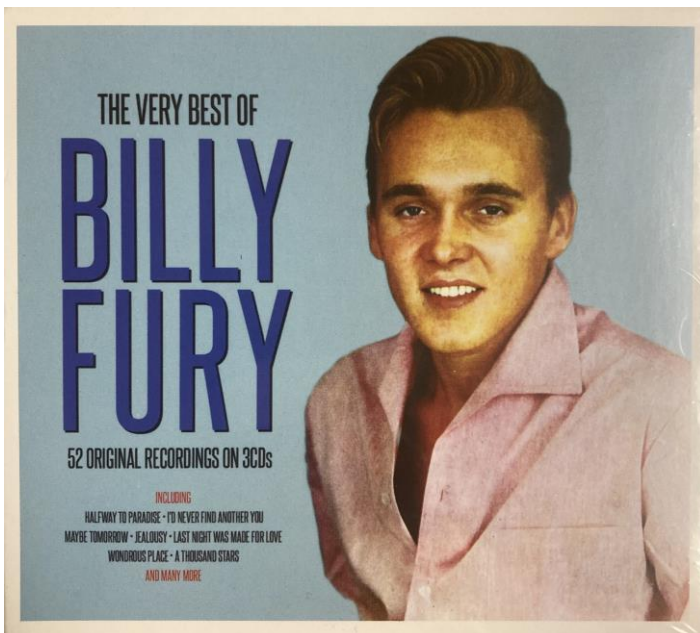


billyfury.com

Where the rock keeps rolling - on line since 1998
Managed since October 2016 by the Sound of Fury Fan Club



The Very Best of Billy Fury. Not Now Music- NOT3CD323



The erroneous title aside, this is quite a nice little out of copyright digipak compilation made better by having incisive, informative and sympathetic notes by Spencer Leigh, eminent Liverpool radio broadcaster, writer and author of the Billy Fury biography *Wondrous Face* (and several other books). The cover photo takes me right back to an A4 soft cover book of music and film celebrities that I bought in 1962, with Elvis on the cover and a similar but full length picture of Billy in pink shirt and white trousers featured inside. How good it would be, medical advances excepting, to be back in 1962/63 again! Sometimes having the songs mixed as they are here, indeed in no particular order with any artist, can be a negative thing. This is especially where the performances come from different decades or vastly different styles/genres-some older Elvis compilations

spring to mind in this regard. However, as these tracks all originate from 1958-62 they flow well enough. My quibble over the title comes from the fact that without inclusion of some of the finest tracks that Billy did from 1963-66, (and many would include *Forget Him* also), no compilation can be regarded as his Very Best or even Best of. I know some older fans and young rockabillies believe that he did his best work up to about 1960, 1962 at the latest, but I cannot subscribe to that. Without the likes of *Like I've Never Been Gone*, *I'm Lost Without You*, *It's Only Make Believe*, *Turn Your Lamp Down Low*, *Nothin' Shakin'* and many others, there can surely be no Best of title applied to any set. Those releases of K-tel material on so many different labels, collectable though they became among the more fanatical of us, were the worst in this regard, because at no stretch of the imagination could they be described as even *The Best of Billy Fury* as they so often

were. We should however be grateful that anyone at all still brings out Billy Fury CDs in this age -with original tracks and at reasonable cost. Available on-line and through some specialist dealers at under a tenner, completists and casual music fans alike will snap up copies whilst hoping for something different before the year is out. Spencer may well be right in saying that Liverpool folk would probably cite *Wondrous Place* as the song most associated with Billy-it is certainly the most iconic in the view of many. Billy would have liked the street cred arising from that but been less happy that for most of the world's population that know of him at all, *Halfway to Paradise* is still the hit most associated with him, and probably always will be. Why not-it's a great pop track, and one that sums up the feelings of so many teenage lads at the time-and our unrequited crushes, love even! Spencer hits the nail on the head when he says that Billy was the only British rocker who had the style, swagger and sexuality to equal Elvis.

Chris Eley.



Billy Weekender in Blackpool cancelled.....

A message from organiser Dianne Wardle:

Hi All

I am really sad to announce that the Billy Fury Weekend in November can no longer go ahead. Although all attempts have been made to meet with Government Guidelines the Metropole have been risk assessed by the Council and they have said NO due to new restrictions on numbers.

I know, without doubt, that lots of you will be extremely disappointed, and we are too.

To the Guests who have paid a deposit we will be contacting you to see if you would like to defer your deposit to the event in March.

To the Guests who have paid in full we will be returning your cheques.

I suppose the most important part of all this is that we all stay safe and well.

We look forward to welcoming you to the next one when hopefully we can make up for lost time.

Thank you for your understanding

Diane

Blackpool Holidays

Blackpool Holidays Ltd.
Diane Wardle
presents

**Rockin Like Fury
at the Met**

Billy Fury Tribute Week-End

at The Metropole Hotel,
Blackpool
6th - 8th November 2020

starring
The return of the fabulous
Colin Paul & The Persuaders
also Colin Paul Solo Show

Direct from her
"Walking back to happiness tour"
Jane Hubert

Rockin' DJ's Neil Williams
and Andy Cordwell

Back by popular demand - the fantastic
Mark Keely's
Good Rockin' Tonight

Dinner, Bed & Breakfast and Sunday Lunch
ENQUIRIES - Telephone (01253) 722300 (24hr answerphone)
TO BOOK - Complete inside reservation form

The management reserve the right to amend the programme as necessary.

Cecilia's Race for Life.....

As some of you know, our very good friend Pat Young died earlier this year.

Pat was one of the kindest hearted, most generous, truly wonderful people you could ever meet. She was also arguably Billy's biggest fan! I'm sure most of you, will have met Pat at some point.

Our very own Cecilia recently ran The Race for Life in honour of Pat and raised over £500 for cancer research!



An amazing achievement. Well done Cecilia!!

Joe Meek Tea Chest Tapes

Very exciting news announced earlier this month as Cherry Red Records has acquired legendary producer Joe Meek's fabled Tea Chest Tapes and could give us some unreleased Billy tracks! The article below written by James Hanley and published by MusicWeek.com gives more information.....

[Cherry Red Records](#) has acquired legendary producer Joe Meek's fabled Tea Chest Tapes. The quarter-inch tapes got their name because they were contained and sold in 67 tea chests, and include previously unheard songs by David Bowie's first band The Konrads, recordings by Billy Fury and several songs by Tom Jones, among others.

Meek had a string of UK No.1s in the early '60s, including Telstar, which was the first song by a British artist to top the US charts, and pioneered numerous recording techniques in his studio flat in Holloway Road, North London. Following Meek's death in 1967 the tapes passed on to Cliff Cooper, who worked with the producer when playing bass with the Millionaires and went on to found Orange Amplification. We are so proud to now be the custodians of this unique library

Ian McNay, Cherry Red Records

"I first met Cliff Cooper at the Classic Rock Awards six years ago so the process of Cherry Red acquiring the Tea Chest Tapes has taken its time," said [Cherry Red Records chairman Iain McNay](#). "But we are so proud to now be the custodians of this unique library. Over 1,800 ¼ tapes with such a diverse range of artists, some superstars, and some almost completely unknown. The work that lies ahead is massive; baking, then cleaning up, then digitalisation, then clearing rights, then deciding how best to release the tracks. But, as always, we relish the challenge."

The tea chests also contain demo recordings of the likes of Ray Davies, (who wrote some songs for The Honeycombs), Georgie Fame, Alvin Lee, Gene Vincent, Rod Stewart, Steve Marriott and an early line-up of the future Status Quo. There is also said to be a demo tape of a certain Mark Feld, aka Marc Bolan.

Cherry Red plans to work closely with Alan Wilson at Western Star Records on the tape digitisation and mastering side, as well as Pete Rochford and the Joe Meek Society to bring the sounds to an audience.

"I am so pleased to pass on to Cherry Red Records the tape collection of Joe Meek, which have been carefully stored and untouched for over 50 years," said Cooper. "I feel, as I have been the custodian of this collection, which may have otherwise been separated and lost. Passing them to Cherry Red Records will be the perfect home for these original analogue recordings where they will be selected, carefully digitally mastered and released for the pleasure of future generations. Joe was a legendary and innovative genius in music recording and production and rightly takes his place in the evolution and history of music."

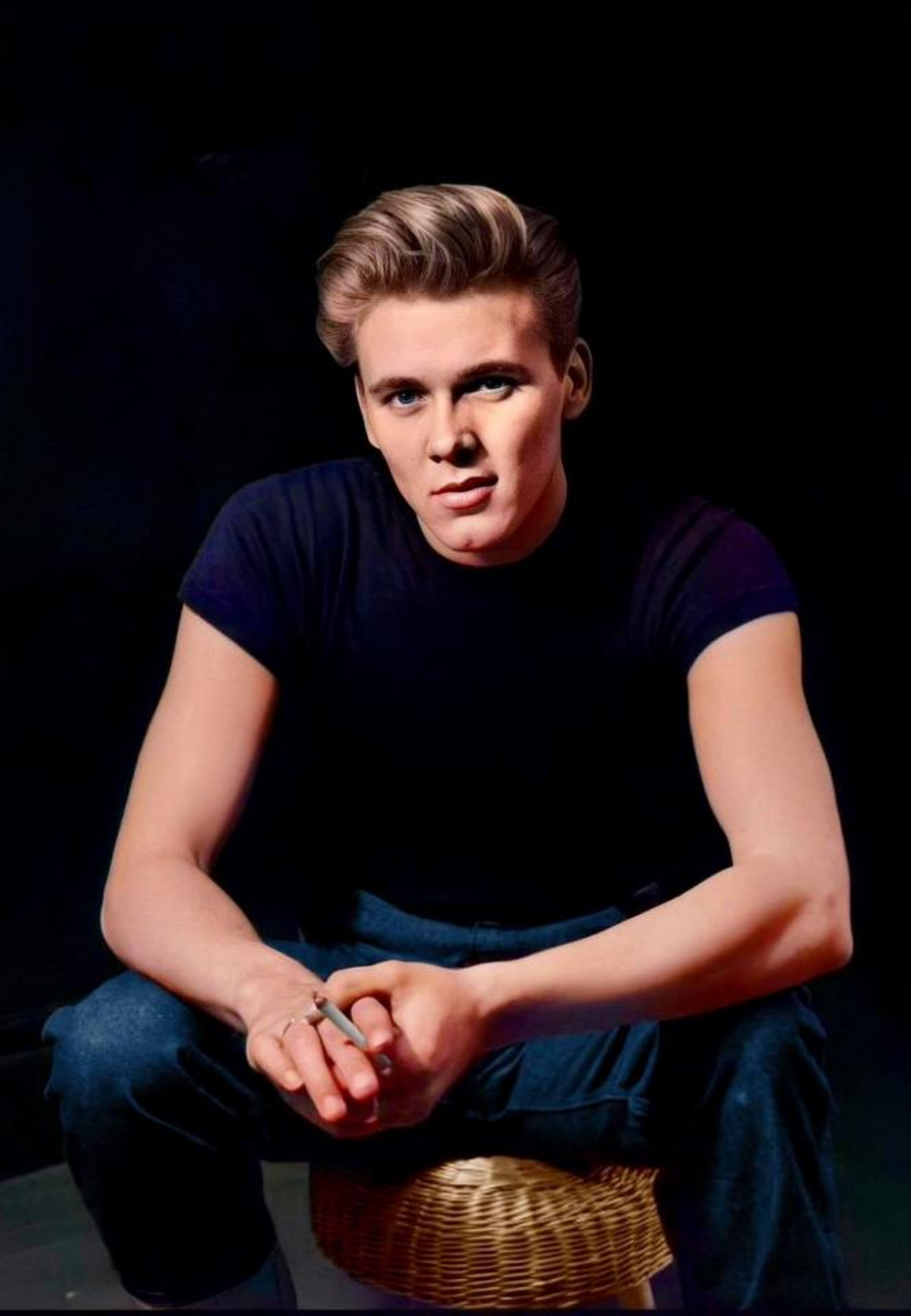
Wilson added: "As a lifelong Joe Meek enthusiast, the very mention of words 'The Tea Chest Tapes' have always stirred mixed emotions within me: Excitement - wondering what treasures may lay within. Amazement - that they still exist and of course Fear. These near-mythical reels containing Meek's life's work, could have deteriorated beyond repair.

"Having now inspected and even tested some of these tapes, I am happy to confirm that they are in first class condition. Cliff Cooper has been an excellent custodian and has ensured that this important chunk of British music history has survived for more than half a century. I'm thrilled beyond words to hear at last the contents of these tapes and to be part of the restoration project. Who better than Cherry Red records to treat this project with the attention to detail and respect that it deserves?"



Billy with Heinz Burt and George Bellamy of The Tornados



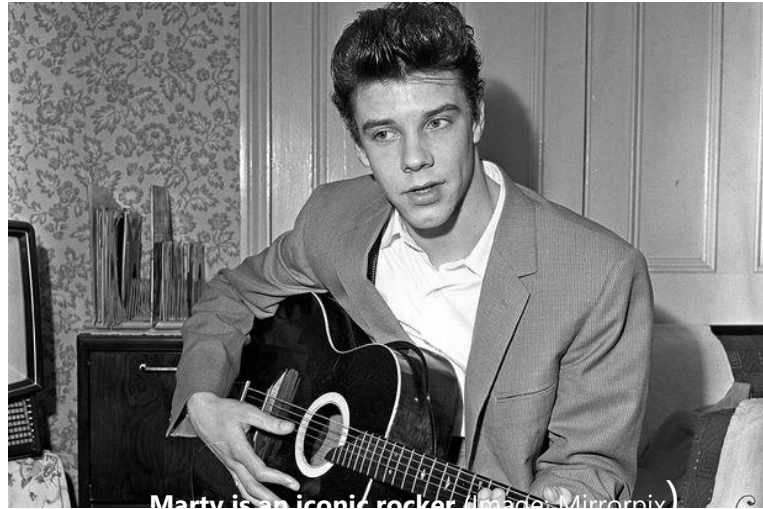


Brand new Marty Wilde L.P. released October 2nd 2020

The evergreen Marty has recorded a brand-new album, released on 2nd October. The album is titled, Running Together and features 15 self penned or co-written tracks by him. The album also includes duets and contributions from Marty's famous and talented family. In-fact, he has recorded his first duet with daughter Kim, which he plans to release as a single. Marty and Kim have even managed to film a video for the single in lockdown, even though they can't be stood beside each other.

The new album also features Marty's other daughter Roxanne Rizzo-Wilde with additional input from son, Ricky who is a songwriter.

Marty experienced some health issues recently and had a pacemaker fitted during lockdown after collapsing at home. Referring to his new album, Marty said *"It's the album I've always wanted to write. There's a fresh batch of new studio recordings that I'm really proud of, which I've mingled with some poignant songs of mine from across my career. These depict my journey over the decades, it's a musical slice of mine and my family's history. I recorded this album with my youngest daughter*



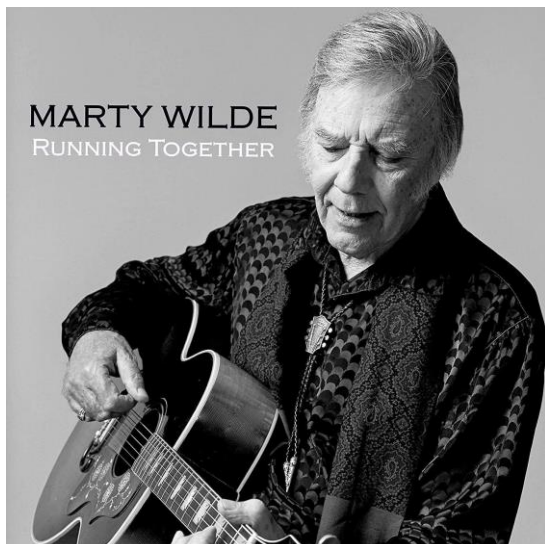
Roxanne, as I wanted her to perform the songs that needed that special woman's touch and were written especially for her." He also told the Daily Mirror in a recent interview *"60's World is my way of celebrating Joyce, the woman that I've loved, and whose been the rock of our family, for 60 years. It's 60 years since the start of the decade, 60 years that we've been married and 60 years since our gorgeous Kim was born.*

"Every day of my life has been special with Joyce and the family, and I wanted to go back to 1960, where it all began.

"And what better way to celebrate than by bringing back the sound of the 60's, but with a modern twist."

Unlike Dame Shirley Bassey's new album which she billed as a "grand finale" earlier this week, this LP will only be the start for Marty.

He plans to perform it on a 50-date tour next year once the current coronavirus restrictions are lifted. The single 60s World will be released alongside the album Running Together on 2nd October.



Running Together draws from new and old material with surprises including a superb remake of 'Cambodia' and an ageless 'Love Me Love My Dog'.

Other gems from the master songwriter include the reggae of 'So Light', authentically 50s 'Rockabilly Dreams' and hook-laden 'The Middle of Love' (sung by Roxanne). More information can found at martywilde.com



Billy and Marty in 1960

Wayne Fontana (Glyn Ellis).

October 29th 1945–August 6th 2020.

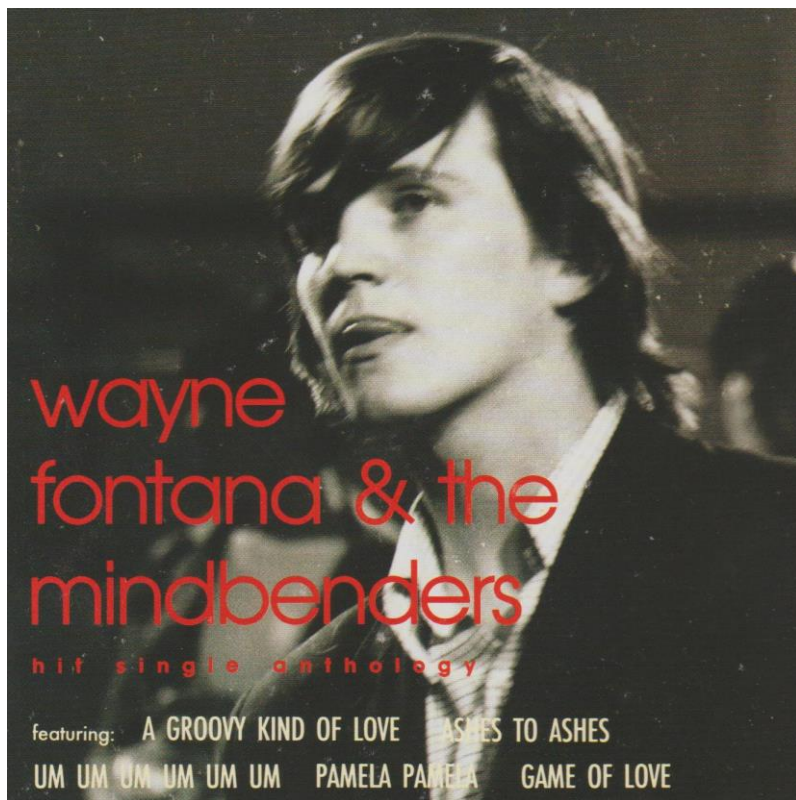
I was saddened to read in the press of the recent death of this fine vocalist aged only 74, one of the first of the 'Manchester Sound', with the band being formed in 1962. The stage name was reportedly taken from Elvis's first drummer, D.J. Fontana and we can only guess where Wayne came from- perhaps from the most famous Wayne of them all (although Glyn would most certainly have said so if this was the case). I had seen him perform a couple of times over the years on Solid Gold/Silver shows and my memories are of him on-stage during the 2000s, in trademark white jacket and cowboy style hat, displaying his Mancunian wit between numbers and delivering those songs in a fine powerful voice. I recall at the last show in Worthing in 2011 wanting him to just get on with it instead of chatting to establish a rapport, because I wanted to hear as many songs performed as possible in the little time allotted-his voice was still that good. Afterwards he came out and signed our programme, seeming to be a very pleasant guy as well as a humorous one.

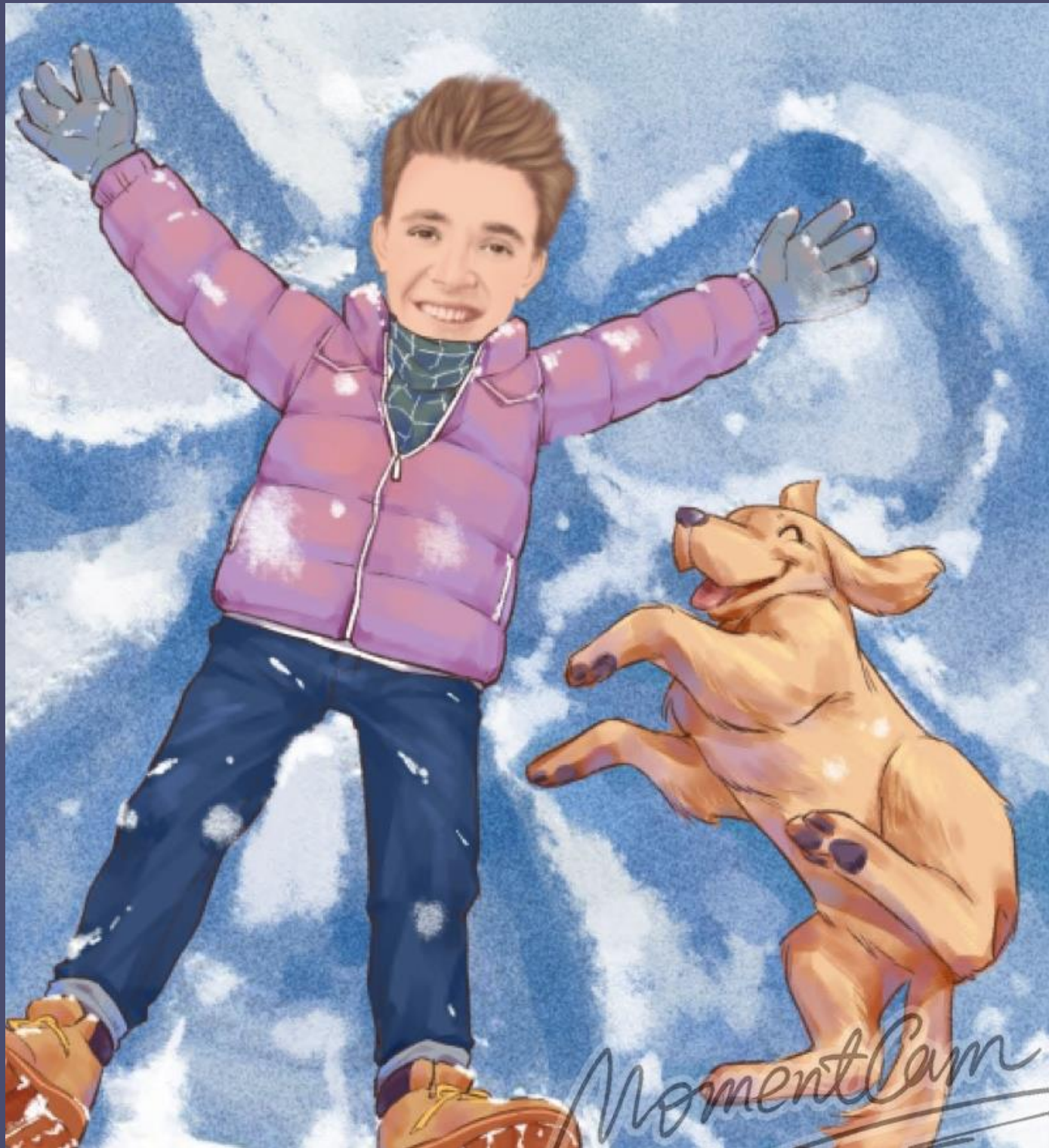
Regrettably for some reason we didn't get a photograph with him. Curiously the band had made little impact on me during the 60s apart from Um,Um,Um Um,Um,Um which I loved (and which reached the No.5 slot pipping the excellent Major Lance original which had attained only No.40 several months before), yet with the Mindbenders and solo from 1965 a total of 24 singles were released. Come on Home, No.16 was a great track. With and without the band Wayne enjoyed ten Top 60 hits, with the Game of Love hitting number 2 in 1965 in the UK and seemingly topping the US charts as part of the famous 'US Invasion.'

The solo release It Was Easier to Hurt Her showed off his vocal prowess PJ Proby style and 24 Sycamore, also recorded by the late, very great and much missed Gene Pitney, was also a very good track.

Pamela, Pamela gave him his final hit in December 1966, making number 11. The Mindbenders, a three-piece outfit, achieved a No 2 hit without him-the perennial favourite A Groovy Kind of Love in 1966, plus another three Top 50 singles. The Wayne Fontana and The Mindbenders LP made No 18 during 1965 and the band made No 28 with their album during 1966. A good looking young guy with a powerful voice in the Walker Brothers/PJ Proby mode Wayne really should have been far more prominent during the 60s and early 70s than he was-but as it is, his reputation is still a fine one.

Chris Eley. (With acknowledgment to British Hit Singles & Albums-Guinness World Records Ltd.)





From all of us at the Sound of
Fury Team

we wish everyone all the best for
Christmas and the New Year