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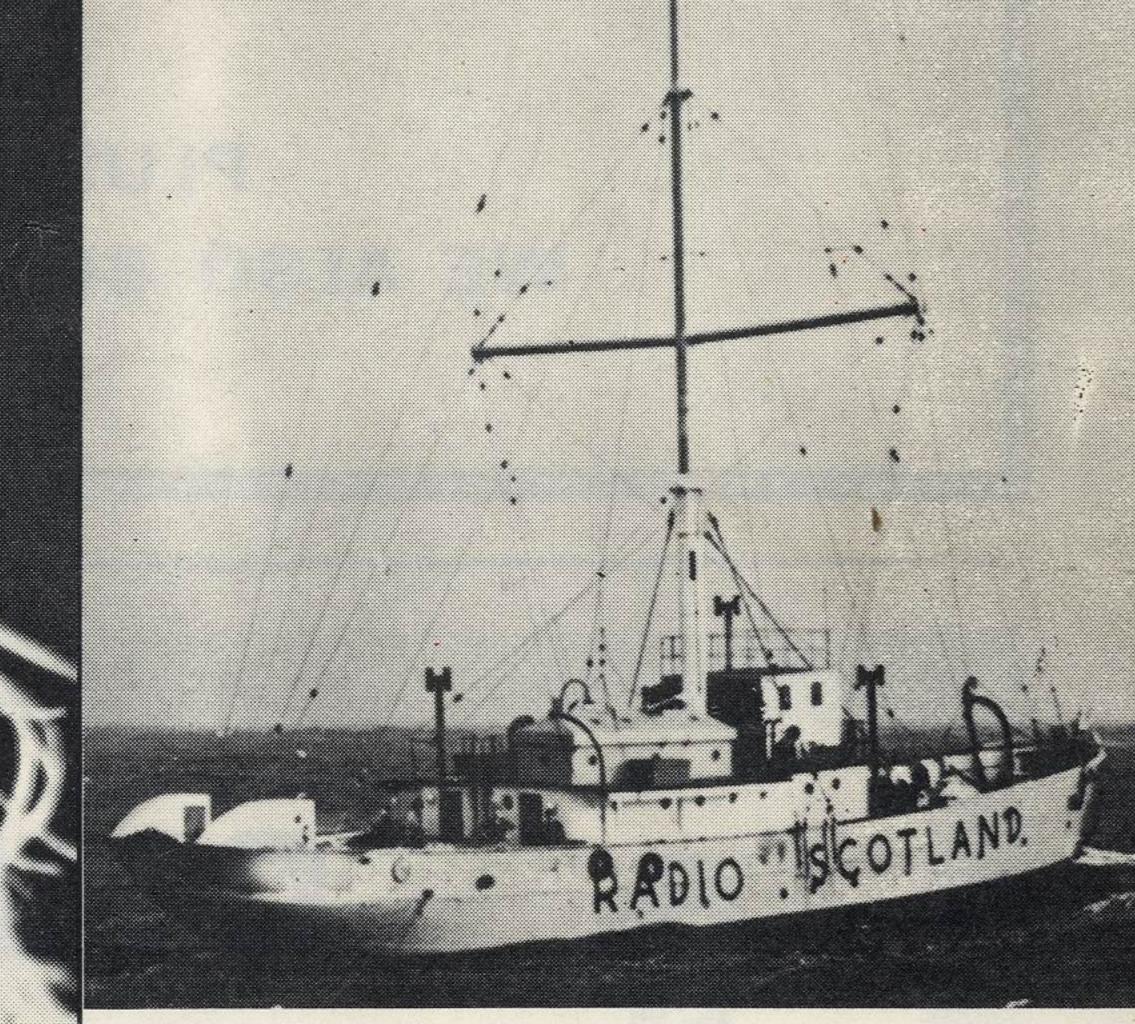
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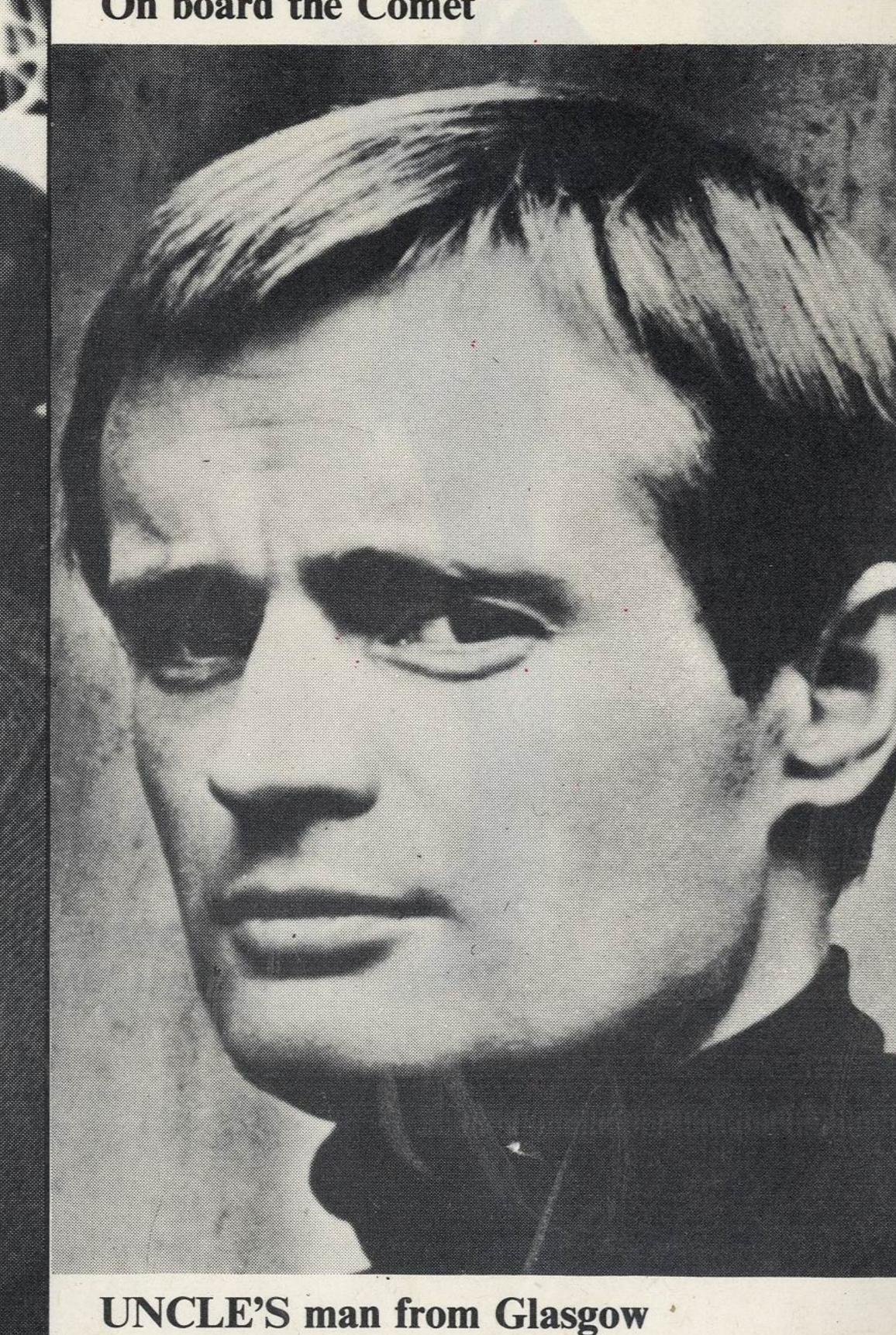
APRIL, 1966 — Vol. No. 1.

ONE SHILLING

LULU - U.N.C.L.E. - BEATSTALKERS LATEST SCOTTISH NEWS, VIEWS



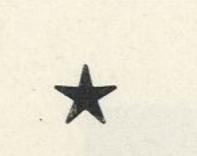
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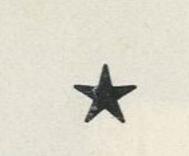
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Clan Secretary, here. I've been so busy recently that it's just not true. Thousands of letters are pouring in every week from new members—but luckily I've got one of the best letter-openers in the business—wee Jock, my West Highland terrier.

Some of the postmarks and stamps are unbelievable—We've had mail from John O' Groats down to Dover. We've also received batches of requests from Norway, Finland and Sweden—reception is first-class over there.

Here are a few examples of our monster nail . . .

"I would like to join your clan as I am stuck with an English name. I think Radio Scotland is fantamaquistic," Ruth Hill, Limekilns, Fife.

"My transistor is never off 242. It's the greatest invention since sliced bread." Patricia March, Prestonpans, East Lothian

"Radio Scotland really does you proud.

Ugly Bob Spencer's patter is excellent,"

Garry Irvine, Carntyne, Glasgow.

"What a great, groovy station 242 is. I usually listen between 11 and 12 at night. Best of luck for the future," Derek Humphries, Bath, Somerset.

"Big S is much cheerier than the other pirate radio stations. Pete Bowman is so funny—was he ever a comedian?" Dick Smith, Berwickshire.

"I think your programmes are fantabulous. Long may they continue," John Gregory, Cupar, Fife.

Here's one from a swinging granny in Dunbar, whose grand-daughter was married last month—"I would love to become a clan member. I'm a regular listener to your station," Mrs. Mary Brodie, Westbarns, Dunbar.

How about this one? "We are three lonely girls and we would like three boys to write to us. Any kind of boys—as long as they don't come from Aberdeen!" Phyllis Baron, (16), 13 Eday Crescent, Summerhill, Aberdeen. Gladys Marshall, (16) 82 Christie Crescent, Stonehaven. Fay Rattray, (16) 376 King Street, Aberdeen.

"Not only does this station play good records, it also sounds so warm on a cold, wintry night," Angus McKillop, Perth

"It's ridiculous. They won't let us listen to Radio Scotland in school. Still we always tune in at the break," Anne Sinden, Breck Gardens, Edinburgh.

"I'm already in a clan but I thought I'd join another. The obvious choice—CLAN 242," Robert Cunningham, Kirkcaldy, Fife.

"I want to join your clan, as 242 is the greatest thing to come out of Scotland for centuries," Neil McBeath, Old Kirk Road, Edinburgh.

"My favourite dee-jays are Jack McLaughlan and Paul Young, but I think you are absolutely, enormously, terribly, fabulous," Jim Glover, Cumbernauld.

I'm blushing . . .

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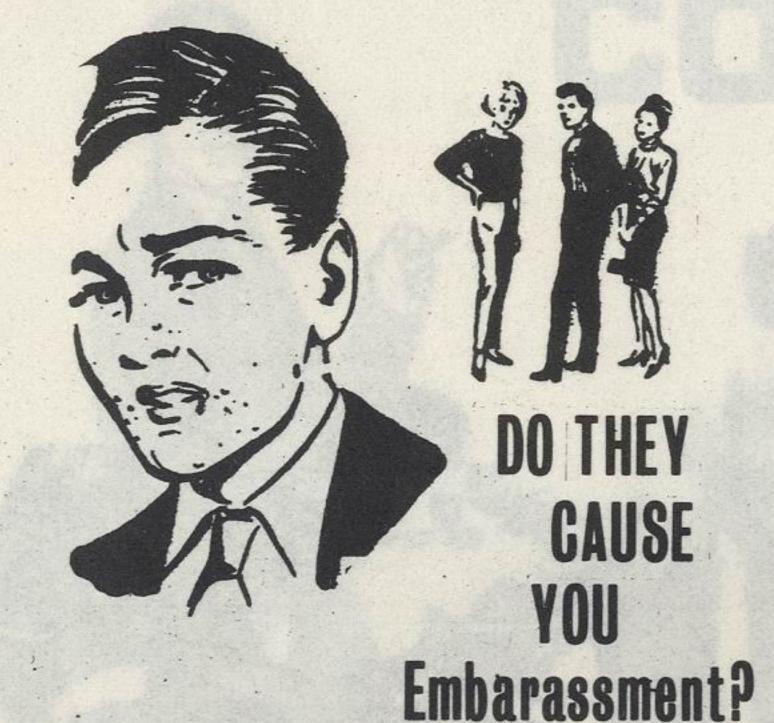
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Who's the lucky one in this picture? Clan 242 secretary Cathy Spence, who saw U.S. record star Gene Pitney off at Renfrew Airport; Gene-lucky to be seen off by such a gorgeous redhead; or Jock, the Clan's puppy mascot, who meets all the stars? Gene incidentally, will be visiting the Radio Scotland ship on his next visit here.

BY BRUCE MACINTYRE

ulu and the Luvvers Split' said the headlines, "Miss Pep breaks with her Boys".... and knowing smiles were seen all round the scene.

'Exit the Luvvers' smiled the cynics. But that isn't the position at all. It's a case of Lulu versus the Luvvers in the pop stakes . . . Glasgow's Marie Lawrie in opposition to Glasgow's Alex Bell who leads the Luvvers, in the rush to the top of the show business ladder.

Three of the Luvvers, who have backed Lulu since she got her big break in London at the age of 15, are from Glasgow-Alex, vocalist and guitarist; Tommy Tierney, who plays bass guitar and claims to come not from Glasgow but from Cowcaddens; Henry Wright, the drummer.

Fourth member of the group, nicknamed "Our foreigner" is lead guitarist Dave Wendells, from Hounslow, Middlesex.

Alex was an electrician's apprentice before going into show business . . . "I couldn't ever go back to an ordinary job and life like that again," he told 242



Magazine, "Show business has got into

"Now that we've separated from Lulu, we're setting out to establish ourselves as professional artistes in our own right. We have a recording session lined up for this month, and Dick Katz at the Harold



Davison agency is lining up a most impressive list of big dates for us.

"One of the first is a tour of Scotland. "Dick, incidentally, also handles Marie's dates, so although it's a case of Lulu versus Us, it's pretty friendly opposition."

Naturally. It's only a matter of months since certain Scottish newspapers were alleging that Lulu and Alex were engaged

What's life like for a young teenager like Marie Lawrie in London?

"Fantastic . . ." and that's her own description in a brief airport interview before flying out to Continental dates.

Marie/Lulu lives in St. John's Wood, in a big, cosy flat owned by friends of her mum and dad; she and the Luvvers go dancing when they can, visit the cinema, and frequent whichever London club is

"Going to the latest line in clubs is all part of the image," she said, "It's an essential part of this business to be seen by the fans.

"After all, I'm not a remote kind of person, all cold shoulders and icy looks. I like to get about and meet the other kids."

It's when Lulu's on stage that's she's really living . . . "Above all, I like singing.

"Travelling, rehearsing, dressing, it's all just a build-up to the big moment when I can get out there, under the lights, giving everything."

She comes to Scotland "fairly often", for it means some time at home with mum and dad, brothers Billy and little Gordon, and kid sister Edwina.

In town this month are Scotland's POETS—complete with new singer Andy Mulvey. You'll be able to hear the new line-up at the Radio Scotland Ball on April 7. For further details—"Eyes Down"

Swinging to you, this is 242 MAGAZINE—the latest and greatest arrival since "Big S" itself. We'll bring you closer than close to pop stars in both the Scottish and national circuits.

If you're interested in everything and anything, this magazine is a must. For example, take a look at the FREE competition on page 16—you can win a weekend trip to London for TWO. Yes, this is definitely YOUR kind of magazine.

This month, note the super line-up at the Radio Scotland Ball—the chart-topping Overlanders, the Beatstalkers, the Poets, and the Meridians. They'll all be at the Locarno Ballroom, Glasgow on April 7 will you be there? We've got tickets-7s 6d each-write to "242", Radio Scotland House, Cranworth Street, Glasgow, and enclose P.O.

Next month we'll have exclusive articles on the good-looking Walker Brothers, Glasgow's Sabres, and the most popular boy in America-PETER NOONE, better known as Herman.

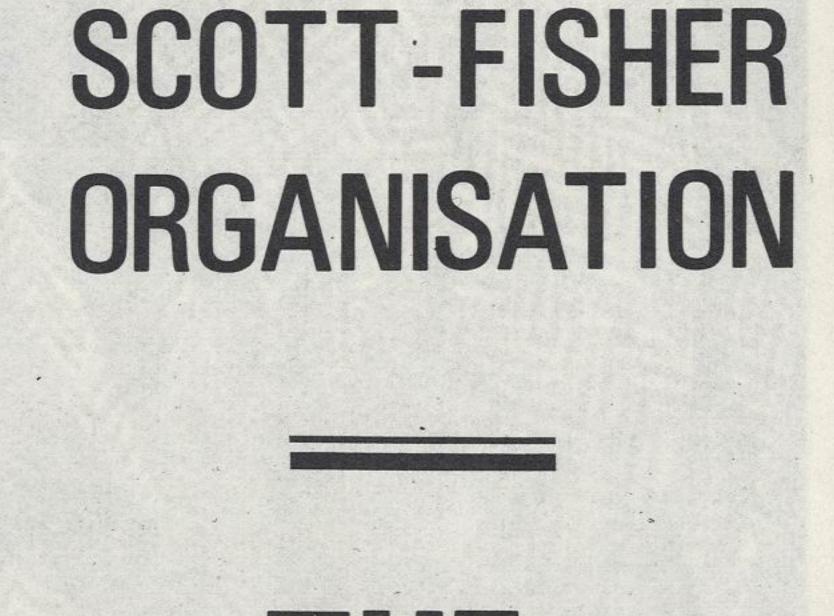
here do the Koobas go when they're V.V in Scotland? S'easy—just look at the picture on this page. To a party. This particular party, on their tour a few

days ago, was in Radio Scotland House. The boys dropped in to see how things were going . . . "Glad to see commercial radio catching on in such a big way," said

Stu Leathwood:

Questioned on the group's peculiar name, Stu replied-"Well, when we started out, we were the Cubas. Then it occurred that this might not be the most popular name for a group selling discs in the States. Castro and all that.

"So we changed things slightly . . . from Cu to Koo. Cukoo . . . you know. That's us."



MERIDIANS

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Having a ball -the Koobas . . I. to r. . . Tony O'Reilly, Keith Ellis, Stu Leathwood, Where's Roy Morris? Well, it was a great party . . . he's in another picture. See this page.



'Stalkers bubble bursting?

A re the public getting tired of reading about the Beatstalkers, or has the massive publicity campaign to establish the boys failed . . . ?

After a year of riots and fantastic scenes the Beatstalkers have still to crack the barrier which separates fame and failure—ENGLAND. I'm ashamed to say it, but if you don't make it in England you just don't make it...

It's happened many times—too many times! Good Scottish talent goes south in seatch of fame but fades in the fast-moving life that London offers.

FOCUS

"Left, Right, Left . . . "

on Alan Mair

But no Scottish group has ever had as much backing from the

He's the quiet, unassuming Beatstalker . . . but

still an excellent conversationalist. Perhaps the

most sought-after 'Stalker by girls-good-

looking, smart, and 'Oh those eyes." One feature

of the highly-professional Beatstalkers' act is

the individual qualities attributed to each of the

boys. Highlight at a recent concert in Glasgow

was bass guitarist Alan's singing. No superlatives

down the street most females tend to look

this time—he's very good. When Mr. Mair walks

press as have Davie, Alan, Ronnie, Eddie, and Tudge—but this can be damaging as well as helpful.

People begin to expect too much of you, and if you fail they become very critical. This could finish a career or damage one so badly that no interest is ever taken again.

But I think, along with a few thousand others, that the Beatstalkers are as good as many of the so-called top beat groups in Britain.

Praise has been showered on them by the Moody Blues manager, Cathy McGowan, the Who etc. etc. but their debut disc failed to make the charts—due mainly to them being "unknowns" in England and, of course, need I mention the 1001 snags...

Rambling rumours have been spouting that the boys are on the wane and that their fan following has halved over the past six months. "This is rubbish," Alan Mair told me, "we are packing them in everywhere we go. Anyway, we're getting used to these rumours, but I don't think the rumours are getting used to us..."

It's only too clear to the boys that the Beatstalker bubble will burst. "We'll cross that bridge when we come to it," Davie said, "but at present we'll enjoy what we've got . . ."

I feel the boys boobed when they brought out their second record. I would've thought that one of their "standard" numbers would have suited them much better than "Left, Right, Left . . ."

On the question of publicity I definitely think they have been over-publicised in Scotland, but I think their publicity has been neglected down south—and that's where it counts!

Perhaps the boys will emulate little Lulu and make the "big smoke" their home. Unfortunately, this seems the only solution . . .

JIM BLAIR



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35 Causeyside Street, Paisley.

42 High Street, Paisley.

Those poor dee jays, penned up on the Radio Scotland ship for fortnights at a time, away from their girl friends. How do they pass the time? Wellthere's a stripper on board. No, down boy, it's Al Black (right) we mean. He's a talented cartoon stripper. Draws funny stories. Used to do it for a living before he went on the air. His illustrated gags keep the crew in stitches.

ANYBODY HERE SEEN

Donovan—Mac's knife in him?

We've heard so much about Lulu and the Luvvers split-up recently, but does she really need them . . .? "Left, Right, Left" could make or break the Beatstalkers ... Poets got second U.K. chart success with "Baby Please Don't Do It," but are they Scotland's best . . .?

On the ball publicity man, Ray Tolliday of Immediate Records styling himself as "Batman" after the current film fad-or is it 'cause he only lives at night . . .?"

The controversial Who coming north for a one-night stand at the Olympia, East



From the Pavilion (Glasgow) to the Palladium (London)—that's the fast rise to fame of The New Faces. Pictured here they are (I. to r.) Barry Greenway, who comes from Wales, Marie Gordon and Charlie McKay, both from Glasgow. Only last year they appeared as supporting artistes to Lex McLean. Marie was then part of another singing group and the boys were billed as the Hi-Fi's. At the end of the season they teamed up to form the New Faces and a recording contract was on their doorstep right away. Highlight of their so far short career was a booking for the Palladium. Surprise followed surprise, and they were on again less than a month later—success indeed.



Kilbride this month . . . St. Louis Union also booked for the 30th . . .

Overlanders tune in regularly to "242" at their London flat. Vocalist Laurie Mason told me-"It's really great!!" . . . Modest Gene Pitney, in Glasgow recently, felt very flattered when "Our Cathy" referred to him as a "great songwriter" . . .

242 Mag's Jim Blair to play a model in a future fashion film for Strathclyde University . . . Dundee reader asks "Is Bob Spencer the original Man from U.G.L.Y.?" ... Radio Scotland reception first-class in Scandinavia . . . Folk concerts continue to boom in Scotland but still no sign of Donovan—is the answer "Blowing in the

Chris McClure's debut disc "Dying Swan" was inspiration for a satirical ballet skit on "BBC-3" . . . Will John Stephen's arrival affect sales in other Glasgow boutiques . . . A swinging "Hi!" to Radio 270, Britain's newest pop station . . . At present Scotland being swamped by touring Irish showbands . . .

Mindbenders ex-tambourine player, Wayne Fontana, finding chart life very difficult . . . Whatever happened to beatcontest winners Rab and the Clansmen ... Watch out for a fashion show at the

interval of the "Radio Scotland Ball" in the Locarno . . .

Herman is to keep his hair short. This comes after his tour of Japan where everyone looks clean and tidy . . . Scotland's top holiday resort could well be Dunbar this year . . . Hamilton's own Gidian

sports a Donovan-type hairstyle . . . This could be a big year for the very talented and very good-looking Small Faces . . .

Hasn't Andee Silver changed . . . Hands up all those who think Spencer Davis looks like Paul McCartney . . The Stones seem to be on the move much more than the Beatles . . . Bob Spencer liked Beatstalkers' first disc-"It should have made it, I tell you!" . . .

Glasgow's teen-clubs clamping down on mods... Contrary to many beliefs "Boots" Bowman is NO relation to Frankie Howerd . . . There'll be NO pop concerts in Glasgow's George Square this year . . . Big things expected from Rosalyn Gray, the girl who won a talent contest at the Flamingo Ballroom . . . How high will skirts fly this summer . . . ?

Britain's first surfing group call themselves Andy's Clappers . . . Gaylord's "He's A Good Face" favourite Scottish disc . . . Crispian St. Peters celebrated his 23rd birthday this month... Do you like Paul and Barry Ryan . . . ?

Everybody's talking about the new grown-up Lulu—cor! . . . Playing around London these days, Forrie Cairns, Glasgow jazzman. His favourite story—he was playing the Northern circuits when a small beat group asked for his autograph. The group? The then little-known Beatles . . .

Easter single from Elvis will be made up of two religious compositions . . . Why don't the female viewing public like Napoleon Solo . . . ? "Top of the Pops" only interesting when Savile's in the chair . . . Beach Boys' "Barbara Ann" one of the best examples of the popular Surf Sound . . .

Gene Pitney joins fan club for Anteeks, fugitives from the Ayrshire scene in multi-coloured, one-piece op-art suits . . .

When will someone tell the Walker Brothers about their hair . . . Samantha Juste beginning to get a little tired of Peter Murray's forced jokes . . . Sabres one of Glasgow's best groups . . .

Instrumental part of Stones' "As Tears Go By" likened to "Gardening Club" signature tune . . . Bob Dylan in Glasgow and Edinburgh next month . . . Extra 7d on singles put down to "increasing costs" . . . Will Eddy Arnold take over from the late Jim Reeves . . .

Remember the Boston Dexters, dressed like Capone's mob of the Roaring Twenties, they found the Sighing Sixties had no place for them in the charts . . . now they're making a new break for fame

FATUOUS FOOTNOTE:

A Finnish group, the Keystones, claim to have beaten the world record for continuous playing of guitars by playing non-stop for

Wonder if they sounded any worse at the end than they did when they started?



renamed The Buzz and reshuffled. Out

now-April 1-their new disc "You're

Holding Me Down" with "I've Got a Buzz"

Julie Felix and Bob Davenport at a folk

concert in Royal Festival Hall . . . favourite

tracks from the much-covered "Rubber

Soul" album are "Baby You Can Drive My

Car" and "Think for Yourself" . . . Lou

"Lightning Strikes" Christie is NOT

coloured—just the way the light was

songwriter and club owner . . . Hayley

Mills still has that girlish voice . . . Who is

this guy Illya . . . does Jonathan King

bug you . . . ? Maurice Woodruff says

Christmas Day will fall on December 25

this year... Best laugh on television,

that's "Tightrope" ... See you soon ...

Kenny Lynch enjoying "the fruits" as a

shining . . .

Glasgow's Matt McGinn starred with

on the flip. Will the Buzz be a bomb? .

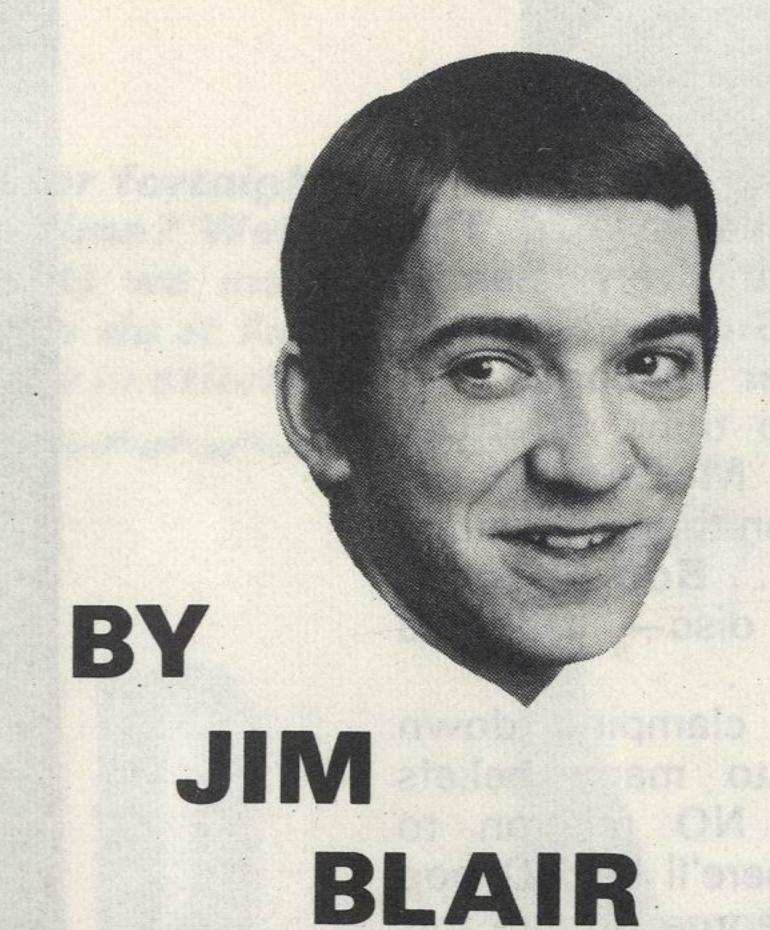
Gangling Jonathan King has had a tremendous amount to say about other people recently—too much in fact! He always seems to be knocking someone, and yet he hasn't reached the top himself as an artiste. He's had two notable records—"Everyone's Gone to the Moon", which he recorded himself and "It's Good News Week" which he wrote for Hedgehoppers Anonymous. Otherwise . . . ?

MERIDIANS ON THE MAP?

A sking up the fabulous group foursome at this month's Radio Scotland Ball are the Meridians—and if talent is anything to go by, these Glasgow boys—pictured here with Linda—should help to put Scotland on the U.K. music map.

The line-up was formed in October, 1965, and consists of John McGuiness (Hammond organ) ex-Blues Council; Malcolm Sargeant (lead) formerly of the London Philharmonic—Oh sorry, wrong one. He played with The Apaches before the Meridians materialised. Bass guitarist Jim Dewar was a LUVVER before he joined up, but Geoff Allan (drums) has always been with the group.

With the exception of Geoff—the pin-up of the group—all the boys take turns as vocalist, but they will have a full-time singer for the "Big S"





SIXTY-SIX COULD BE HER LUCKY NUMBER

"Sensational new star", "New Scots pop hope", "Airdrie girl found for chart success"—all this and much more has been showered on a cute 16-year-old who only made her first repord a couple of months ago.

She's Linda Flavell, daughter of former Scots soccer star Bobby Flavell, now manager of Albion Rovers.

This pretty miss first climbed aboard the showbiz wagon two years ago, when she won a talent competition at Butlin's. Since she turned professional Linda starred with Frankie Vaughan, appeared on "Stramash", "Music Hall", and "T.W.W. Reports"—all before she made her debut disc, "The Trouble With Me Is You", a catchy number which took her right into the Top Fifty.

About her record Linda said—"It's a great composition, but I feel my voice isn't quite suited for it. Maybe it's my imagination." Linda is very keen on folk music—her idols range from Julie Felix and Bob Dylan to Robin Hall and Jimmie McGregor—but since her backing group, The Meridians, joined her in late February she has taken a keen interest in the Tamla-Motown sound.

"This soul music is exciting," she exclaimed "I just love singing it!"

If you're puzzling over her backing boys—they're the beat group which starred in the Christmas panto "A Beano for Jack" at the Citizens' Theatre, Glasgow.

Linda is very clothes conscious. "I always like to look stylish as well as smart. I like Mary Quant's line in dresses although I don't always go to London for my wardrobe—it's here, there and everywhere."

What does Dad think of Linda's new life? "It's a very demanding career, but if determination and enthusiasm are anything to go by, she'll make it!"

About his daughter's talent he told me—"I don't like saying too much about Linda's performances because I'm her most severe critic—just as my Dad was when I was playing football."

'66 looks like being a big year for this young good-looker—so good luck from everyone on "242".



Hair swinging, eyes sparkling, Linda Flavell (above) throws herself into a beaty number at a radio recording session . . . picture by Donald Milne.

ball. When Linda Flavell is up here the boys act as her backing group. They're really great," she told me.

The boys have a tremendous following down the west coast as well as in Glasgow—Prestwick Air Base and Kilmarnock are the homes of many of their fans. The boys have also built up a fan following in the Picasso, one of Glasgow's top clubs.

Their music ranges from jazz and original r'n'b material to commercial pop and the present soul sound.

Two of the Meridians' biggest fans are Scottish impressario-comedianjack of all trades Jimmy Logan, and John Grieve, star of the "Beano" panto.

Future looks very rosy for these young men.

MEL-THE NEW BOY

He's new to you on 242 Mel Howard, a six-foot Canadian who has just joined Radio Scotland, bringing the dee-jay total to NINE. Mel was born 26 years ago in Winnipeg, but he's no stranger to the British commercial circuit. He was with, whisper it, Radio Caroline, before he came north. Mel, now on his first stint aboard the good ship "Comet" thinks the lightship is an entirely different proposition from Sister Caroline . . . "She is a real sturdy baby, definitely my kind of gal," he quipped.

GLASGOW'S MAN FROM U.N.C.L.E.

Stand by for a possible visit to his hometown this month by THAT man from U.N.C.L.E. . . . David McCallum.

The young Glaswegian's rise from small-bit-part player in films to a Stateside poll's choice as teenage personality of the year, is fantastic.

But not so fantastic as the worship he gets from his fans. David finds it more than a little difficult to understand why fans should show their affection for him by trying to tear him apart.

His bodyguard, Chuck Painter, has been bitten by fans; Mrs. McCallum—pert blonde actress Jill Ireland—has found more fans frenziedly poring through the

contents of the dimestic dustbin looking for souvenirs.

But it's this talent for drawing Instant Mobs to any personal appearances that puts stars into orbit . . . it is this which has saved the TV show "The Man From U.N.C.L.E." from a quick and painless death.

Originally intended mainly as a concession series—that is, as soon as the shows hit the screen, the shops are flooded with U.N.C.L.E. guns, kits, toys, suits and badges—it wouldn't have run for long if it hadn't been for the fact that David McCallum caught on in a big way.

more fans frenziedly poring through the The haircut, the Russian-tinged accent, arrange for them.

the always-slightly-worried look . . . they all gave the girls goose-pimples.

Not that Napoleon Solo, or Robert Vaughn as some people still call him, is lacking in fan-worship. But David, as Illya Kuryakin, has really captured the teenagers' imagination.

Born in Glasgow, he is the son of David McCallum, for many years the leader of the BBC Symphony Orchestra—and his father's musical talents have been handed on.

David plays violin himself and is a conductor and arranger of considerable ability; he has just signed with Columbia Records in America to produce and arrange for them.

Lifeline on Linda

Born—October, 1949
Place of Birth—Airdrie
Eyes—Hazel

Hair—Golden brown
Favourite Stars—David McCallum

Favourite Stars—David McCallum and Hayley Mills
Favourite Recording artistes—Dusty Springfield, Pinkerton's
Assorted Colours

Hobbies—Eating, sleeping and ten-pin bowling Likes—Money and stylish clothes

Dislikes—Dirty hotels and traffic jams

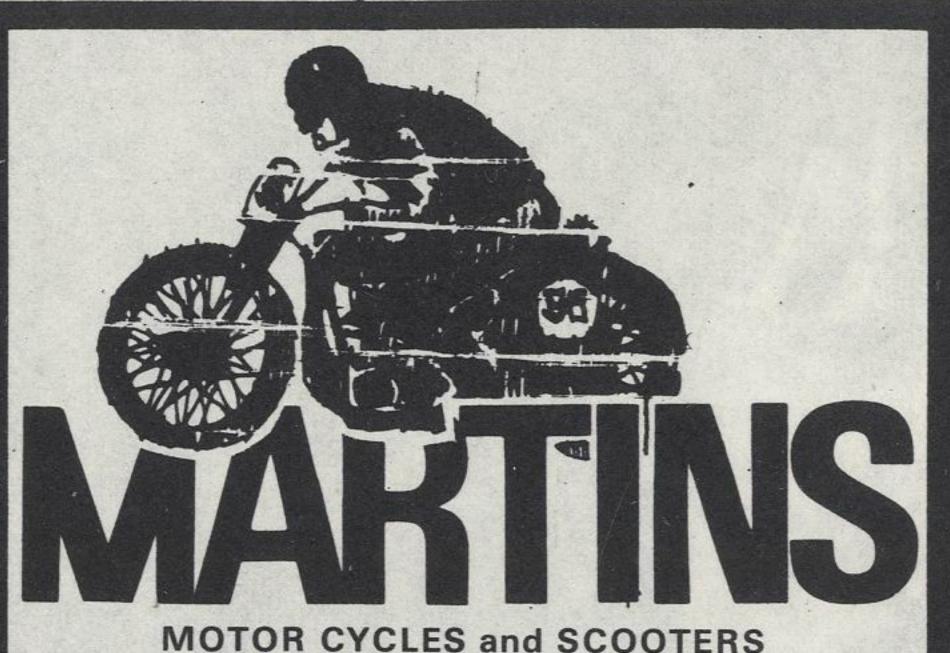
Favourite colour—Blue Favourite drink—Coke

Favourite food—Steak and chips

First Public Appearance—School concert at the age of five Ambition—To star in a musical

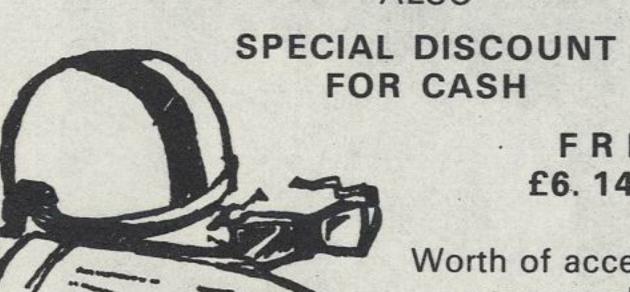
Music likes—Folk

Favourite magazine—"242"



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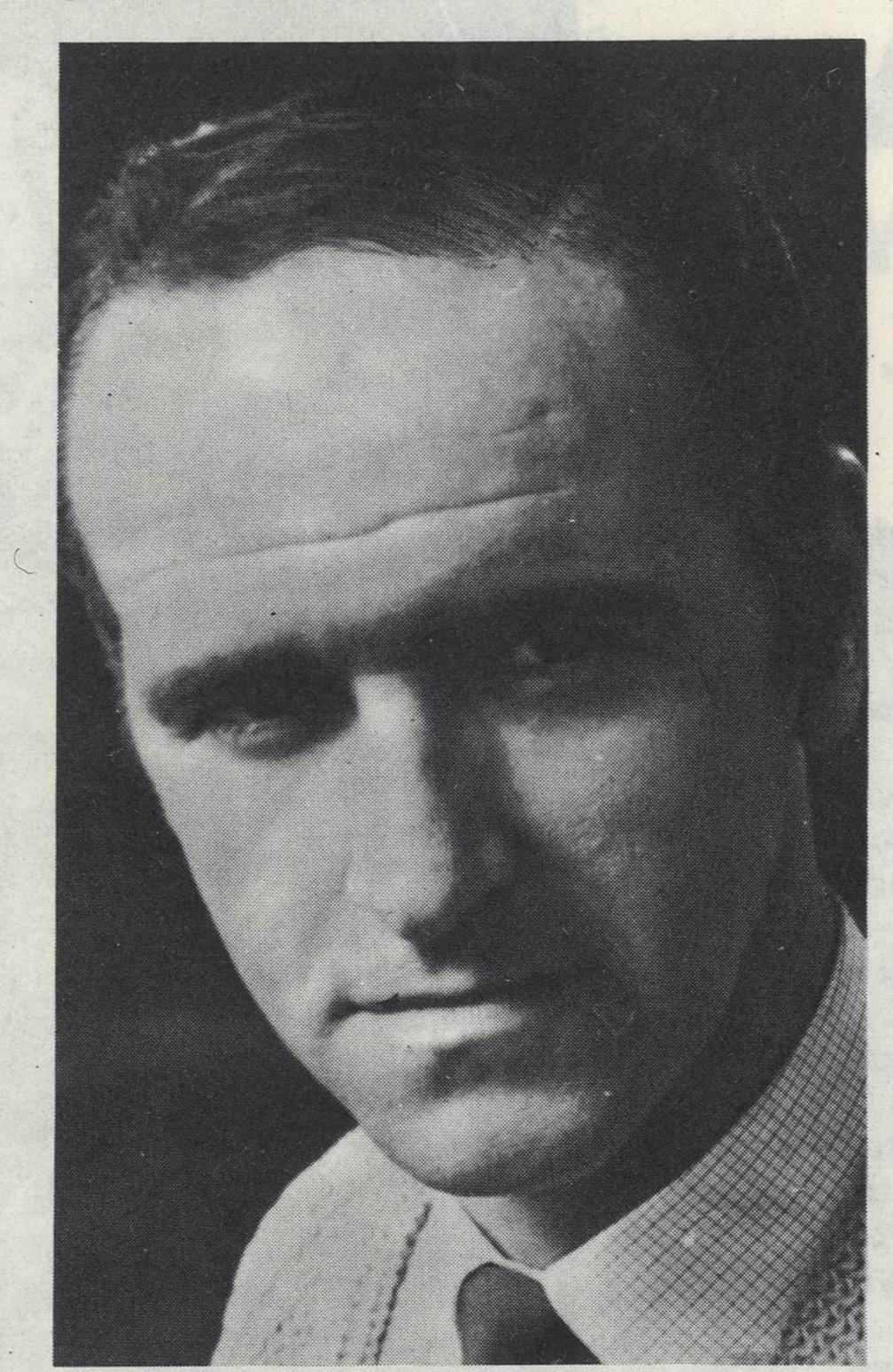
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MEET THE CREW OF 242...



Saturday afternoon . . . my watch had stopped . . . I approached a passer-by and asked him the time . . . "Twenty past three" came the reply

. . . "Are you sure?" . . . "I kid you not," he answered smartly.

All day people kept saying "This will do" or "Of course, I tell you . . ." These phrases were playing on my mind so I tuned into Radio Scotland. And then I had my first nervous breakdown. An ugly man was broadcasting to the kilted nation, and he kept saying "I kid you not"—That was it!

His name—Bob Spencer, presentation controller and first-class deejay with the "Big S", the man responsible for the big change in the Scots way of life.

When my sister is asked to do something now, she doesn't rasp "Away an' raffle yer doughnut." She replies-"This I will do, I kid you

They call him ugly, I honestly don't know why-after all, consider HANDSOME Barry Fantoni . . .

Bob is high on many a popularity poll-he's quiet (when he shuts his mouth), quiet-spoken, born and bred in Cornwall. Descriptions of his voice range from soft American to slight Australian accented.

His quick wit, charm, and constant concern for the safety of children have made him a family figure. Another fine feature—which won't be found on his face—is his personal touch. He answers ALL his mail by **Bruce Macintyre**

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IT'S TENPIN TIME...

What sport has caught on fastest in Scotland? That's easy TENPIN bowling.

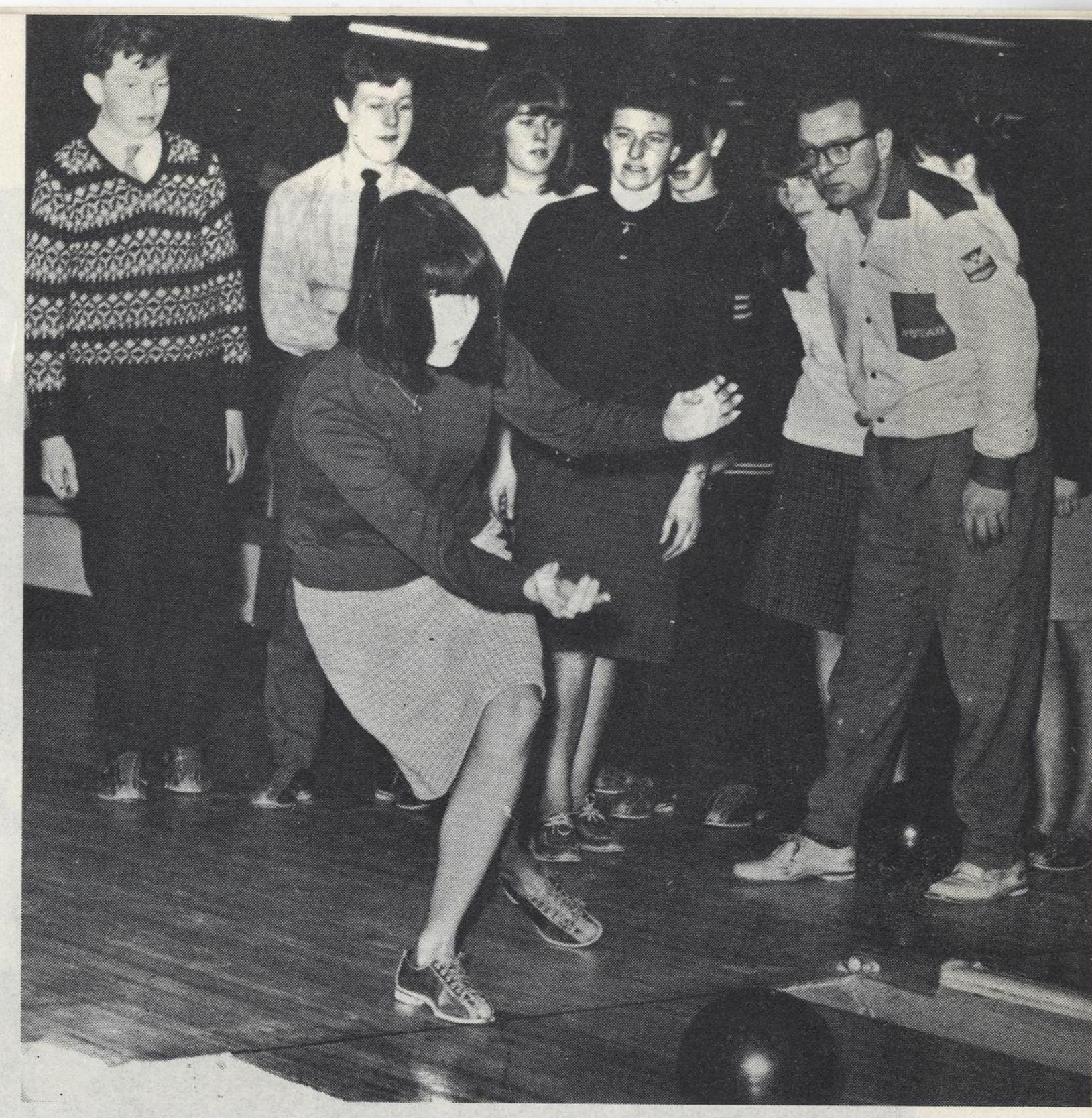
It first came to Britain six years ago, and soon crossed the Border. The feature of this game is the tremendous range it offers—anyone can play. Indeed, it's about the only full family sport in existance. That's excluding football arguing of course . . . One man who has faith in tenpin becoming a national sport is

Mr. Tom Marshall, manager of the Olympia Bowl in East Kilbride "As one of the longest-serving bowlers in Scotland I can honestly say this trans-Atlantic game will go from strength to strength. After all; if you can walk, you can bowl," Mr. Marshall

"Another thing. You're never bothered by bad weather. It's the best all-year round sport in Scotland," he added.

At present over 60 million people bowl in the United States. That's more than the population of Britain. U.S. servicemen stationed in Scotland have helped a great deal to promote this game. In almost every bowling alley in Britain you'll find American strays giving it lalldie.

Just think . . . Sir Francis Drake started it all .



SOME HOMEWORK!

Schoolkids—how d'you fancy this for a spot of homework? Pupils from a secondary modern school in Ipswich, Suffolk, are being taught tenpin bowling as part of their physical education. The management of the local centre is co-operating with the school, placing the lanes at the disposal of the pupils . . . above, Toni Scoktock (16) sends down a bowl. Scottish schools please note!

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FOR FABULOUS MENSWEAR



All aboard the "Comet", Radio Scotland's floating flagship—and transmitter. Not a disc jockey in sight: Apart from the deejays, it takes a fair sized crew to man the former lightship . . . including one of the best chefs this side of the Malmaison! Fancy a visit to the ship and a four-course tuck-in? See next month's "242" magazine for a free contest.

"MONEY? I NEVER DISCUSS IT" SAYS BRUCE

Bruce Forsyth, highest-paid TV variety star in Britain, is booked for a nine-week appearance in Scotland's star-spangled "Five Past Eight" variety show. Bruce is the second comic star to be signed—Max Bygraves, who was a big hit in the show three years ago, returns for a 12-week season on May 21.

They are the highest-paid stars ever to appear in "Five Past Eight" . . . but nobody's saying just how much they get.

Canny Bruce told "242"—"I never talk money".

On television he is paid £2000 for a show.

Bruce will be recording his television shows—for the ABC network—before he comes to Scotland . . . "This way I won't get fed up. I want to enjoy the best of both stage and TV individually, rather than just churn things

Incidentally—Freddie and the Dreamers are booked for a week's show at Glasgow's Pavilion Theatre. From May 2.

At the King's Theatre, Glasgow, opera holds the fort for a week commencing April 4. On the right is a shot from Wagner's "The Flying Dutchman" . . . company presenting the season is Sadler's Wells.



Elizabeth Fretwell as "Senta" with Alberto Remedies as "Erik" in a scene from the Sadler's Wells Opera production of Wagner's "The Flying Dutchman", being presented at the King's, Glasgow, during the week beginning April 4. Others in the repertoire—"The Barber of Seville", "Hansel and Gretel", "The Thieving Magpie". The popularity of opera in Scottish theatres proves that people who can enjoy a good beat or jazz show can also appreciate what the snobs call "good" music.

GIDIAN - THE TOUSLED TORNADO

From ALEX GORDON in Corby

A dynamic young Scot has hit the pop world with all the fury of a runaway tornado, causing more talk ans speculation than anyone since Cliff Richard arrived on the scene.

He is, of course, that tousle-headed bundle of dynamite—Gidian, whose first disc, "There Isn't Anything" is being pushed towards the charts because of the enthusiasm of Scottish record buyers.

Gidian had to move south o' the border to find fame and fortune, but he's still a Scot at heart, and his big ambition is to return to Scotland as a star . . . for TV. and live performances.

Gidian was born James Pollock in Gretna Green, and spent most of his life in Hamilton, where his parents, Jim and Harriett Pollock, still live.

Oldest of three children, Gidian was always "music daft." After much persuasion from the young Gidian, then a pupil at St. John's Grammar School, in Hamilton, his dad, who is a joiner, carved his first guitar from some scrap material... "I thought it was wonderful when Dad gave me the guitar," says Gidian, "but I could never get the darned thing in tune."

Shortly afterwards—this time armed with a £2 second-hand guitar "almost in tune", Gidian got his first introduction to showbusiness.

"I was desperate to get into a group, so a pal of mine taught me three chords of the Shadows' number 'Apache' and I bluffed my way into a local group, the Electrons, as a rhythm guitarist.

"They were so ashamed of me that on my first booking at Wishaw Town Hall they wouldn't let me plug in my guitar—that way nobody noticed my mistakes."

Gidian's burning ambition was to sing, but the group wouldn't let him . . . "This cheesed me off," he admits, "And so did my first job as a painter and decorator with an East Kilbride firm.

So he persuaded the group, now called the Freemen, to move lock, stock and guitar to Corby, Northants, the "Little Scotland" of the Midlands . . . "I thought we might be able to cut in on the Beatles craze . . . but it didn't pay off."

By this time Gidian was singing . . . "not that anybody could hear me much above the group, they played far too loud . . ." but one night he was heard by record producer Harold Sturgess—and he was on his way to fame.

Many people have been knocked out by Gidian's debut, including top comedian-singer Ken Dodd, who declares that the young Scot will be the biggest new star of 1966—"and that's a fact, Missus" declares the toothy comic.

Nobody could be happier for the brilliant young star than his mum and dad, who kept their fingers crossed when their son trekked off in search of the big time. Brothers Gordon (20), Gavin (15) and 18-year-old sister Margaret, a Glasgow hair-dresser, are behind him, too.

"I still won't let anybody else do my hair but Margaret," says Gidian, "I make a special trip to Scotland every few weeks just to have her keep it in trim."



NO BLUES FOR JIM...

Where have all the jazzmen gone? Into old folks' homes, say most beat fans. But it isn't strictly true . . . one of Scotland's best-known blues merchants, bassist-bandleader Jim McHarg, is hiding out in Canada.

He's living in Toronto, playing at the Penny-Farthing niterie under the good old title "Jim McHarg and his Jazzmen".

And one of the jazzmen is Charlie Gall, also ex-Scotland, also ex-Clyde Valley Stompers, also ex-bandleader.

This column's authority for all these statements—John Cairns, onetime Stompers pianist, recently on a Stateside holiday . . . Says John—"James is having a ball, playing with all the big-timers."

S'true . . . in the band is Lonnie Johnson, 65-year-old guitar strummer who played with Louis the Lip in the 'twenties.

Jim McH. and his lads bring out their first disc any day now, an LP on the Canadian Columbia label, maybe scheduled for European release.

FABULOUS

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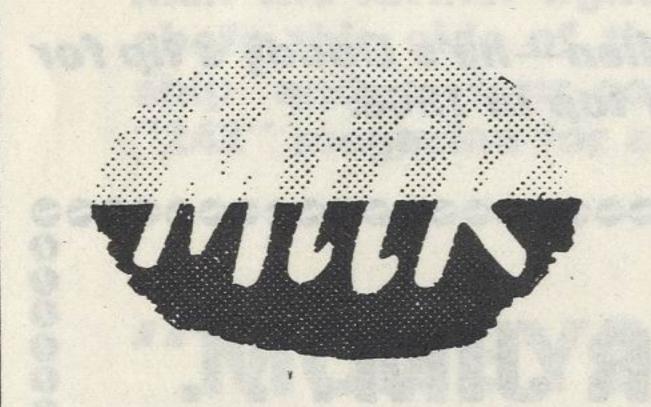
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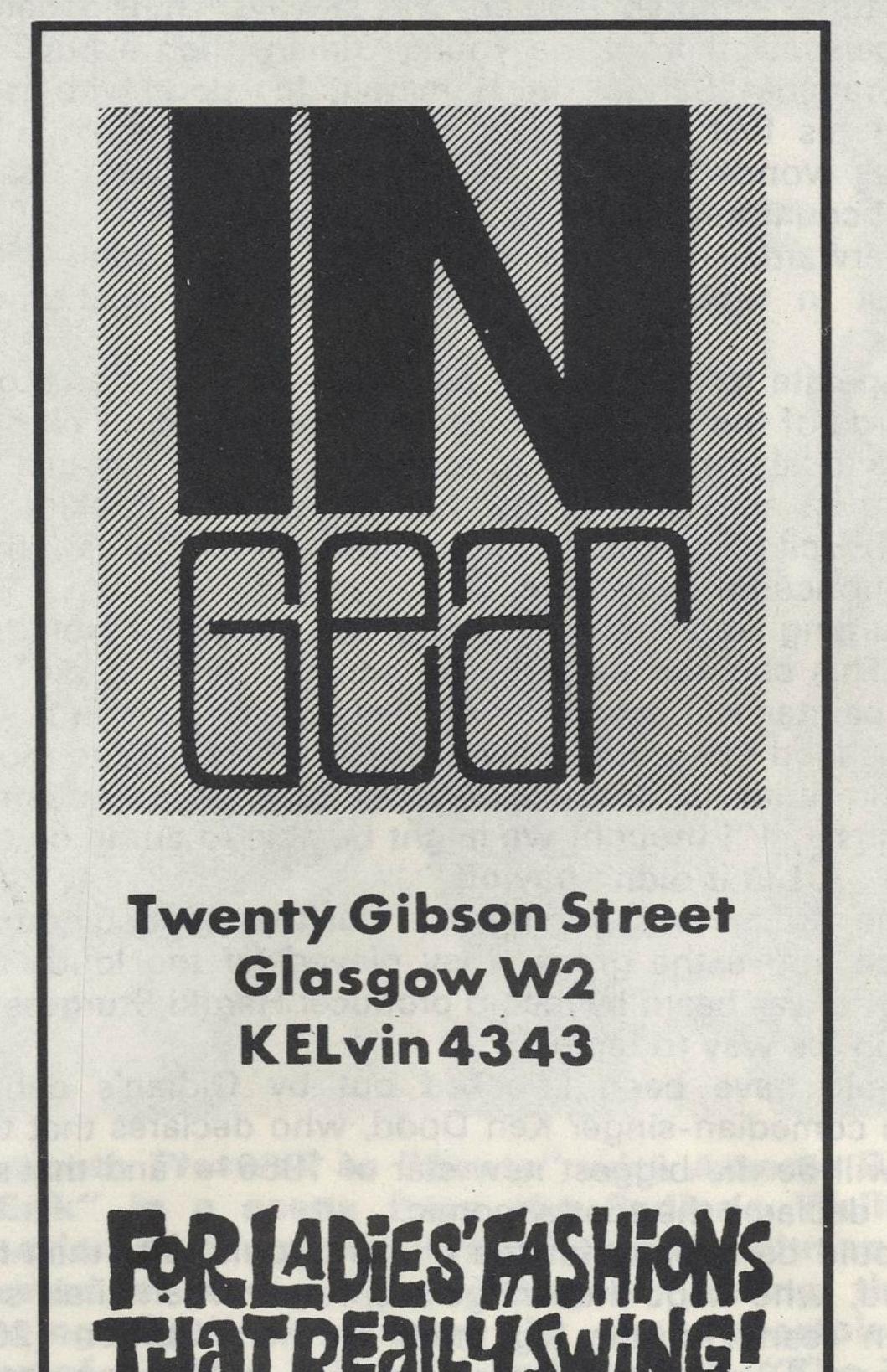
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NAME OF THE MONTH!

call her Pep, however, around Planet Records, and that's what she puts into her discs. Pep is just 17; been singing for 10 years. She's as Irish as Paddy McGinty's goat, and although she loves being in the scene, she misses her Irish ponies back home in Belfast. Pep should be touring Scotland soon.





Coming your way—The Mindbenders (pictured above) in Scotland, June 10–20; Manfred Mann, from May 16–21; Yardbirds, from June 15–20; Barron Knights and Kenny Ball starting tour in Kirkcaldy on April 8, visiting Stirling, Balloch, Ayr, Airdrie, Dunfermline, Perth, Hamilton; Small Faces, June 1–6; Freddie and the Dreamers for a week at Glasgow's Pavilion Theatre, one nighters from May 25–28; Dave Dee, Dozy Beaky, Mick and Tich from May 18–23; Kinks from April 20–25; Heinz, April 29–May 2; St. Louis Union, April 29–May 7; Fortunes, May 9–15.

CABARET COMES TO THE BONNIE BANKS

The bonnie bonnie banks will be echoing this summer with hoochs and ayes—for Lennoxbank Hotel, in Balloch, is to present ceilidhs and Highland cabarets nightly in the Lido Suite during the coming summer, on the same lines as those successfully operated in the Spa Pavilion, Strathpeffer.

Auditions are being held for singers, Highland dancers, musicians, Scottish dance bands and every other form of traditional Scottish entertainment. Amateur, semi-professional or professional artists have been invited to contact the manager of the Lennoxbank Hotel for auditions.

"We kept these plans under wraps for some time," confessed Mr. Alastair McGhee, a director of the hotel, "for we wished to ensure the importance we place on this scheme was reflected in the organisation necessary to guarantee the finest in Highland entertainment.

"The response we have had to our search for Highland entertainers has really been fantastic."

FAST FAN . . . THAT'S GRAHAM

Ranking high among the fans of Radio Scotland is GRAHAM BIRRELL, the Scottish racing enthusiast. Graham, who manages his own accessories shop in St. Vincent Street, Glasgow, was one of the first advertisers to use the station. Well-known to the rally and racing enthusiasts who patronise his shop, (which sells everything from cuff links to suspension equipment) Graham is probably best-recognised screaming around the new racing circuit at Ingleston, Edinburgh, in a Perdal Anglia. He won the coveted SHEILA WHYTE TROPHY for the best saloon car performance during last year's meetings.

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The Beatles have made 30 discs, with numbers like the following:

- A. Please Please Me B. Ask Me Why
- C. From Me to You D. Thank You Girl
- E. Long Tall Sally F. I Call Your Name G. Slow Down
- O. Ticket to Ride H. Matchbox I. Any Time At All P. I'm Down Q. Can't Buy Me Love J. I'll Cry Instead K. Things We Said Today R. This Boy
 - L. When I Get Home M. No Reply N. I'm A Loser We want to know what in YOUR OPINION are
 - S. A Hard Day's Night T. I Feel Fine
 - (1) Their best five numbers, in any order (2) Their worst—and why, in not more than 25 words.

The winner will be the reader sending in an entry form in which, in the judging panel's opinion, the five numbers chosen are the Beatles' best, plus their worst; should there be more than one all-correct answer, the winner will be judged as the one giving the best reason as to which was the Beatles' worst

The 12 runners-up will be judged in a similar manner.

The panel of judges will consist of: The Editor of "242" Magazine. Mr. T.V. Shields, managing director of Radio Scotland. Disc jockey Bob Spencer.

Entries close July 31, 1966.

242 MAGAZINE'S FREE COMPETITION Beatles' 5 best numbers (in any order) Entry 1st. entry 2nd. entry 3rd. entry 4th. entry 5th. entry Beatles Number-1 Beatles Number-2 Beatles Number-3 Beatles Number-4 Beatles Number-5 Worst Beatles Number Why I believe this was their worst number:-Name Address Post to: - 242 Magazine, Radio Scotland House, Cranworth St., Glasgow, W.2

Use your skill and judgment to select what you consider to be the best five Beatles' numbers, and place the corresponding alphabet letters in each of the five columns. They don't have to be in any particular order of preference. For instance if you consider Long Tall Sally to be one of the Beatles' best numbers, place the letter E in number one column and so on. The result of the compktition will be published in "242" as soon after July 31 as possible. The panel's decision is final. All entries must be on forms from "242".

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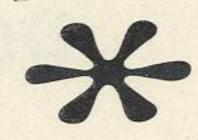
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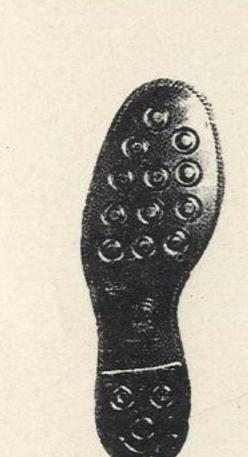
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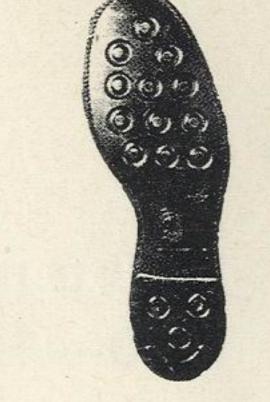
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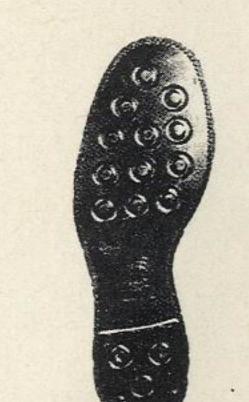


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