

The New Roxette

www.theNewRoxette.com

FREE!

ISSUE THIRTEEN – JUNE/JULY 2010

Paul Weller returns to FR IARS

...saying goodbye to the
Civic Centre in style

also inside this issue...

Keith Price "Ordinary England Fan" • Gravity Blue • West Star Studios
The Wutars • Trace • plus News, Reviews & Interviews...and so much more!

AYLESBURY FESTIVAL SPECIAL EDITION

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If you have some local music news, be it a gig, new album or even if you're looking for a new drummer... - please drop us a line via the website, and we'll do our best to help you spread the word.

Welcome to The New Roxette

...so, who enjoyed **The Last Local Rock Show..???** Fabulous night wasn't it, and quite a fitting way for some of our best up and coming local rock bands to pay a farewell tribute to the Aylesbury Civic Centre in true 'Rock n' Roll fashion, as the curtain falls for the final time on this historic venue on the 5 June!

Well done to all the featured musicians and performers, the crew, the staff and security and of course all the music fans who came along to enjoy and support the gig.

...Of course, before the Aylesbury Civic does close, we also have the last ever Friars Aylesbury Phase-3 gig, featuring the 'Modfather' himself **Mr Paul Weller**, supported at this very special event by Aylesbury hero **John Otway** on 4 June.

Now... That's Entertainment!!!

So, what else have we got coming up for you this month...?

...naturally we at **The New Roxette**, all wish the England Team good luck in the World Cup in South Africa this month, and to help celebrate and support the team, popular local covers band **Charlie Don't Surf**, together with songwriter **Keith Price**, have recorded and released an 'Unofficial World Cup Song', called **"Ordinary England Fan"**. This track is available from 11 June from iTunes and all major digital stores. Read the FULL interview on Page 2.

We also talk to **David Impey** about releasing his own version of Tubular Bells, meet the people behind **West Star Studios** in High Wycombe, and chat to quite a few bands, who will be performing at this summer's Aylesbury Festival in July.

Check out even more News, Reviews & Interviews online, at **theNewRoxette.com** and don't forget, **The New Roxette** is also on **Facebook**, **Myspace**, and **Twitter**..so, JOIN, FOLLOW or become a FAN at any or all of our pages, so you don't miss out on any exciting 'breaking' news!



The New Roxette NEWS ROUND UP

Hobble on the Cobbles 2010 Headliners **The Red Bullets** have just released their first book, **'The Start Of A Long Story'**. This book tells the story of The Red Bullets since the band formed in October 2007 until May 2010. It is the first instalment of the band's journey and gives a first hand and intimate account of the highs and lows the boys encountered whilst setting out on the road as the new band on the block.

The book has been compiled using blog entries, photos, and copies of the band's monthly news updates. Visit: **theredbullets.com** & **blurb.com/bookstore/detail/1314940**

The official album launch and concert for **Tinlin's** brand new offering **"Instant Pleasure"** has been confirmed for 9 June at the Elgiva Theatre in Chesham. Tinlin will be performing their full album, and will also be joined by some very special guests. **myspace.com/tinlinmusic**

MAD About
Waddesdon festival



Aylesbury's **Lost Minute** are one of the favourites performing at this year's **MAD About Waddesdon** summer festival, (held at Waddesdon Manor) on Sunday 27 June, (Lost Minute on stage at 2.10pm).

BJÖRN AGAIN & **The Original Bucks Fizz** will be performing at the Waddesdon Manor "fundraiser" gig 'Music At The Manor' on Friday 25 June, which kick starts the whole weekend festivities. The Full Programme is on their

website (below).

Tickets are £7, and National Trust members can get in free.

waddesdon.org.uk/madaboutwaddesdon

Relay for Life is a wonderful event, where over 24hrs people of all ages join together and become a community to raise awareness about Cancer Research UK. Held once again at the Aylesbury Rugby Football Club on 3 & 4 July.

Bands: **Lost Minute**, **Groov8**, **Mike Carroll**, **Jess**, **All Right Dave**, and **The Dung Beatles** will be performing during the event. For more information visit **relayforlifeaylesbury.org**

The annual **Aylesbury Festival** is back once again this summer – bigger and better and quite possibly louder than ever before... with an amazing and outstanding line-up of talented local bands already confirmed, from the velvet tones and popular covers of **Stone Cold Diva**, to the bluesy rock of **Pearl Handled Revolver**... More on the Aylesbury Festival in this issue...

This free event takes place in Kingsbury (Aylesbury town centre) on 17 & 18 July from 11am – 4pm. Full details are on our website: **theNewRoxette.com**, and **AylesburyFestival.com**

Congratulations to local originals band from Aylesbury, **Almost Midnight** who won the Battle of the Bands Final at The Horn in St Albans last month. Front man, singer and bass player Charlie Wood (who writes all the bands songs) would like to thank all the fans for supporting them over the last few months.

First there were 64 bands and Almost Midnight are chuffed to be crowned 'best band'!

The other band members are Felix Ruiz, from Trinidad on keyboard, Ed Barber on drums and Dan Waters on guitar.

You can see Almost Midnight supporting The Slaves in a big open air summer concert at The Old Albanian Rugby Club, (nr St Albans) on Friday 23rd July at 7.30 pm.

For more information visit almostmidnight.net

Doing your Civic duties



Hundreds of fans had to be turned away last month as tickets went on sale for the last Friars concert at the Aylesbury Civic Centre before closure, featuring the legendary **Paul Weller** and local hero **John Otway**. It was the most in-demand concert for 30 years. The draw of the returning 'Modfather' (making his first Friars appearance since 1980) saw people turning up at the Civic from 1am to ensure they got their

tickets when they went on sale at 11am. By 9:30am, the queue had stretched from the venue to the top of the Market Square, and if people hadn't been turned away with no prospect of securing one of the prized tickets, the queue would have been down the High Street as well!

The queuing, like that of the Genesis and Police gigs of 1980/1982, was full of great camaraderie and

bonhomie and people equipped themselves with chairs and blankets and the reasonable weather certainly kept everyone in good spirits. The remaining tickets, which had been kept back for online sales on the Saturday (15 May) afternoon sold out in less than ten minutes!

For further information, visit the official Friars Aylesbury website aylesburyfriars.co.uk



'Ordinary England Fan' - Keith Price



Charlie Don't Surf

Hi Keith, so, tell us about yourself, and why you've decided to write a football song?

Hello... well, I've played in bands myself between 1978 - 1989. My first band was called "Deli Deli & the Sweaty Turban Five", then we went on to become "Mortal Disguise", and then believe it or not "Sleazy Adults"...! I gave up the band lifestyle in 1989 so I could concentrate on my songwriting, and I first had the idea of releasing a World Cup song during the last World Cup.

The track is an adaptation of a popular '80's track. Can you tell us about this?

I used to play the original song "Jimmy Brown" in one of my bands, and always loved the track, so I set about writing new words for the England Football Team to fit the melody and marry the songs together. The original track was a big hit in the '80's, for a band called Heavy Metal Kids which formed in 1974. The band featured singer Gary Holton, a spectacular front-man, and with his raucous cockney accent he proved himself a popular cult glam-rock icon of the age. Gary also recorded a solo single (which became a number one hit in Norway, a stunning punk-country version

hit comedy drama Auf Wiedersehen Pet becoming a household name).

The track was also released by Michael Monroe, who is best known as the vocalist of Finnish glam metal/punk band Hanoi Rocks.

Who wrote the original track? Naturally you've received permission to record this 'new version'?

Of course, I contacted the original composer and writer of the track, a Norwegian called Casino Steel, to ask his permission for us to adapt his song in this way. He's fully endorsed it, so we're ready to go... and I hope you enjoy it...!

Tell us about your backing band...

*I've been good friends with Nick Maher (guitarist of popular local covers band **Charlie Don't Surf**), who has played in all my previous bands, and Jim Endersby (who plays bass in the same band) has played in several of my previous bands as well.*

I then met the rest of the guys, Dennis Hall (drums), Mark Varney (vocals), and not forgetting Sue Archer and Jackie Green, the bands backing vocalists. They had exactly the right sound I was looking for, and

of Kenny Rogers's "Ruby, Don't Take Your Love To Town" with the Boys' keyboardist Casino Steel, with whom he would later write a song simply titled "Auf Wiedersehen Pet" about his experiences in the show. (...Gary played the part of Wayne Winston Norris in the smash*

together we recorded this track at Rockhopper Studios in Buckingham. That was great fun indeed - if you've not been there I would recommend to every band to check them out!!!

We also recorded the video over there too, to support the single.

It's been great fun, and I hope the Country will get behind this single, and of course the England team, and support them in the World Cup... Come on England!!!

You can buy and download the song "Ordinary England Fan" as a computer download, or via mobile phone. Also available via iTunes and all major digital stores from 11 June.

In my view the song just can't be beaten as a 'footy song' it's got everything you would expect... catchy sing-along choruses, memorable lyrics and a song you just can't get outta your head!!!

For more information on how you can download the song, or listen to a sample of the track

Visit the band Charlie Don't Surf's Official Website:

**myspace.com/charliedontsurfband
myspace.com/wintersunrecordsofficial**

To buy this track with SMS, users should text: track 5731 to 80818

(Texts cost £1, which includes operator revenue share. UK only)

To buy this track with SMS for 'Direct to Mobile' download, users should

text: track 5731 m to 80818

(Texts cost £1, which includes operator revenue share. UK only)



**Wintersun Records
wintersunrecords.com**

**"Ordinary England Fan"
Released: 11 June 2010 (3pm)**

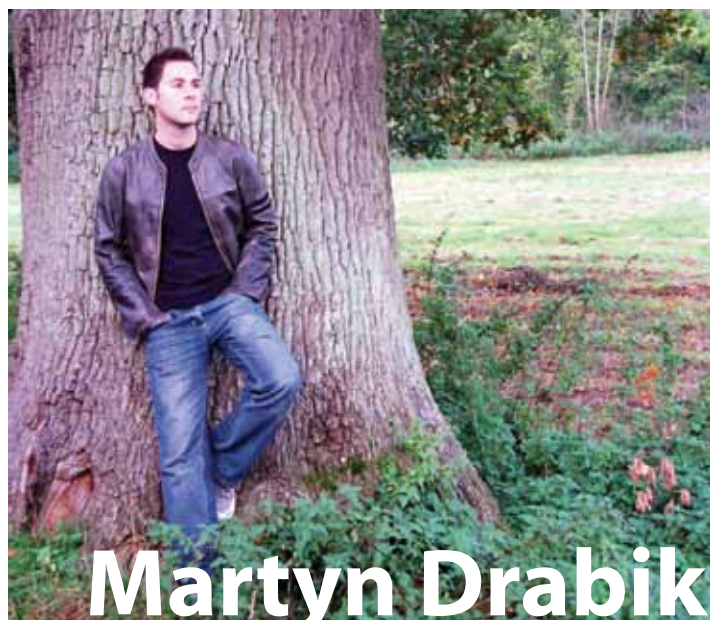
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- Flexible solutions • Finishing touches



For a FREE Download of their new track "White Fades To Black" visit the Official Website: www.musicglue.com/lostminuteofficial.

www.musicglue.com/lostminuteofficial

www.myspace.com/lostminute



Martyn Drabik

Hi Martyn, please introduce yourself to our readers, tell us who you are, what you sound like and what you've been up to so far this year...

My name is Martyn Drabik, I'm 26 and I'm a singer-songwriter from Chorleywood, Herts. My music has been described as Soulful Pop/Rock. In my teens I grew up listening to Grunge music as I'd just caught the tail end of the Grunge era in the mid 90's. My favourite bands were Nirvana, Bush, Foo Fighters and the relatively unknown Aussie band 'Silverchair', which were my ultimate favourite! Once I had started Uni in 2002 I started to revert back to listening to music that my parents used to play in our old front room when I was a kid. This included greats such as Michael Jackson, Genesis, Sting, Phil Collins, Stevie Wonder to name but a few. I then discovered Dave Matthews Band... I guess you could say there are a lot of different influences in my music!

Towards the end of last year I independently recorded, produced and released my debut album 'Just a Phase' which is out now on iTunes

and AmazonMP3. The album is a canvas of personal experiences I have encountered over the years. Finding love, losing love, good times and the bad, political views and personal relationships.

What are your plans for 2010?

My plans for 2010 are to record and complete my 2nd album, and just keep gigging. I love performing and sharing my music with people, there's no better high than that!

What is your most memorable (musical) moment so far?

Being flown out to Poland last year to perform at a big corporate opening for a new building. That was good fun! There was snow everywhere when I arrived, a fantastic crowd and the venue had been setup in the theme of a traditional English Pub!

Check out Martyn on the web...

martyndrabik.com
myspace.com/martyndrabik
reverbNation.com/martyndrabik



We are Thinking For Tuesday, Karen (Lead Vocal), Will (Guitar, Backing Vocal), Tom (Guitar, Backing Vocal), Chris (Drums) and Barny (Bass, Backing Vocal). We have been described as 'Radio Rock with a grunge heritage' and so far this year we've been writing new songs and playing Gigs across the country.

What are your plans for 2010?

We are currently promoting our Album which we recorded last year and trying to play for as many people as possible, and have fun while we're at it!

What is your most memorable band moment so far?

There are far too many... We've managed to play some rather fantastic festivals; like the Big Bike Bash, in the New Forest last summer was fantastic, and BMAD which was on Paignton Seafront this summer, just fantastic places and great crowds, and of course a couple of years ago playing in the courtyard of Aylesbury's King Head, - a fantastic atmosphere! And of course there was leaving the Studio at 5am after spending a week recording and mixing with the masters for our Album! And there was also the Support Slot we did with Sham 69, awesome night with lots of crazy Punk fans!

If you could have any superhero power what would it be?

...a Super sense of detecting when is and is not an appropriate time to say things, if you want to know more about that we do a weekly podcast, which is available on iTunes and you can also get to it from our website!

thinkingfortuesday.com
myspace.com/thinkingfortuesday



Michael Lee

My name is Michael Lee and I am a local solo artist with a sound that mixes the delicate textures of Jeff Buckley with the sophistication of Sting. So far this year I have formed a new line-up to take my songs live again and with that I have been busy gigging on the local scene as well as playing a handful of London shows.

What are your plans for 2010?

The first plan I have this year is to get back in to the studio to work on my new material, which is shaping up to be very exciting and a step forward for my sound. I am also currently booking dates for a tour later in the year to support the new material I have. Aside from recording and touring I will spend all my free time finding ways to increase my fan base.

What is your most memorable (musical) moment so far?

The biggest moment of my career so far is winning album of the month in the September edition of Sound on Sound, which is the UK's biggest selling music technology magazine. The prize I won was having 1000 CD's pressed of my album 'Face Forward'

You mentioned you have an album called 'Face Forward'. Tell us about it and where it is available for purchase?

Face Forward was released last year and has been received well. The album is mainly centred around melodic pop songs with an added dose of instrumental flair. The album is available from download stores such as iTunes, Amazon and Tesco digital. The CD version is available at my live shows as well as from my online store, which can be accessed from my official site or from my Myspace.

michaellee.co.uk
myspace.com/michaelleeuk

Instant Pleasure 9 JUNE 2010



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11.06.2010 This track is available from 11 June from iTunes and all major digital stores.

Ordinary England Fan
Ek Het Jou Lief
Ngiyakuthanda
words and music by
Steele & Price

Performed by
Keith Price & Charlie Don't Surf

Read the **FULL** interview on **Page 2.**

myspace.com/charliedontsurfband



Claire Batchelor
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{The Scholars}

Hello! We're The Scholars and we're an alternative rock band from North Oxfordshire. We are influenced by a huge amount of music, but the ones that are perhaps reflected most obviously in

our music are that of Editors, Interpol, The Killers and a deluge of 80s post-punk and synth-pop. Since we started bothering people with our 'noise' we've set to work at taking over the world by

gigging everywhere that'll take us and earning our keep as a solid live band by supporting Two Door Cinema Club, Chapel Club, The Cinematics, Animal Kingdom and by sharing festival bills with Supergrass, Ash, The Big Pink and many more.

We were first introduced to the delights of Aylesbury last year at Music in the Market - headlining the 'Young Bands' stage on a freakishly hot day. The market was packed and we got a great reaction so Aylesbury Festival is something we're greatly looking forward to. Hope to see you there!

What are your plans for 2010?

As of the summer we are all finished in terms of our academics so we are going to make a proper go of this music lark as of mid-June! Our plans for the autumn involve touring as much as is physically possible and putting out some sort of larger release in Autumn - we're hoping

that'll be a five-track EP. In the near future we're going to be releasing 'Blood Runs Blue' over the summer as a free download to keep things ticking over and we'll be hitting the festival season hard over the summer.

What is your most memorable band moment so far?

Everytime we play a gig (often to an audience who have never heard of us and are waiting to see the touring headline act) and they really get into it. We love meeting new people and just generally hanging out. The same goes for other bands: The network of friends and allies we've built up in such a short space of time is unreal as people and bands are always doing favours for us and we'll always do the same for them.

facebook.com/thescholarsofficial
myspace.com/thescholarsofficial



Palahniuk

We are Palahniuk (pronounced Pal-ah-nook) - Andrew Ralph (Writer, vocals and guitar), Shaun Potterton (Bass and backing vocals) and Chris Ralph (Drums and Backing vocals) - and we mainly play Indie style pop/rock music.

There's upbeat songs and more serious songs in our sets, but all of them have catchy melodies that will stay with you for some time! We've been really busy this year with our feature on 'BBC Three Counties Introducing' in April, and

playing for the first time in Stevenage, headlining the well-known Jericho Tavern in Oxford, Dublin Castle in London, a fantastic gig at Princes Risborough Youth Centre and so many more.

What are your plans for 2010?

A couple of these I can't tell you as we want them to be a surprise - ...but I can tell you that we're currently recording some songs with producer / songwriter / musician Johnny Di Girolamo [myspace.com/johnnydigiolamo], and looking forward to recording a video with director Sean Scott of Fat Apollo Pictures.

What is your most memorable band moment so far?

It has to be playing live on the radio for BBC Introducing. We were nervous

about making sure everything was played without a hitch, which it did, and just playing to listeners and our fan base in a way that's not a gig - although playing to an enthusiastic crowd is one of the best things about being in a band.

What would you like to see more of in Aylesbury in terms of the music scene?

More for under 18's! There's next to no local gigging venues or major support for local bands, which under 18's can't get into. It would be good to see more venues for gigs and practice spaces for local talent of any form (theatre, art etc) which everyone can get to, watch and be a part of. It would also be good to see more advertising for local gigs up and around town so that more people notice what's around. Music should be available and accessible to everyone.

myspace.com/palahniukmusic

For more news and reviews visit us online:
theNewRoxette.com

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Pearl Handled Revolver



Pearl Handled Revolver have the Blues. Not the slow, mournful Blues sat on a porch bemoaning hard luck, bad signs and ill fated liaisons at cross roads. Nor the 12 bars hammered into mediocrity like spilled beer and nicotine into the carpets of pubs up and down the country. No! Pearl Handled Revolver peddle Blues that gatecrash your head and your heart

and won't leave until you've abandoned all your inhibitions, sweated out the bad times, re-discovered the wild eyed stare of those utterly in the moment and danced, not because you wanted to but because you had to. The Blues isn't about history, safety, tradition and convention. It permeates everything. It's primal, visceral, raw and dirty and you WILL be moved.

Hi Guys, thanks for talking to The New Roxette. Tell us, what have you been up to so far this year..?

So far, in less than a year, we've released Three EP's - (the third to be released shortly). All are available on iTunes, CD Baby and all major digital stores.

We were the Winners of the Fuzztopia/ Nascar Competition.

We released the full feature video for "Today Was The Day".

Air Play on BBC Radio - Tom Robinson Show / Sue Marchant Show.

Three Counties Live performance Fri 21st May

What are your plans for 2010?

To complete EP "Three" and prepare for our first official Album release.

...and of course, to ensure that our live shows continue to be the creative explosion our audiences have come to expect, above

and beyond!

We have a number of key festivals, and gigs coming up this summer (for full listings visit our websites), most notably:

Summer Fayre Festival - alongside Wilko Johnson (Dr. Feelgood)

Headlining the prestigious Troubadour, Earl's Court, London

The Rhythm Festival - alongside 10CC, Arlo Guthrie, etc

..and of course Aylesbury Festival..!

What is your most memorable band moment so far?

Possibly our first gig...we played a handful of our earliest numbers in front of a host of celebrities.... Jon Lord chatted to us for some time after the gig, saying how much he and Ian enjoyed our performance.... and Melvin Bragg recommended "...the chocolate covered cones..." from the ice cream van while a rhinoceros trundled down a railway track behind him!! How bazaar is that?

Tom Waits, Captain Beefheart and Creedence Clearwater Revival would all like to work with you on your next album... who do you choose?

All of them...we'll make three albums!!!

pearlhandledrevolver.co.uk
myspace.com/pearlhandledrevolver

re:trace

The New Roxette caught up with local musician David Impey (aka 'Trace') who is releasing his latest album "Under Cover" on 15 June.

Hi David, please introduce yourself to our readers: who are you, and what have you been up to recently..?

I am pretty happy to admit I have been something of a slow starter. I have been doing production work and soundtrack composition for quite a few years now. The commissions were for various corporate offerings such as cruise holidays (I composed the music for a well-known company's promo DVD), sherry, paint, insurance, you name it... I also won an award a few years back for the music I did for a series of films to train doctors and nurses on Breaking the 'Bad News' to patients or - more heart-rendingly - the patient's parents. Not a dry eye in the house...

I've done a bit of TV work as well - documentaries mainly - and some tracks I wrote for library use ended up being used by channels in various countries. I had a brief period of guilty pleasure when I heard that one track (an 11-minute monster with a rather, er... thumpy riff) had been picked up by a Dutch channel. Rather than being used for anything salacious, the channel in question turned out to be a perfectly respectable terrestrial channel. My big break into the porn industry remains, as yet, unfulfilled!

I've done a fair bit of band work around the country, but I try to hide at the back of the stage behind a barricade of keyboards making sarky comments to the singer. If

only we could harness that power output: all you have to say quietly is 'You sang that last verse flat' and they burst into flames.

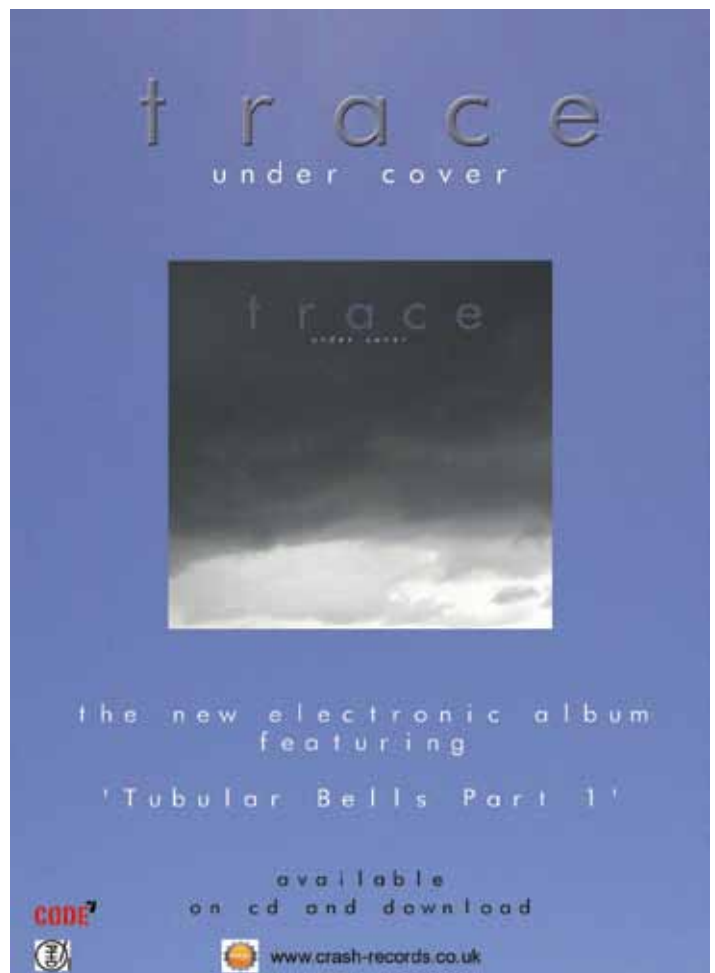
I started the Trace project about two years ago and was delighted when Crash Records signed the project up at the start of the year. Whilst it is a solo project at the moment, future outings will include other musicians. This is resulting in a new crop of tracks I've written, which are a bit more dance-oriented - Trace is not exclusively a covers act - the plan is to release these early next year.

You are releasing a cover of Mike Oldfield's "Tubular Bells" on 15 June, along with a couple other tracks on your latest album. Why did you decide to do a cover of this incredibly famous track, and how does it differ from the original?

The glib answer is: because it was there! Truth be told, I went and saw Mike Oldfield perform it live quite a few years back and he funk'd it up a bit. That then gave me the idea of going the whole hog and doing a complete rearrangement of the piece. I sat on the project for a few years until, one year, my partner fell badly ill and was in hospital for a couple of months (she's fighting fit now, thank Heavens). Rather than rot my brain in front of the telly, I had a bash at reworking the opening part and, encouraged by the results, carried on going.

tracetracks.co.uk
crash-records.co.uk

For the FULL Interview visit
theNewRoxette.com



West Star Studios



All the studios are equipped with high class equipment, drums, PA, mikes, backline, stages, mirrors, wooden floors etc. We also have a large reception area with a cafe selling hot & cold food and drinks at very reasonable prices

Please tell our readers all about West Star Studios (High Wycombe), and please introduce yourselves.

Hi, my name is Keith and together with my partner Eve we built **West Star Rehearsal Studios** last year, which took 3 months and finally opened in July 2009. We are both professional musicians, I have been playing drums since I left school (...many moons ago). I've been in bands including **The Sweet** (their hits include Blockbuster, Fox On The Run, Ballroom Blitz), **The First Class**, who had a number one hit called Beach Baby, and **Mud**, who had hits Tiger Feet, Lonely This Christmas. Recently I have been playing drums with a Searchers tribute act. Eve (originally from Denmark) has sung with many big bands in Denmark. We decided to set

up West Star Studios as we felt there was nowhere decent to rehearse locally, and it took us two years to find the right premises. The studios are located in Oakridge Road, High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire, (behind the White Horse pub) on the A40.

At present we have six fully equipped rehearsal studios and hope to open another two studios later this year.

What else does the studio offer?

All the studios are equipped with high class equipment, drums, PA, mikes, backline, stages, mirrors, wooden floors etc. We also have a large reception area with a cafe selling hot & cold food and drinks at very reasonable prices, plus accessories including, strings, sticks, plectrums as well. The reception area also includes a pool table, football table, toilets, leather settees, MTV, heating etc, and outside there is a covered smoking area and a huge private car park that holds 80 cars.

Are there any local bands who have rehearsed at the studios recently? Who should we be looking out for?

There are loads of talented local bands coming out of High Wycombe and surrounding areas at the moment, bands that rehearse at West Star and to watch out for include: **Subrosa 5, X'ces, 48 Krash, The New Foundations, The Original Sinners, Against All Odds, The Trawlers, New Era, Fish Out Of Water, Bookclub, Andy de Rossa**, plus so many more, it's a great time for live bands again!

Is there anything else you'd like to add?

When we set up West Star Rehearsal Studios we had the intention of helping local talent to come and rehearse as cheaply as possible with maximum comfort, somewhere they could come and rehearse, relax and feel comfortable, with the feedback we have had from our clients since we opened its been nothing but positive and I like to think we have achieved exactly what we set out to do, check us out at:

weststarstudios.com - 01494-512511



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www.AylesburyShowcase.com

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Aylesbury Festival 2010

Saturday 17 July & Sunday 18 July
Kingsbury, Aylesbury Town Centre - 11am-4pm

Saturday 17	Sunday 18
 Groov8 Michael Lee Martyn Drabik Evaney Thinking for Tuesday TR8R	 Stone Cold Diva Gravily Blue {The Scholars} ALIGHT palahniuk Glyn Devey

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Gravity Blue



What are your plans for 2010?

We're looking to push the album hard this year: lots of gigging and promotion to get that out there to people. We're also looking forward to writing some new material for that proverbial 'difficult' second album too!

What is your most memorable band moment so far?

Holding an actual copy of 'Breakthrough'. We've invested an immense amount of time and effort into making a record we can all be proud of; to finally have a concrete end product was deeply satisfying.

Please introduce our readers to your band; tell us who you are, what you sound like and what you've been up to so far this year...

We are Gravity Blue! We'd describe our sound as being formed from the best bits of indie music from the last 20 years with a strong leaning towards classic pop music. It's been a busy year, what with finishing off our debut album and gearing up to play some big gigs like the Aylesbury Festival and 'Hobble on the Cobbles' later this year. Our residency slot at the Goldhawk pub in Shepherd's Bush has really taken off these last few months and we've been putting a lot of work into making that a real showpiece for us and giving people something a bit special every third Friday of the month.

Can you sum up your new album in one sentence?

A healthy slice of uplifting indie pop loveliness..!

Which other bands have people likened your sound to?

We've had some great compliments from people likening elements of our sound to U2, Manic Street Preachers, 'A Happy' Editors, Embrace, Joy Division, Doves, Keane and more. All bands we love, so that's fine with us!

gravityblue.co.uk
facebook.com/gravityblue
myspace.com/gravityblueuk

the Wutars

Please introduce our readers to your band; tell us who you are, what you sound like and what you've been up to so far this year...

We're 5 lads refusing to succumb to small town nothingness; we are The Wutars. We're from all over the shop really. Maz our guitarist is from Middlesbrough. Alex, our singer, and myself (Sam) are from the beautiful West Midlands. Vally our bassist is from Hertford and Kewie on acoustic guitar is from the town we're all based in now - High Wycombe. Our influences are very varied, but we all come round to similar stuff after a few bevs! The Beatles, Stones, The Smiths, Great Blind Degree, the list is endless to be honest... Trust me when I say we take our influences from the great and the good. So far this year we've been taking our troubadour scuzz-punk malarkey to the masses, packing out places like Death Disco at Notting Hill Arts Club, Camden Barfly and The Lexington for the first ever Word Magazine 'Word In Your Ear' gig with Pugwash, along with various other venues around the country. Alex has just been interviewed by Steve Lamacq for BBC 6Music too which was great. He requested to speak to us after seeing us smash the hell out of the aforementioned 'Word In Your Ear' gig!

What are your plans for 2010?

Gig, Record, Tour. We're playing a couple of festivals over the next few months too, most notably with Billy Bragg and The Damned at the Rhythm Festival in August. That should be smashing, splendid and tremendous. There might also be an opportunity for us to head back out to play in Europe again before the end of the year if things go well....

What is your most memorable moment with the band so far?

Personally, playing sold out shows in both Stockholm and Bruges was incredible. The latter made all the more amazing because we took over a coach-load of friends and fans and had support from a few of our favourite bands and artists at that time, The Little Vileins, The Shebeats and the brilliant Suzanne Elizabeth Marron. The whole day

was mad though... - bus, forgotten passport, sex tips from Cosmopolitan, ferry, bus, arrive, soundcheck, gig, booze, sleep (for 45mins) and then home. In the last 9 months or so we've been chosen by BBC Radio London as Band and Track Of The Week, and in October the Mirror published an article proclaiming us one of the top 4 most vital bands in the country, and have mentioned us again since then too. That, I can assure you, is mint..!

You can also catch up on all their latest news and gossip via Facebook and Twitter. Their Debut EP 'EP1' is out now on Very Decent Music and can be ordered via their website or on iTunes. **AND... The Wutars are headlining a very special gig at The Hop Pole (Aylesbury) on 3 July as part of Indie Rocks... so make sure you don't miss these guys play such a great local and intimate venue.**



wutars.com
myspace.com/wutars

GRAVITY BLUE QUICK-FIRE FIVE

The "Best Thing" is... Playing to a room (or in a field) full of appreciative people. Trite but true!

I would like to "Breakthrough"... The current 'Fame-Idol's-Got-British-Talent-Academy' stranglehold on the pop charts. Much as there's a place for straight-up entertainment, a lot of what's being served up to the public is decidedly iffy quality, and the current travails of the music industry can be traced back to the direly formulaic nature of what's being offered up. People deserve better basically and there is a groundswell of grass-roots acts coming up right now to supplant that with some actual substance.

The last song I wrote is called... The last completed song was 'Morning Light', our fairly epic album closer. That was quite something to work on and a real challenge for us to paint on such a large canvas with that song.

Alex - I've been working on a new track 'Ready for the Fall'. It's an upbeat, jangly, indie-pop song at the minute but I can't wait to see how it starts sounding with the full band once everyone starts putting their own spin on it.

I'm looking forward to...

This year's crop of summer festivals is going to be amazing... they're always a fantastic experience; a chance to reach a lot of people with our music and to enjoy new acts ourselves that we might not get to hear otherwise. A few beers in the sunshine never goes amiss either.

You should check out our brand new album "Breakthrough" because...

You are a discerning, sexy person who likes discerning sexy person music. Order your copy from the Gravity Blue website today, you know it makes sense..!



Kyle leaves in June



As you know, The Red Bullets have come a long way over the past two and a half years (yes folks, that's all it is!) and this has been down to the unbreakable bond and musical synergy the four

guys, Pete, Mark, Wheeler and Kyle have enjoyed. So it is with deep regret that we announce that in addition to Wheeler leaving the band as a result of his terrible back problem, Kyle will also be moving on at the end of June.

Kyle joined the band shortly after his 20th birthday, fresh out of Guitar Tech in London where had been studying his craft alongside some of the finest talent in the country. He has grown with the band and become a favourite up and down the country with the ladies and some of the guys.

However, with the advent of The Red Bullets debut album and Wheeler's impending departure, Kyle has had time to reflect upon his ambitions and the path he wants to take. He has grown a great deal over the past two and a half years and in doing so discovered his own directions and in an act of fairness to the band and it's loyal fans, he has decided now is the time to move on, causing minimum disruption to the album and allowing the band to find his replacement in time for the commencement of recording.

"The last couple of years have given me so much, not least, three great friends and the opportunity to

meet so many great people. Looking back at our tours like Dubai and the Alps I have some fantastic memories. Being in The Red Bullets has been a way of life, and something I will remember for the rest of my life, but I've decided that it's time for me to start moving in a new direction. You can't buy the experience I've gained over the past two and a half years, and I'll always be grateful to you all for your support. I also wish the boys well, and it's been fantastic to play with some of the best musicians around. I'm sure the boys and I will play together again in the future, and I'm pleased to say that this is one of the few occasions, as with Wheeler, when someone leaves a band with no hard feelings."

The band has had a few weeks to consider how best to go forward and we're delighted to announce that The Red Bullets new guitarist can now be announced as Jim Bennion. Jim will be no stranger to music fans in the Buckingham/Oxford/London area as the son of Ben who fronts veteran rockers Freeway Jam. Jim has played alongside his father on numerous occasions when he has a moment spare outside of playing for Culture Club on tour, and festival favourites, Leatherat. It was essential that any new guitarist had the calibre, musical ability, enthusiasm, and importantly, the right personality to join such a, shall we say, sociable band. He also loves the music and, already in rehearsals, has begun to make his mark on the music, infusing his own influences into the classic Red Bullets style.



Without doubt, Pete and Mark are gutted to be losing two of their closest friends from the band, but having started the new album this week at Rockfield, they're also looking forward and can't wait for you to hear Jim. We hope to have news on Wheeler's replacement soon. Kyle & Wheeler's last public gigs will be on Sat 12th June, Ashburton, Devon.

The New Roxette would like to wish Wheeler, and Kyle, and The Red Bullets all the very best for the future, and we look forward to seeing you all again very soon.

THE RED BULLETS WILL HEADLINE HOBBLE ON THE COBBLES 2010 BANK HOLIDAY SUNDAY 29 AUGUST 2010 AYLESBURY SHOWCASE.COM

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