

Rod Stewart, Bowie, The Stanglers, Frampton Film The Commodores, Nils Lofgren, Status Quo and lots more.

SMALL STUFF

The Latest and the Greatest Rock News

Julie Covington, who's made her name through the hit "Don't Cry for Me Argentina" and her starring role in the TV series *Rock Follies*, is to record a solo album later this year. The producer will probably be John Simon who's previously worked with The Band and John Hartford among others ... new albums on the way over the next few months include: **The Stranglers** — whose second LP, *No More Heroes*, follows their highly successful debut, *IV Rattus Norvegicus*, which has racked up sales of over 200,000 in Britain to make them by far the biggest album sellers of the British new wave so far. **Graham Parker and the Rumour's** new album, *Stick To Me*, is due for October release overseas ...

while Lowell George is working on the *Little Feat* live LP as producer, as well as preparing his first solo LP for release. The solo project will include versions of Allen Toussaint's, "What Do You Want the Girl To Do" (already recorded by Toussaint, Bonnie Raitt, Boz Scaggs and Geoff Muldaur — to name but four) as well as material by Fred Tackett and Jackson Browne. Bill Payne asserts that Lowell has hit a 'dry spell' as far as writing is concerned, hence the large amount of borrowed material ... **The Commodores** are still on the US leg of the same tour that brought them to Godzone earlier this year. The natural follow-up to all this live exposure is, of course, a live album - what's more it's a double (of



Lionel Richie, Commodores.

course) — and should see US release in mid-October ... **Nils Lofgren** also weighs in with a double-live recorded at dates in the States and Britain. Nils is mixing it at present ... **Electric Light Orchestra** are also working on a double album, but it's a studio outing for them ... meanwhile the on-again-off-again **Gregg Allman** and **Cher** duet album is ... on-again. A rumour that it is to be titled *Allman and Woman* (groan) could not be confirmed ... and **Rod Stewart** and **Britt Ekland's** relationship, which is now off, will cost young Rod over 1,400 pounds a week until, the court case decides who gets what ... EMI, the company who fired the Sex Pistols, have signed a British band led by gay, Tom Robinson. The **Tom Robinson Band** have recorded for forthcoming release a single entitled "Glad To Be Gay" ... singer for **The Runaways**, Cherie Currie, follows bassist Jackie Fox in quitting the band. Internal squabbles appear to be a major reason ... the musical film, *Sergeant Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band*, now has a director. It's Michael Schultz (who?) who'll direct Peter Frampton, the Bee Gees and a cast of thousands — all financed by Robert Stigwood ... **Ace**, the band who broke through with one great single, — "How Long" — only to disappear again, seem to have called it a day. There's been no official announcement but, currently, Ace mem-

bers are engaged in outside projects. Paul Carrack is playing with **Frankie Miller**, while Tex Comer is in the band put together by the **Sutherland Borthers and Quiver** for touring purposes ... others in the Sutherlands temporary touring band include Alan Ross on guitar & Mick Weaver on keyboards. On their new album, *Down To Earth*, the Sutherlands augmented the basic three piece with session musicians Brian Bennett and Mick Grabham ... **Wayne Kramer**, ex-MC 5 guitarist, who's currently serving a 4 year sentence in Lexington Penitentiary in the good ol' US of A for trafficking in cocaine, has a single released overseas. Distributed by two independent British labels, Stiff Records and Chiswick, they've printed a limited edition of 10,000 and all proceeds go to a fund to give Kramer some cash on his release ... **David Bowie** is to make another film. This one's to be directed by Clive Donner whose past work includes *What's New Pussycat*, *Luv* and *Here We Go Round the Mulberry Bush* ... **Ritchie Blackmore's Rainbow** have found the missing two members for their line-up. Joining the basic unit of Blackmore, Cozy Powell and James Ronnie Dio are new members Bob Daisley (late of Chicken Shack and Widowmaker) on bass and David Stone on keyboards ... **Status Quo** have revamped and re-shaped their stage act. The live album was the end of an era, they assert, and they're recording a new album in Sweden for release later this year. Does that mean no more "Roll Over, Lay Down"? Promise? ... famed early British rock'n'roll band **The Pirates** — as in Johnny Kidd and the Pirates — have reformed. They've recorded their debut return album for Warners and it's called *Out of Their Skulls* ... the **Kursaal Flyers** have now lost pedal steel player Vic Collins. He's replaced in the band by a rhythm guitarist, Johnny Wicks ... **Jimmy McCulloch**, guitarist in Paul McCartney's Wings, has quit to join the reformed Small Faces. Meanwhile, Wings are off the road because of Linda McCartney's pregnancy, but a new album is due later this year ... **Bowie's** new LP, recorded in Berlin, sees overseas release this month ... **Split Enz's** new style, "My Mistake", will be released in Britain as a 12" maxi single, at least for the first 10,000 copies. Thereafter it'll be your common 7" job ... much-awaited **Joan Armatrading** album has also hit the shops overseas. Titled **Show Some Emotion**, it includes backing musicians Tim Hinkley, Georgie Fame, Jerry Donahue and the Small Faces drummer, Kenny Jones ... **Ry Cooder** has fired his Tex-Mex musicians, the Chicken Skin band after "disagreements" ... Ex-Roxy music guitarist **Phil Manzanera** has completed his second solo album with the aid of various firends including Lol Creme and Kevin Godley late of 10cc (who feature on gizmo and voices), Eno and Eddie Jobson. A touring band will be put together once the album is released ...

RIP IT UP Vol. 1, No.5, October 1977. Edited by Alastair Dougal and designed by Murray Cammick. Typeset by City Typesetters and printed by Putaruru Press.

Summer Festival Rock

What live music will the summer bring? With the exception of Fleetwood Mac in November, the identity of overseas acts appearing in New Zealand is a mystery. The live music event of the summer may not be an overseas act's one night stand but the *Nambassa Festival*. This Festival of Music, Crafts and Alternatives, will take place January 28th to 30th at Golden Valley near Waihi.

The Nambassa Trust, a non-profit organisation, staged the successful *Waikino All Day Music Festival* last summer. Their site this year is larger and near the coast. The organisers with the assistance of community

groups will provide facilities and food for a crowd far in excess of last year's 3000.

The main stage will operate for 15 hours a day and seventy percent of the performers on this stage will be rock acts. *Nambassa* should be a big event not only for people who are into music but also for people into handcrafted goods and alternative living. The Festival's top acts, local and overseas, will mainly appear at night when activity ceases in the handcrafts market and alternative living workshops.

If you want to know more, read future Rip It Ups or write to *Nambassa Festival* P.O. Box 113, Waihi.

Kiwis Hit Australia Big-Time

A number of New Zealand bands are striking success in Australia at this moment, so here we've assembled everything we could find happening with expatriate kiwis in Ocker land.

Mother Goose have signed to Australia's Mushroom label and their first album, *Stuffed*, is soon to be released. Originating from Dunedin, Mother Goose made some impact on the New Zealand rock scene in late '75 and early '76 before moving to Australia in October of last year. They started working in Queensland and then moved down to Melbourne where they caught the eye of the Mushroom people. Their theatrical stage act has, of course, won them comparison with Split Enz, and caused several commentators to call the sanity of the average New Zealander into doubt. No matter, it has enabled the band to make an instant impact on Australian audiences, and the album and single, "Baked Beans" are predicted to sell well.

Dragon, with one Australian recorded album behind them and two successful singles, are rapidly becoming one of Australia's top acts. They get their picture in the *Australian Woman's Weekly*, no less. Now they've been signed to the Portrait label which guarantees them international release alongside such other Portrait acts as Burton Cummings, Joan Baez and Heart. Meanwhile, ex-Dragon guitarist **Ray Goodwin** features in a band signed to the Mushroom label who go by the name of Punkz. They've already recorded a couple of singles under the direction of ex-Easybeats, Vanda and Young.

Split Enz are also off to conquer Australia on their most extensive tour of that country to date. They play 15 dates there before moving on to Bri-

tain for a 21 date tour. They return to NZ in December and over January and February will probably record their fourth album in Wellington.

Collision, featuring **Dalvanius** and **The Fascinations**, have just completed an Australian tour supporting Tina Turner. **Collision** moved to Australia in February this year and have already signed a 5 year recording deal with Festival, Australia. A single was released to coincide with the tour and both Dalvanius and Collision have been involved with session work with Aussie artists.

Mark Williams and **Alan Galbraith** have also moved across the Tasman and will now be based in Melbourne. Their original intention to establish Mark in Australia while maintaining their base in New Zealand proved to be unrealistic and, with the expiry of Mark's contract with EMI, he's signed to CBS, Australia. Their intention is to form a backing band for Mark and to work in Australia before recording there. Alan Galbraith will relinquish Mark's management but will remain as record producer via his new job as staff producer and A & R man for CBS. There's a possibility Mark Williams will do a New Zealand tour early next year.

Other emigrants doing well in Australia are **Peter Cuddihy** and **Andrew Kay**. Both are ex-members of Auckland bands Human Instinct, Street Talk and Vox Pop, and now Andrew (keyboards) and Peter (bass) have joined Australian star guitarist, Phil Manning, in the Manning-Keays band. The band has already completed a single and they're working on an album to be produced by David Hitchcock who did the honours on Genesis' *Foxtrot* album among others. Thereafter the band hit the road with work around Australia.

Sleeping Dogs

Sleeping Dogs, New Zealand's first full-length, feature film made in some time also boasts a totally indigenous soundtrack. Already on release as a single on EMI are two songs taken from the movie and performed and written by Murray Grindlay. The A side is "Don't Look Back" with a flip of "Night-train to Waiuku". Due for late September release is *The Sleeping Dogs Original Soundtrack* which will, of course, feature the two songs on the single as well as two other songs from Murray Grindlay, two from Mark Williams and one from Josie Rikka. Dave Calder and Mathew Brown, who wrote the bulk of the incidental music for the movie, have one track. The album is produced by Alan Galbraith.

Sleeping Dogs, based on C.K. Stead's book *Smith's Dream*, is perhaps best described as a political thriller set in some unknown future time when New Zealand is in social turmoil and a violent guerilla movement emerges.

Made at a cost of \$450,000 it's the first ever colour 35mm film made in New Zealand and goes into commercial release on October 7.