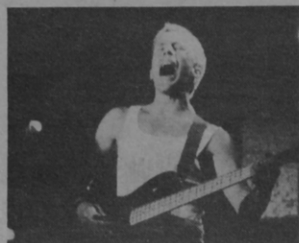


'HUNTERS' FROM PAGE 14

If you've ever owned a decent leather jacket you'll know just how special a few bits of black cowhide can become. The jacket has moulded itself to you to the extent that it's like walking round in your favourite armchair. Feeling a little worried? Confused? Tired? Lonely? Scared? Like a baaaaad security blanket that jacket'll make you feel better. And now my jacket was gone.

It was hard to pierce the confusion and undertake a thorough investigation in the time we had left



John Archer, Auckland Uni.

before heading north and we rolled outta town without my jacket. I felt very sick.

The News with the Bullet (IN)

And now for the news, read by 'Arry Ratbag ...

● Two well-known Auckland DJs 'ave given up looking for a new club and gone from spinning discs to spilling drinks.

● The Mockers go overseas in Andrew Fagan's boat.

Estimated date of arrival on Kawau Island April 30.

● Car Crash Set travel to Wellington by train and get served beers by 40-year-old fruits. Arrive to find 'otel run by gang members, lighting company by scaffolders, pub by Italians and whole city by thugs and politicians.

● Police arrest and charge Dave Dobbyn with inciting a riot. They then take things one step further and arrest entire city council, Hugh Lynn, the whole staff of 89FM (MMM) and all the riot police involved. All charges are then thrown out of court and an ex-police commissioner charged with wasting everyone's time.

● Hunters and Collectors play an alcohol/tobacco free gig at Auckland University Rec Centre. 'Arry accosted over a matter of a Dunhill by an angry non-smoker who spends 'is daytime as a dick. Four gorillas enforce.

● Queen announce tour — tickets on sale at Alfies.

● Jordan Luck still having difficulty finding a shaver, a clean shirt and a pair of long trousers.

● Beer strike drags on into third month, causing fights at many a pub because Joe Lunchbox does not realise that imported beer and spirits are about three times the potency of their usual sugar and water draught.

● Expert tourists the Chills last seen wandering lost forgotten hills in the Wanganui area after trying to make Auckland from Wellington and missing. Get themselves a four hour delay and about 92 km of winding roads and full paper bags.

● A certain Dunedin band come all the way to Auckland and spend their first Saturday looking for Speights. Look (for) blue but only find green?

● Radio With Pictures shifts flat into yet another pink paradise. C'mon Karyn — we all know your flat is just like the rest of ours. It reeks of pot, has a dirty kitchen full of cockroaches and a lounge full of overloaded ashtrays and empty beer bottles.

● Forty more people have left the country.

And now for the weather ...

'ARRY RATBAG

(PS: Would the nice person who found a chrome Zippo lighter at Mainstreet (Hunters & Collectors) please return it to Box 5689 Auckland or to me personally. Reward offered.)

Disorientated ...

As the day's travel to Hamilton unfolded, my humour crept up like the mercury in a thermometer left on a frosty morning lawn. I further got to know my travelling companions, so I suppose I should introduce them:

Mark Seymour is short but solid, like a slimmer *Broooooce* ("Hunters and Collectors are nice guys but they like Bruce Springsteen," Shayne Carter). He's intense, periodically enthusiastic, the best talker in the band. Doug Falconer is tall, a former doctor and the possessor of a wealth of knowledge on sundry topics. Michael Waters, the keyboardist, is a commercial law graduate and handles day-to-day finances for the band, he's the quietest in a band of eloquent speakers. Jeremy Smith was compared to Neil Finn by Paul Crowther (who, I suppose, should know), he's slighter, younger and sharper of haircut than the others — he's currently studying as a medical student; John (Jack) Howard is big, a former music teacher and hits a golf ball a long way. John Archer's modest disposition belies the growl of his bass playing — a cryptic, clean-cut, friendly type.

So we pressed on, up and over the central volcanic plateau.

"Will there be a china shop in Bulls?" Jeremy had asked quietly. "Fred Dagg's hometown? Wow ..." murmured Doug Falconer as we trudged through Taihape.

Doug Hood and I explained in Waiouru the wonderful view of Ruapehu we were missing because grimy low cloud and rain: "You'd be able to see it right over the top of the toilets there ... a classic volcano."

After a snack in lysergic Taupo we decided to check out the Huka Falls ... well, some of us ...

"I'm a punk rocker," frowned Mark. "I don't wanna write songs about waterfalls!"

"It's an example of the awesome power of nature, Mark," said Doug Falconer, who was on his sixth trip to NZ.

"You only had to look at the girl in the coffee bar for that!"

The Huka Falls transpired to be not unlike Hunters and Collectors. They don't fall from a great height but they operate with a great deal of muscle. The descent is short but authoritative.

We made Hamilton.

The Coney Island Club

Friday, March 8.

After an enjoyably uneventful day (absence of activity is very tranquillising) I did The Interview with Mark and then left for Waikato

University, arriving in time for local cult heroes the Human Lawnmowers, who at times sounded like a punked-up R.E.M. and at other times didn't. They played three Velvet Underground covers — which would take on relevance later in the night ...

The Hunters encountered the same bizarre melee down front as the Zippies had — you apparently gotta grab whatever chance you get if you're into slamdancing in Hamilton. One young woman was helped out across the stage after screaming in panic and several band members used strong language towards the dickhead element that was causing the problems. Curiously enough, however, the whole gig picked up momentum as it went on and the crowd went looney at the sight of the band coming on for the second encore. Apparently well pleased, the band played another four songs. They left the stage, the house lights went up, the taped music wafted through the PA, the crew began to take out the mikes ... all the signs to bugger off home ...

But in the backstage room Mark was standing with a can in hand grinning mischievously: "Let's go back on ... there's still a few people making a noise out there!"

So the mikes went back in, the lights went down and the ensuing two songs — winding up with a repeat of 'I Believe' were probably the highlight of the tour for me. Even the promoter danced!

Our Man In Hamilton, Paul McKessar, guided us to a nearby building, the site of The Coney Island Club. The Human Lawnmowers knew the rudiments of no fewer than 22 Velvet Underground and Lou Reed songs and they were gonna play 'em all. The result was fairly shambolic but most enjoyable — complete with four Hunters standing on the dancefloor inventing backing vocals.

The singin' continued in the van on the way back to the motel, composin' choons about nuclear war: "This is not an exerciiiiiiiise ..."

The spa pool was locked up.

Home Is Where Your Heart Lies

...

Saturday, March 9

"Jesus!" said Aussie crewman Andy. "What's this?"

And the Auckland Uni Rec Centre was quite a sight. If you weren't there, imagine a huge gym transformed into a concert hall — windows blocked out, floor covered in canvas, black polythene creating a stage area along one wall ... and

still about eight miles up to the roof.

I didn't stay long — the handful of cubic metres that compose my tiny bedroom seemed a lot more manageable than this gargantuan box of air. They were ... security, man.

By the time concert hour rolled around I'd regained some of that 'Auckland buzz' and was regarding the Oncoming Night with blind confidence. The gig was a strange one ... This Kind Of Punishment applied their usual conversational, recital-like approach to a crowd about 10 times the size of their usual audiences and damn near got completely away with it. Some pleasing progressions.

But the *real* strangeness pertained to the venue. There was no drinking or smoking permitted and 'eaves present to enforce the rules. There I was standing with Yoh Infectious when he lit up a cigarette. Within seconds we were spotlighted by a powerful torch beam from the balcony and there was a flying squad heading our way. Yoh saw the authority figures and panicked — he fled but was caught when he ran into a solid block of people. They made him put it out.

"It's like Sweetwaters brought indoors and turned into a health camp," said Emma, surveying the scene. Her perception can be *in-cisive*.

The gig's best moments to me were the slower songs, for the way in which they echoed around the huge room. 'Hayley's Doorstep' just *ached* ...

Afterwards we put up with a rampanly drunken acquaintance from down country. I grinned and bore him — after all, he was pretty *disorientated* ...

Not Much Mardi In The Gras

Sunday, March 11.

The Hunters and Collectors stood and jiggled as the Chills played under a ruddy early evening sky.

"That's about enough of these dry gigs, Doug," said Doug Falconer to Doug Hood. The alcohol ban and lack of decorations, etc, had made the Mardi Gras into more of a casual afternoon in the sun, but that was pleasant. Martin Chillips talked to the crowd chattily. The outdoorsness of it all produced a 'Wide Weird World' that was 20 metres high.

Afterwards the zealously authoritarian bozo from Eden Security tried to make everyone leave the area, even though it was public property. We ignored the bugger ...

Party Of The Decade

Monday, March 11.

I honestly hadn't expected to see half the people who turned up. People from all facets of my life, people who I didn't even know were in the city, people who I didn't know knew each other ...

The appeal of a good party is

pretty nebulous. You do basically the same things you do at bad parties ... imbibe, talk, listen to music ... but something clicks and it's different. This was a good 'un.

Things were threatening to grind to a halt when the last of the booze ran out before midnight ... but then Mark Seymour, moving with real electricity, grabbed a tupperware container and tore through the house taking up a collection. He got \$97 and so it was off again with the manager of a certain city niteclub to re-supply. As if that wasn't enough, Gary Senior collected another \$39 when *those* ran out. I couldn't miss this trip — John Archer drove like he plays bass; precise but *hard*.

Eventually, of course, the come-down ... we walked *miles* home ...

This Is Goodbye

Tuesday, March 12.

Mainstreet's bedlam when it's full but it's an enjoyable bedlam. The management of course did its best to spoil things by only managing to acquire expensive foreign beer for which they charged \$3.80 per can, but the crowd soldiered on. The gig began and built as if it was going to be the best of the tour, but inexplicably lost momentum at the end and only one encore was played. Perhaps it was the crowd ...

The Chills had a torrid time but the Chills don't really play badly when they're not on form. They just don't play as well ...

Afterwards, it was to Alfie's. At Alfie's you leave your hangups at the door and concentrate on having a good time — if there's anything gays can do, it's have a good time and that's why there are clubs like Alfie's.

"Buy you a bottle of champagne if you lend me the money," said Gary Senior. I liked Gary — after all, he'd taken a particular shine to Consideration Jones and any friend of CJ's was a friend of mine. After the bottle of champagne I don't remember ...

Are You My Mother?

Wednesday, March 13.

I have this memory ... walking across the Domain ... cold ... dawn ... dispossessed ... *disorientated* ... in three hours Hunters and Collectors would fly back home to the big place with a desert in the middle ... and for every question that had been answered, another had been skywrit on the horizon of my consciousness ... the answer obviously didn't lie in *Orientation* ... to cap it all off, Consideration lay crippled in my pocket on a bed of his own loose beads, having been struck off my chest in a bout of friendly but ill-considered buffoonery on the part of one of my companions the previous night ... there would be two hours in bed before rejoining the "real world" ... it didn't seem enough ... it simply *wasn't* enough ... let's you and me go to sleep — today is another day ...

- 24 Talking Heads Part 2, Citizen Band, Swingers bandfile, Dragon.
- 26 Devo, Knack, Mi-Sex, Wellington Special.
- 30 Sweetwaters issue programme — John Martyn, Elvis Costello, Renee Geyer, No Nukes, Squeeze, NZ Band profiles, Split Enz, Toy Love, Hello Sailor, Citizen Band, Th Dudes, Street Talk.
- 31 Sweetwaters, Swingers, Mi-Sex.
- 32 Police & Split Enz interviews, Sharon O'Neill.
- 34 Tom Petty and Street Talk interviews, Mi-Sex, Virgin supplement, Whizz Kids and Pop Mechanix bandfiles.
- 35 'Quadrophonia' — Bob Geldof and Kevin Stanton interviews, Newz and Flight X7 bandfiles.
- 36 Ray Davies, Cure and Jo Jo Zep interviews, Neil Young supplement, Stones.
- 38 Howard Devoto, Tim Finn interviews.
- 39 XTC, Lip Service, Motels.
- 40 Martha Davis, David Byrne, Dave McCartney Doors, Bruce Springsteen, Hammond Gamble.
- 41 Coup D'Etat, Flowers (Icehouse), John Lennon, Clash, Elton John.
- 42 Clash interview, Cold Chisel, INXS, Tigers, Jo Jo Zep, Bonch/Tiders.
- 43 Bryan Ferry interview, Sweetwaters report, Flowers (Icehouse).
- 44 Adam Ant, Associates and Police interviews, Stevie Wonder.
- 48 Cold Chisel, Blams, Wotn Zone.
- 49 Angels, Beat, Lemmy Motorhead, Desmond Dekker, Heavy Metal Guide.
- 50 Swingers, U2, Psychedelic Furs, the Clean.
- 51 Newmatics, Cramps, Stray Cats, UB40, Blind Date and Gordons interviews.
- 52 Echo & Bunnymen, Danse Macabre, Penknife Glides, Mockers, Valentinos, Jimmy & Boys.
- 54 Dave McCartney & Pink Flamingos, Go-Go's interview, Sunnyboys, INXS.
- 56 Teardrop Explodes, D.D. Smash and Mick Jones Part 2, Neighbours, Richard Burrows.
- 57 Clean, Pretenders, South Island Bands, Joan Armatrading, Mental As Anything, Chas Jankel.
- 58 Blams, Teardrops, Hall & Oates, Bill Wyman, Kottke/Redbone interviews.
- 59 Human League, Men At Work, Chills, Tim Finn, Motels, Elvis Costello live, Furtive EP.
- 61 Graham Brazier & Harry Lyon, Fall, Jim Carroll, Daggy & Dickheads, Hip Singles, Dropbeats.
- 62 Split Enz on Road Part 1, Fall's Mark E. Smith interviewed, Altered Images, Randy Crawford, This Sporting Life, Cold Chisel.
- 63 Simple Minds — Jim Kerr interviewed, Split Enz Part 2, Renee Geyer, Nocturnal Projections, Willie Jayson Blues Band, Hunters & Collectors.

- 65 Yazoo (Alison Moyet interview), Joe Cocker, Zoo (ex Pop Mechanix), Gurlz and Jo Jo Zep.
- 66 Psychedelic Furs, Dexy's Midnight Runners (Kevin Rowland), Midnight Oil, Neil Finn and Jed Fetalmania interviews.
- 67 Siouxsie & The Banshees, Toots, Church Sweetwaters, John Martyn, UB40, Psych Furs.
- 68 Herbs, Culture Club, Bauhaus, Kiwi Animal, No Tag, Sharon O'Neill, Thompson Twins, ChCh special (Wastrels, Flying Nun, Bill Dieren etc).
- 69 Joni Mitchell, Dance Exponents, Who, Neighbours, Dire Straits, Talk Talk, Milton, Stowaways, Blond Comedy.
- 70 Fun Boy 3, Birthday Party, Split Enz, Diehards Spines, Marching Girls, Body Electric, Wgtn Punk.
- 73 Wham, Dead Kennedys, Coconut Rough, Angels, Marginal Era, Grammar Boys, Fishschool, John Cale, Studio profile.
- 74 Malcolm McLaren, Heaven 17, Joan Armatrading, Sharon O'Neill, Childrens Hour.
- 75 Tim Finn, John Cale, Jonathan Richman, Hammond Gamble, Dick Driver.
- 80 Police, Paul Young, Motown feature, John Peel, Wastrels, Bryan Adams, Big Chill.
- 81 Smiths, Mockers, Def Leppard, Violent Femmes, Milton Stowaways, Chills, Doublehappys, Marvin Gaye, Alfred Hitchcock.
- 82 Billy Idol, Pamela Stephenson, Four Tops, Temptations, Verlamers, Uriah Hepp.
- 83 Elvis Costello, Thompson Twins, Netherworld Dancing Toys, Mockers, Paul Morley.
- 84 Style Council (Paul Weller interview), Echo & The Bunnymen, Midnight Oil, Kiwi Animal, Sneaky Feelings, Depeche Mode.
- 85 Mockers, Special AKA, Motorhead, Icehouse, Great Unwashed, Coconut Rough, Neil Finn, Fixx.
- 86 U2, REM, OMD, Hoodoo Gurus, Dance Exponents, Jive Bombers, Alligator Blues, Stylistics.
- 87 DD Smash, U2, Bill Dieren 1, Nick Cave, Stevie Ray Vaughan.
- 88 Herbs, Talking Heads, Aztec Camera, Narcs, Car Crash Set, Axemen, SPK.
- 89 Frankie Goes to Hollywood, Beatles, Deep Purple, ZZ Top, Twisted Sister, Aotea Riot, Eurogliders, Rip, Say Yes To Apes, Purple Girls.
- 90 Lou Reed, Go-Betweens, Paul Hewson, Topp Twins.
- 91 Neil Young, Giorgio Moroder, Waterboys, David Puttnam, Freudian Slips, Electric Pandas.



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FROM THE ARCHIVES!



EXTRA 1 OCT 1980
Split Enz 2 page pic history, Cramps, Toy Love (pic, last gig photos, TL by Toy Love), Ramones (interview, pic, NZ spirit), why Spelling Mistakes split, Zwines Family Tree (2 page history AK bands 1977-80, by Simon Grigg), Cure, XTC, Tom Petty, Life in the Fridge, ChCh band history.

EXTRA 2 DEC 1980
New Wave dates (75-80), Last Weekend in Auckland (Newmatics, Pop Mx, Penknife Glides, Techtones), Kinks profile, mod Ray Columbus, David Bowie pic, UK Scene by Jeremy Templer, Newtones, Heavenly Bodies, Chris Knox pic.

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