

Australia

Split Enz are currently recording at Paradise Studios with Hugh Padgham engineering. His previous credits include the Police, XTC and Phil Collins ... **Starstruck** is the name of the new Aussie movie for which Swingers perform 'One Good Reason', 'Starstruck' and 'Tough'. The movie stars Jo Kennedy who sings Tim Finn's 'Body and Soul' and Phil Judd's 'Temper Temper' ... another Australian movie is **Puberty Blues**. Tim Finn wrote the theme, Jenny Morris sings it. Meanwhile **Fane Flaws** has a single on Mushroom, 'The Way You Get Your Way'. He will follow it with a mini album ... Swingers have secured a deal in North America on Backstreet (the Tom Petty label) and for UK & Europe on Carrere. 'Counting the Beat' is first release.

Birthday Party have been booked to play San Francisco with the Dead Kennedys and Kennedys may support Birthday Party in Oz this year ... **Go-Betweens** will sign a deal with a major UK label and tour there soon.

The Corporation

Auckland

Newmatics have recorded a new single 'Square One', the B-side is a dub version of 'Start Again' ... expect **Penknife Glides** 'Sound Of Drums' EP by the end of February ... Next **Meemees** single will be a 12" of 'Day Goes By' with an extended mix on the B-side. The A-side is on the album ... while the **Blams** and the **Meemees** have almost finished their albums, **Blams** have a mini-album out in Australia. It consists of their first EP plus 'No Depression', and a few will be available in NZ ... planned on **Furtive** is the **Furtive Four Three Piece Pack** with **Bongos**, **Dabs** and **Prime Movers**. The other act is not yet known ... **Instigators** have recorded 'No Problems', 'Race Wars', 'Hope She's Alright' for a probable EP. They are still looking for an additional vocalist, ring them on 769-482 ... **Karl Gordon** has a single out late Feb, 'Do You Believe'.

Following the departure of Stefan Morris, **Penknife Glides** have added ex Missing Tremblers, Bill and Steve ... **Alms For Children** have reformed under the name **This Sporting Life**. The line-up is Gary, Paul, Ben and new drummer Phil Jackson. They will debut with all new material at the Rumba, Feb 17 & 18. And it's only 50 cents to get in! ... **Texas Rangers** are new and play rockabilly influenced songs. The line-up is The Louisiana Kid (guitar & vocals), Big Tex (guitar), Black Max (double bass), and Hoss (drums). It's true y'all ... **Knobz** have replaced Mark Stanton with an Australian keyboardist, Noel Kennedy. Expect a name change once the current tour is over ... **Mirrors** have acquired keyboard player Craig Bowen ... new **Willie Dayson Blues Band** bassist is Neil Edwards. Their album is now



available through Ode ... **Bombers** are recording four songs at Harlequin ... **Reverb Room** is now reopened. Jean Williams is booking it, ring her at 769-482.

The Corporation

Christchurch

Dick Driver is holidaying before wintering in Christchurch with the **Dick Driver Dance Band**. The one-offs outfit will also feature Lance Parkyn.

The **Ballon D'essai** EP (with free comic) will be in shops late Feb. Expect them at Peejays early March ... next **Playthings** 45 'out March. A-side is 'Bird's Eye View' and flip is 'Pure Frost', and an instrumental. The band played at the after-Clash party (with Clean and Clients) to recoup money outlaid by Clash fans who organised the petition to bring the band here ... **Dunedin** citizens in town early March to record a **Flying Nun** EP include Chills, Stones, Clean, Tall Dwarfs, Verlaines and Sneaky Feelings ... expect **Bill Direen** and the **Builders** EP soon and 25 cents' single 'The Witch' (on Flying Nun) ... **Gordons** are planning a major tour to support their new LP.

Playthings, **Neighbours** and **Sheer Fanatix** are on the Nile River Festival bill (West Coast, March 6-8) ... **Dance Exponents** have completed more demos at Arnolds. They may soon reside at Aranui. **Zero Bars** will reside at Gladstone soon.

Xstallic are now **Divine Faction** ... **Thumbs of Brass** have split ... new **Clients** drummer is Dave from '40 dernier' ... new are **Vertical Smiles** (Have demoed), **Traitors** and **All Fours** ... **Desperate Measures** are Eugene (vocals), Shane (guitar), Kango (bass) and Greg (drums) ... **Peejays** (John 63-267) are looking for bands.

Jim Wilson

Dunedin

EMI manager **Ken Muir** is thinking of using the old library building for concerts. Encourage him! ... **4XO Widescreen Wireless Theatre** man **Ron Heaps** has left for Perth ... new and young: **Black Ice** (Empire covers band) and **Gemauche**, a three-piece formed by ex After The Fall Gareth Rees with Geoff Stevenson (drums) and Richard Wallace (guitar).

New: **Lee Wood's Stallion** with Roy Hurdell, Slim Kennedy and Bill Weeda. **Steve Young's Beats Working** with Robin Murphy, John Fielding and Waka Puriumu. **Batteries** are Dave Ironside, Andy Anderson, Hank Ver Der Vis and Cameron Campbell ... demises: the Ravens and the Pictures.

George Kay

Wellington

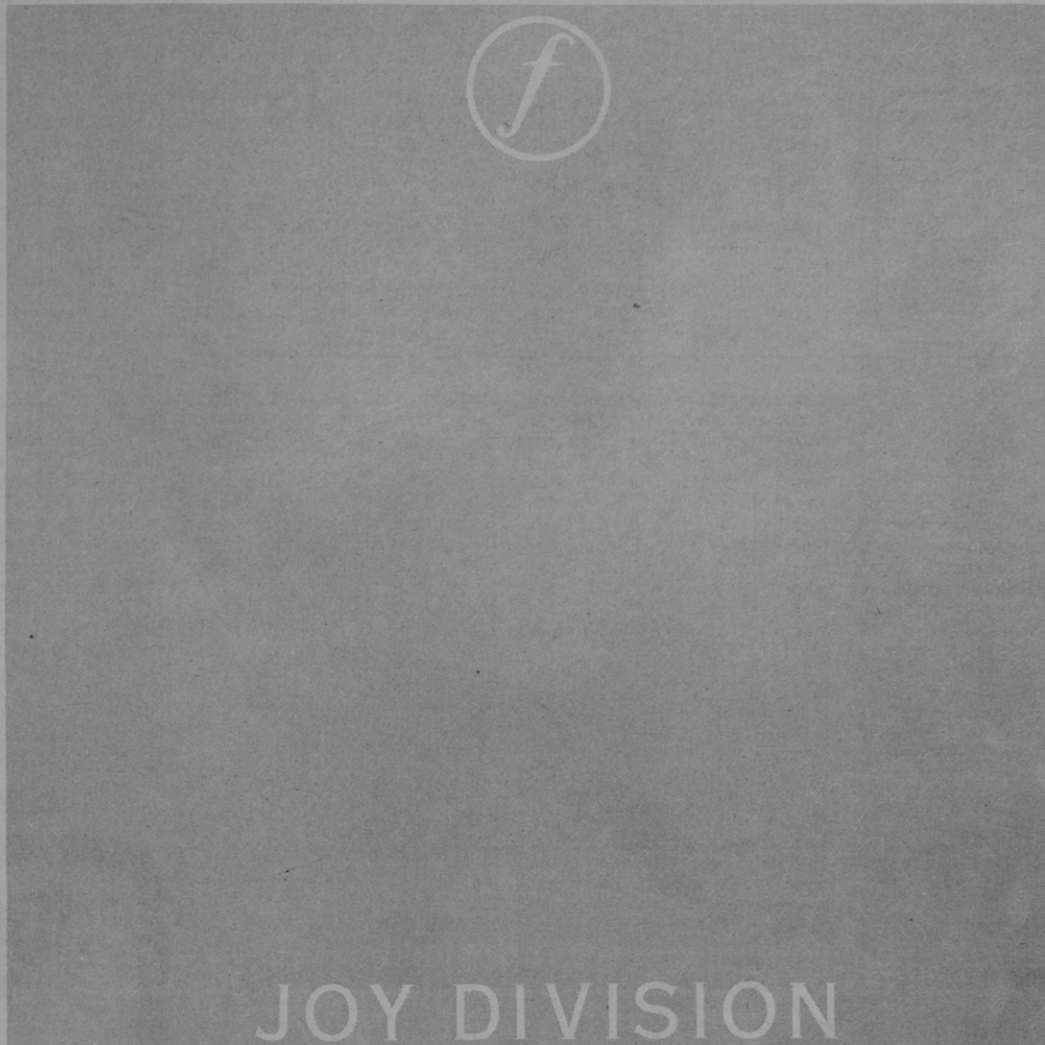
Mangawekas and **Chaos** may be combining to form new band ... rumours that **Innocent** and **Mockers** are breaking up are denied by both bands ... **Radio Windy** are recording their outdoor concerts and may play highlights on air. They are also playing some NZ records!

Promising young reggae band from Porirua are **Sticks** and **Shanty**, hopefully the first of many ... **Spines** may record for **Ripper** ... **Tin Syndrome** out of action due to illness. They need a new drummer ... playing regularly are **Los Dogs** and **Vanguards**.

Don MacKay

JOY DIVISION

the final chapter...



FACT40

FACTC40

STILL

a double album

Includes:

From the last Joy Division performance at Birmingham University 2 May 1980 —
10 tracks including 'Ceremony', 'New Dawn Fades', 'Decades', 'Digital', 'Dead Souls' from the Sordide Sentimental package.
'Glass' from the Factory Sampler.
'Ice Age', 'Walked In Line', 'The Kill' from the '77 sessions.
'Exercise One' from the John Peel sessions.
Plus other previously unreleased tracks.

Produced by Martin Hannet



SUNNYBOYS



SUNNY BOYS

Sunny Boys (Mushroom)

I had my doubts. The live shows were usually great. The independent Phantom EP was rough but exciting. So was the give-away EP at the Trade Union Club. **Happy Man** was fine ...

But could they make an album that really captured Sunny Boys stage excitement? I thought not, expecting a flawed debut.

The album arrived and I couldn't find the flaws. Sunny Boys' album is one of the best damn rock'n'roll records this country has produced in recent years.

Sunny Boys is fresh, vital and played like it matters. Twelve tracks written by lead singer **Jeremy Oxley**, with the exception of **Gone** (written by brother Peter) and **Let You Go** (a brothers' co-write). Produced by **Lobby Loyde** at Alberts during May, June and July, and mixed in London. Mostly songs the fans have heard



Stuart Coupe

