

### Dogs plan Scots mini-tour

**T**HIS WEEK, I bumped into The Old Blind Dogs, one of Aberdeen's top five bands, at the launch of the city's Alternative Festival. Fiddle player Johnny Hardie told me the band are planning a mini-tour of Scotland some time in December. The band, who have been together for a couple of years, have just returned from a successful trip to France where they played some gigs in Brittany. A CD album, *New Tricks*, which was recorded at Glasgow's Cava Studios in June, has just been released. **THE SHAMEN** are back on top of the Scottish charts this week with their new single *Ebenezer* Groove. Only a few weeks ago, the Aberdeen band were riding high in the charts with their 7-inch cut *L.S.I.* and a new album, *Boss Drum*, is set for release this month. **A THREE-TRACK EP** should be on its way soon from the excellent Last Divide. Last night in Sheland with Peterhead-based The Mighty Human Generator, the band play Aberdeen's Lemon Tree tomorrow.



**O**UTSTANDING Scottish band Capercaille release a special-edition album of live and remixed tracks next month. A video, *Two Nights Of Delerium*, will be released by PolyGram Video in November. If you have a spare £195 lying around, I suggest you invest it in the Guinness Encyclopedia Of Popular Music, which is published on October 12. The product of more than three years' work by more than 80 researchers, it is the most comprehensive reference work published on popular music. Compiled in an A-Z format, it covers all forms of the genre from 1900 to 1992 and contains more than 9,000 entries. THAT hubed of musical talent called Fife provides a double helping at the Lemon Tree tonight. Seamonkey, a five-piece from Kirkcaldy, and The Receiving End, who recently put out their *That's The Way I Operate EP*, are on the bill. **FOUR** young North-east bands have lined up a gig at Longmore Hotel, Keith, tomorrow. Incertemis, Fester, Rockchield and December's Children will appear. Doors open at 8pm with the bands due on stage around 9pm.

# Wick stages festival coup



## Sounds Around

with STEVE STEWART

**O**RGANISERS of the three-day Wick Festival of Music and Poetry expect a sell-out for The Cranberries' gig this weekend. The concert, at Wick's Assembly Rooms, is a big success for the festival and forms the first stage of a major UK tour to showcase the band's new album. A showcase for local bands is being held tomorrow and the winner will secure the support slot. Stenching Mr Stanley, Bo Jangles, Muzzy and Never Again are all in with a chance. Festival co-ordinator Shaun Moffat said: "This is the first festival of many, hopefully. We want to do it every year. It's a real coup for us to get The Cranberries." I'm told The Cranberries will use the festival appearance to preview their new single, *Dreams*, which is due out on September 21. Their debut LP, *Everyone Else Is*

Doing It, Why Can't We?, is scheduled for release in late October. The Cranberries began life as the Cranberry Saw Us in Limerick in 1990. Once an all-male three-piece, they decided to advertise in the local paper for a female singer. While still at school Dolores O'Riordan heard of the post through a friend. She had been singing since she

was five and writing songs since her early teens. For years she won singing competitions across Ireland as an extension of her solo work with the local church choir, where she sang and played the organ. But it was the reaction to the Cranberries' first demo tape which brought them media attention. Having

**TOMORROW** - Showcase of local young bands plus Shindigs disco, Mercury Motor Inn, Wick, 9pm-1am. \* Also on at Assembly Rooms, Wick, independent of the festival, are Aly Bain and Phil Cunningham. **SATURDAY** - Poetry and folk music, Mercury Motor Inn, Wick, 1pm-5pm. Recitals and discussion led by Iain Crichton Smith and Sheila Douglas; folk music from Fiddlers Fling, local Gaelic singers, and others. Peterhead through Gathness Creative Writing Group. The Cranberries, Assembly Rooms, Wick, 7.30-10.30pm. **SUNDAY** - An evening of alternative comedy. Direct from STV's *The Funny Farm*, Fred MacAulay and Kevin Kopstein.

released a cassette single of *Nothing Left At All* on a local independent, the band were flooded with interest. Despite their debut EP, *Uncertain*, falling short of critical expectations, UK tours with *Moose and Top* led to a deal with Island Records. The Cranberries are Dolores O'Riordan (vocals), Noel Hogan (guitars), Mike Hogan (bass), Fergal Lawler (drums). Financial support for the festival has come from Gathness and Sutherland Enterprise, Gathness Tourist Board, Gathness Arts Association and other sponsors. It is being promoted and organised by the local *Blue Monday Wick Wednesday club*, which provides music facilities, instruction and equipment for young people. \* Tickets, price £6, are available from: The Music Shop, Victoria Place, Wick (0955 5598). The Music Shop, The Arcade, Thurso (0847 62383).

### ALBUMS

- 1 (-) MIKE OLDFIELD - Tubular Bells II.
- 2 (-) ROXETTE - Tourism.
- 3 (1) KYLIE MINOQUE - Greatest Hits.
- 4 (14) VARIOUS - Now That's What I Call Music! 22
- 5 (8) THE SMITHS - Best.
- 6 (8) VARIOUS - The Rave Generator 2.
- 7 (-) ERIC CLAPTON - Unplugged.
- 8 (5) NEL DIAMOND - Greatest Hits 1966-1992
- 9 (10) PATSY CLINE - The Definitive Patsy Cline
- 10 (5) BILLY RAY CYRUS - Some Gave All

Last week's positions in brackets

### SINGLES

- 1 (3) SHAMEN - Ebenezer Goods.
- 2 (2) UNDERCOVER - Baker Street.
- 3 (1) SNAP - Rhythm Is A Dancer.
- 4 (4) BILLY RAY CYRUS - Achy Breaky Heart.
- 5 (-) DANIEL O'DONNELL - I Just Want To Dance With You.
- 6 (5) FELIX - Don't You Want Me.
- 7 (6) LUTHER VANDROSS & JANET JACKSON - The Best Things In Life Are Free.
- 8 (8) ANNIE LENNOX - Walking On Broken Glass.
- 9 (30) DR ALBAN - It's My Life.
- 10 (12) BRIAN MAY - Too Much Love Will Kill You.

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**TONIGHT** - Seamonkey, The Receiving End, The Lemon Tree, Aberdeen. **TOMORROW** - The Last Divide, The Lemon Tree, Aberdeen. **SATURDAY** - Jazz, The Lemon Tree, De Ja Vu, The Pelican Club, Aberdeen. **SUNDAY** - Sandy West's Jazzmen (afternoon), Peter Jagger and Alan Richardson (evening), The Lemon Tree. **MONDAY** - Aileen Vance, The Lemon Tree. \* Venues wishing to be included in the listings should write to: Steve Stewart, Sounds Around, Lang Stracht, Mastrick, Aberdeen, AB9 8AF.

## ALBUMS

### ROXETTE - Tourism \*\*\*

Written and recorded during their first world tour, there are 16 tracks on the CD, which will leave fans floating on the clouds. For *Pretty Woman* gurus, there are TWO cuts of *I Must Have Been Love*, one given a country feel with a pedal steel guitar. There are also live versions of *The Look* and the hit *Loyalty*. But the album is worth a purchase for the new material alone - the Swedish duo's best to date. Most of the tracks are ballads, such as the hypnotic *Rain* and the simple *Never Is A Long Time*. Interestingly, two of the best songs were re-recorded in a Buenos Aires hotel room, which proves good music transcends technology.



**DREAMWORLD - Welcome To Our Dreamworld \*\*\*** Featuring nine tracks, the Aberdeen band's CD was recorded at New Mill Studios, Craighs. It kicks off promisingly with *Rap Me Up* and *Dreamworld*, two catchy tracks whose vocals nod in the direction of Debbie Harry. Despite a tendency for the songs to sound the same - and a shocking number, *Hail The Kingdom* - there is much to recommend the album. Stand-out tracks are the bluesy *Take The Money, I Got A Gun*, which reminds me of the excellent *Voice Of The Beehive*, and the closing *You Took My World*. The band line-up is Lynn Sangster (bass), Kenny Field (drums), Sandy Forbes (keyboards), Julie Pratt (vocals) and John Murray (guitars). Contact: Manager Dave Anderson - 0224 824377.

### SECRETS (1991, VPD, 90min, 15, rental), Stephanie Beacham and Christopher Plummer star in this Danielle Steel saga of the characters in a TV soap. There's intrigue, hot and heavy passion and even a murder. No doubt about it, in this glossy piece of nonsense the real story for the cast is off-screen, not on.

**NAILS (1991, Medusa, 95min, 15, rental)** Nicknamed "Nails", Harry (played by Dennis Hopper) is the toughest, craziest cop on the force and has made plenty of enemies on both sides of the law. His home is on the streets, battling it out with the murderers, pimps and drug pushers, but his heart will always belong to his beautiful ex-wife (Anne Archer) with whom he shares a kinky sexual relationship.

**PURE LUCK (1991, CIC, 92min, PG, rental)** A madcap comedy adventure starring Martin Short as the luckiest man alive. Mishap follows catastrophe and there are lots of good laughs as he and his veteran detective pal (Danny Glover) try to trace his boss's equally accident-prone daughter. They are beset by unimaginable mishaps, from malfunctioning machinery to near-fatal bee stings. The family will love it.

**JFK (1991, Warner, 129min, 15, rental)** Kevin Costner is superb as New Orleans district attorney Jim Garrison who set out to uncover the truth behind the Kennedy assassination in Texas in 1963. He unearthed a connection between Lee Harvey Oswald and a group of fanatical anti-Castro Cubans, homosexuals and businessmen and he spent a lifetime trying to reveal the conspirators. Many claim this story is fictionalised; others aren't so sure.

**PRINCE OF TIDES (1991, Columbia TriStar, 128min, 15, rental)** This Royal Premier film and nominated for many awards stars Barbra Streisand as a psychiatrist who, while trying to sort out the problems of a man's twin sister who tried to kill herself, becomes romantically involved with him and thereby also manages to sort out her own life. Good sentimental drama with convincing performances from Nick Nolte, Kate Nelligan and Streisand's real-life son, Jesse.

**BUGSY (1991, 20, 201, 131min, 18, rental)** Another big Oscar-nominated movie, it marks the return of Warren Beatty. He is a psychotic mobster sent to California by the mob who decides he likes the new Hollywood lifestyle and lives grandly like a movie star. He becomes involved with an actress (Annette Bening, his real life wife) and builds a huge casino in the desert. It could prove to be his downfall. Glossy, extravagant, nicely-acted and great entertainment.

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