



The Editor: Andy MacDonald

Production Offices: 58 Parker Street, London WC2B 5QB

No. 2 January 1975

HI AGAIN!

Thanks for all your letters about the first issue of the Rollers magazine. As long as you're happy, so am I. But how could I go wrong when I've got five really great guys to write about.

Don't forget that if you want to write to the Fan Club, then you should send your letter to Tam or Wilma at the Prestonpans address on the Fan Club page as usual. But, if you have a personal letter to one of the Rollers, a question, a poem, or anything else that you would like to see published in the boys' own magazine, then you must send it to me, that's: Andy MacDonald, Official Bay City Rollers Magazine, 58 Parker Street, London, WC2B 5QB.

As I said last month, from this issue onwards I am going to start giving each Roller a whole-page pic to himself because that way you get bigger and better pix of your favourite people.

But I have worked it out very carefully so that over the next five issues every Roller will get a front cover, a centre page spread and a back cover. This month, Derek is on the front, Les is in the centre and Eric is on the back. Next month, I'll switch it around again, until, as I said, every Roller has been treated absolutely equally.

I know you all want more details about the boys' next big tour. Don't worry, because I will be publishing all the dates and venues just as soon as they have been fixed up by Tam. With a bit of luck I'll have all the dates by the next issue.

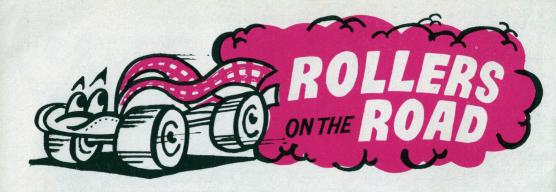
One thing that Alan, Derek, Eric, Leslie and Woody did ask me to pass on to you is that they are going to do everything possible to add as many extra performances as they can this time.

The other important news this month is that the boys are in the studios—probably right now as you are reading this—working on songs for their next single and album.

The next issue of the Rollers Official Magazine will be on sale on 1st February. And, from now on, it will always be in your local newsagent around the first of the month—every month. The best possible way to make sure that you don't miss out on any single issue is by placing a regular order with your local newsagent.

Main Distributors : Surridge Dawson & Co. Ltd.

Printed by: Thamesmouth Printing Co. Ltd., Southend-on-Sea



QUESTION—What has five heads, ten legs, an enormous amount of talent, and does not one, not two, but THREE major tours a year? ANSWER—Easy, the Bay City Rollers! From the very beginning, the Rollers have been one of the hardest working bands in the land.

Even before Alan, Derek, Eric, Les and Woody got together, they had all played just about every available venue, first in Edinburgh and later in the whole of Scotland. So when the Rollers talk about the road, you can bet they speak from experience.

TRAVELLING

"We all really dig playing live," Eric told me, "and travelling is something that we all have always wanted to do."

"Right enough," Leslie added, "I love going anywhere on wheels. When I first joined the Rollers, I was a bit homesick the first night. I'd never stayed anywhere but my own house, and I had a bit of trouble getting to sleep.

"But from then on, I never had any trouble." Derek told me that "When Alan and I were first in the band, we were far too young to drive. We had to hire a roadie who was four years older than us to do the driving!" "I've always loved being on the move," Woody added, "and even before I was in the Rollers, I used to travel to their gigs with the road crew. It really gave me a taste for travel, as well as for music."

Of course, we all like to do a bit of travelling. But I wonder if you would like to go on the road with the Rollers? It may sound like fun, but there's quite a lot of hard work and hassles involved as well.

A typical day on tour with the Bay City Rollers begins at about ten or eleven in the morning, right? After all, the boys often finish their concerts at ten. By the time they get back to their hotel, and wind down, it can get pretty late, so you would think that they'd sleep a bit later wouldn't you?

Well, you'd be one hundred per cent wrong!! The Rollers are up and about by eight o'clock, or nine by the latest.

"Ideally," Derek told me, "we would have our gigs lined up so that we wouldn't have to travel too far between dates.

"But it doesn't always work that way. I can remember once we played a gig in Dundee one night, and the next night we had to play in Bournemouth!"

"Yeah," Alan added, "and

don't forget the time we had to play one night in Lowestoft and the next on the Isle of Man. It wasn't enough to cross the country at just about it's widest point, but we also had to catch a ferry to the island!"

UP EARLY

"Of course, in those days the boys were usually sleeping in the van most of the time, as their roadies took turns driving to the next gig. But even now, when they can afford to stay in hotels most of the time, they still have to be up early enough to wash, dress and have breakfast before ten.

"After breakfast, it's time to hit the road again and make tracks for the next town. In the early days, that might have meant a journey from, say, Inverness to Dunfermline.

Now, it may mean a journey from London to Belgrade, Yugoslavia, Edinburgh to Hamburg, or Birmingham to Brighton. But whatever the distance, Woody, Les, Derek, Eric and Alan are ready, willing, and able to move by ten.

"We generally like to get to that night's venue early enough so that we can do a sound check, and get a feeling of what the stage is like," Woody



told me. "That way we can be more sure of doing the best possible gig."

Even when the Rollers were playing places like the Top Story in Edinburgh, they wanted to do the best possible performance, and that of course means as much planning as possible.

HOTEL

After checking out the venue, the next stop is their hotel for the evening.

Once they've got their rooms, the hardest part of the day begins. "Usually, unless we're making a personal appearance or meeting the local press," Les volunteered, "we've got some time to kill before we head for the gig."

"Most of the time, we watch telly, or just muck about," added Eric. "But on the last tour we did here, we hired a projector and some old films. It was really good, we could sit there in our rooms and watch any film we fancied!"

You see, even though the Bay City Rollers are able to travel to places that you or I would love to visit, they really aren't that free to do much sight-seeing at all.

"We haven't really had much of a chance to see anything in any of the European countries we've played in," Derek told me. "Back in 1970, when we were still semiprofessional, Alan and I and the band and roadies just took off for a week and drove to Spain.

"It was great, sleeping out at night and washing in streams," Alan added, "and just eating bread and cheese whenever we fancied it.

"But we were so poor, we didn't have two pennies to rub together. As soon as we got there, we had to start heading back!"

Even so, the Rollers have managed to see a good deal of this country, and that's something that they would never change.

"I've loved all the chances I've had to see the beauties of Scotland, England and Wales," says Woody. "But I guess most of all, I've really enjoyed our visits to Ireland. The country is amazing, and the people are really friendly."

EDINBURGH

"It's funny," Eric told me, "but I don't think we really do have a favourite place. When I first joined the band, we were getting coachloads of girls travelling from Edinburgh to our gigs in other parts of Scotland, and loads of fans from other places coming to our gigs in Edinburgh whenever we played there."

"Now," added Les, "wherever we go, we always get a great reception. We all reckon



that our fans must be just about the greatest in the world."

Still, even with the greatest gigs in the world, and loyal fans like the Rollers have (and deserve!), I know I'd be a bit frightened by all the excited fans that are at every Rollers concert.

"Well, it can be a bit scary sometimes," Eric admitted. "But we all know that our fans are just trying to show how much they like us."

Eric laughed, "But it was a bit of a laugh in Bournemouth last time, when someone threw a bracelet.

"It hit me in the nose," he continued, "and then, as it fell down, the chain wrapped itself around the strings of my violin. I just kept playing, but the rest of the guys were really laughing!"

"I guess I was a bit scared the first time I played live," Woody told me. "It was the first time I'd played keyboards live, at the Birmingham Town Hall. I was so nervous, I really mucked up the introduction to 'Remember', the first song we did! But I don't think anyone noticed, 'cos everyone was screaming so loud! At least I hope they didn't!!'

"My second night was the scariest," Les said. "We had to walk through the crowd to get to the stage, and for some reason, there were a load of drunks in the audience. They were yelling and throwing bottles around, and it took me a bit to get my confidence back. But that hasn't happened since, and it's been great."

TERRIFIED

"The only time I've been really terrified was in Wolver-hampton, during our last tour. We were leaving the venue in our van, which was completely surrounded by fans. Just as we

were turning a corner, a wheel came off!

"We jumped out, and started running for it, with the girls gaining ground every second. Luckily enough, we were able to jump into a taxi, and we just barely escaped!

"It's not that we wanted to get away from our fans, but sometimes they're so excited that they don't know their own strength—and that's when it's dangerous."

Well, that just about sums up the inside story of life on the road with the Bay City Rollers, Good times, bad times, hard work—and quite a lot of fun and excitement as well. Maybe that's what makes Alan, Derek, Eric, Les and Woody such fantastic blokes—a little bit of everything, ROLLED into one!





D.J. Dave Eager who played such a key part in making the recent Roller's tour such a massive success



WOULD YOU LIKE OTHER ROLLER FANS TO WRITE TO YOU?

One of the great advantages of being an admirer of the Bay City Rollers is a very strong feeling of not being alone! There are thousands of fans around the country who are also great fans of Alan, Derek, Eric, Les and Woody.

Of course, this is one of the reasons that the Rollers wanted their own mag - so that their fans everywhere can keep in touch with what the boys are doing.

But they also want Roller fans everywhere to make friends with each other. So, from the March issue onwards, we'll be carrying a Pen Pals column each month, so that you can have the actual names and addresses of other Roller fans around the country, and even in Europe, and the rest of the world to write to to start a Pen Pal friendship.

If you would like a pen pal, all you have to do is to write to us at this address

PEN PALS

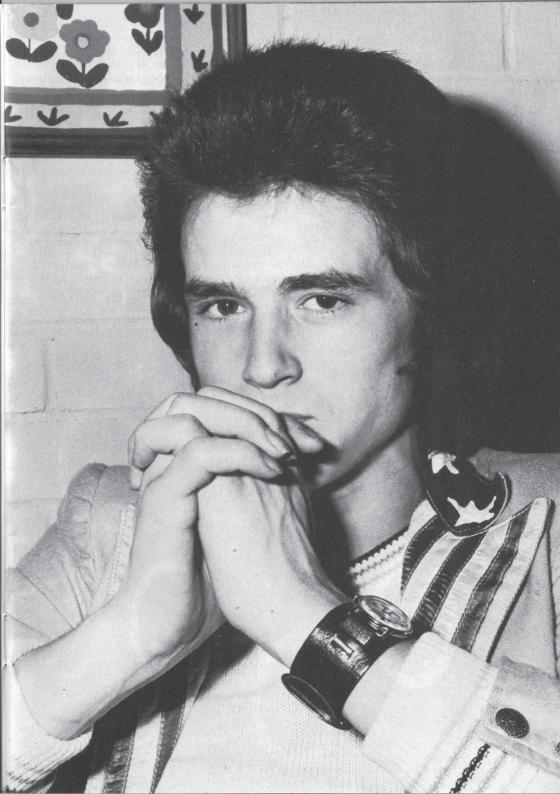
The Official Bay City Rollers Magazine 58 Parker Street London WC2B 5QB

In your letter, make sure that you print your name, age, address (in CAPITAL LETTERS PLEASE) and add any additional information - like the music, TV, or film starts you like, the sports you play, the hobbies you have - which you would like your future pen pals to know.

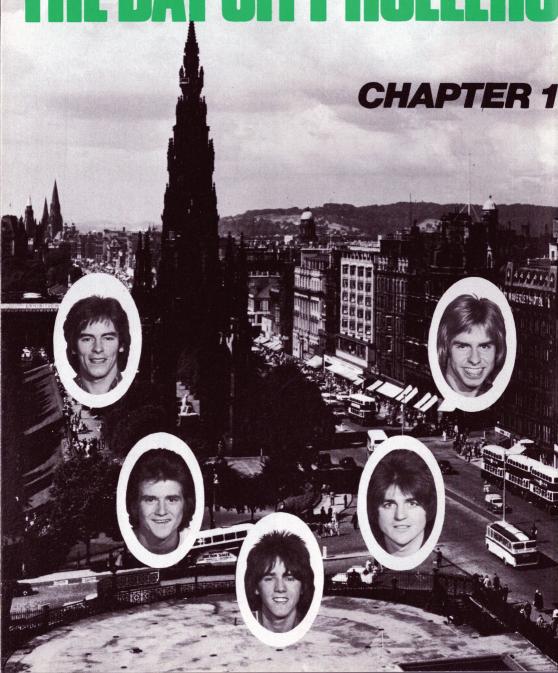
Each month, from March onward, we'll be printing as many pen pals on this page as possible. Of course, we'll select the pen pals on a basis of first come, first served, so the sooner you write to us the better. Unlike some publications, we are publishing all names absolutely free of charge for the benefit of all our readers. We believe that this is the best way to make sure that our readers can communicate with each other, make new friends, and let the whole world know how great the Rollers are!











Over the twenty years since pop music really started to develop with the rock revolution spearheaded by Bill Haley and his Comets and by Elvis Presley in the mid-1950's, various towns, cities and regions have hurtled into the headlines.

New York, naturally, has long been a homefrom-home for musicians from all over the United States. London, of course, because it's the capital centre; the swinging city where it's all supposed to be happening... ALL the time!

When "flower power" came in towards the end of the 1960's, it was centred in San Francisco and Los Angeles over on the West coast of the US. And the whole Tamla Motown build-up, with the Supremes and Miracles and all the others from that stable brought Detroit to the fore, the motor-town from which the label got its name.

MUSICAL THINGS

There's a lot of nice musical things talked about Philadelphia right now, with the Phillysoul sound cracking the charts wide open.

In the British Isles, things were switched from London to Liverpool in the early 60's when the Beatles suddenly emerged to change the whole face of pop music. Their impact was instant, once they'd finally got a recording contract . . . several red-faced companies actually had the cheek and stupidity to turn down John and Paul. George and Ringo!

For a while it seemed it was all Liverpool. Mersey-beat, they called it. Beatle-mania it most certainly was from 1963 for four or five hysteria-stained years. Not only the Beatles, though—giants of the charts like Cilla Black and Gerry and the Pacemakers also appeared. Liverpool had its own pop paper, Merseybeat, and it was estimated that at the height of the boom there were five thousand groups and bands in the City, all trying to eke a living out of pop!

Near-neighbouring centre Manchester also got in on the act, producing bands like Herman's Hermits (Peter Noone, the one-time lead singer, is now a solo star), the Hollies (still going strong in the charts, despite quite a few line-up changes over the years) and Freddie and the Dreamers (the tiny, bespectacled Freddie Garrity is now the star of a children's television series).

But now the spotlight is turned full glare on

. . . Edinburgh. The Scottish City, county borough and capital of that land, has long been talked about, of course, because of the huge Festival which is held there . . . a meeting-place for artistic folk and their followers.

Now the talking point is the fantastic, fabulous and frenzied march to top-of-the-pops fame of the Bay City Rollers. Quite apart from the Duke of Edinburgh, who merely took the name of the City, there have been many, many famous citizens of the lovely city. But nobody, nowhere, not ever, no how, has even raised such a storm of interest and devotion as . . . the Bay City Rollers.

It's so easy just to quote statistics and facts to prove how big and important the Rollers are to the world of pop. Sold so many singles; had so many advance orders on that remarkable debut album; caused so many million headaches for box-office staff trying to allocate tickets for shows by the boys.

But that doesn't get to the essential human drama that lies behind a superstar band like the Bay City Rollers.

A band able to afford lovely clothes and to stay in the best hotels, and travel first-class, and not have to feed money into a piggy-bank in order to be able to buy Christmas presents or go away on holiday. And as for making records —well, that can't be hard. A record only runs for three minutes or so; so a half-hour, maybe, in the studios will see that through and help the musicians on to a fat addition to their bulging bank accounts.

Lots of fans everywhere. No loneliness, with lots of parties. And just think of all the other interesting people they must meet every day of their lives.

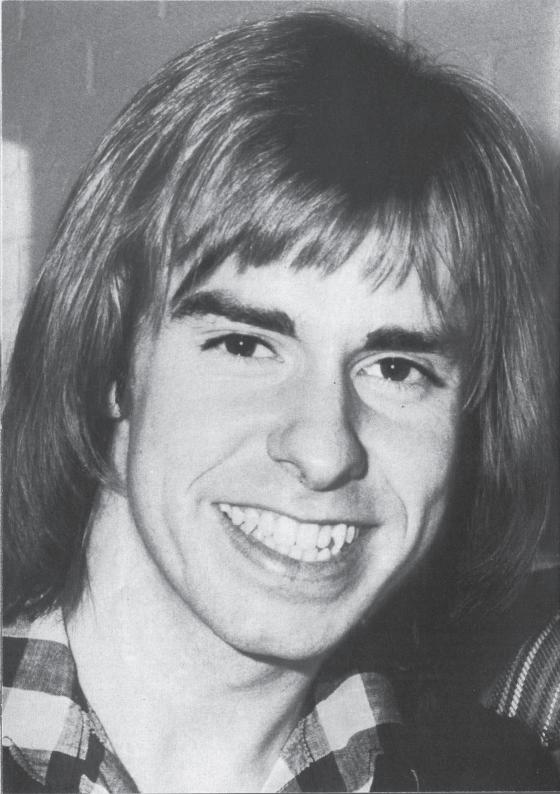
Must be a doddle, being a pop star. Just a doddle...

AWE-INSPIRING

In real life, it's never like that. Here's one awe-inspiring face . . . just for starters, and we'll be coming out with lots more as we unfold the REAL behind-the-scenes story of the Bay City Rollers in the months that lie ahead.

The Bay City Rollers' first hit "Keep On Dancing" reached number nine in the charts, and was in the top twenty for a total of five weeks. It inspired quite a lot of interest in the band and where they'd come from, and there were some

Continued on next page



shrewd judges who felt the band was destined for instant stardom.

Right? Well, here's the point: that first record hit the twenty on October 16 . . . 1971! The next Rollers' hit to make the twenty, remember (Sha-la-la-la) didn't get there until February 23 . . . 1974. Of course they did make the charts in some other countries during this time.

That's a long time for the boys to wait for the much-heralded instant stardom. And even though it had been some TWENTY-EIGHT months before they could genuinely prove they weren't going to be one-hit wonders, they still had no guarantee that they wouldn't have to wait maybe another five years before they got hit number three!

And that, fans, is how pop music can be a terrible up-and-down sort of business which can make the activities of a yo-yo seem motionless.

Of course things didn't stand still for the Bay City Rollers after "Remember". But this time they just went up, and up, and up, and UP. Hit followed hit, headline followed headline, and Edinburgh got more name-checks from raving disc-jockeys up and down the country than it had ever had before.

SEVEN YEARS!

Though "Keep On Dancing" represented one particular break, the fact is that the Bay City Rollers' story started much earlier even than that. Like would you believe SEVEN YEARS ago? Derek and Alan Longmuir had started a group at school. It was a four to six-piecer then, and it was hard getting a break, and there were all sorts of personnel problems before the present idolised quintet got together.

Easy in pop when you're at the top? We'll see all about that as the background to the Bay City Rollers' full, exciting, breaktaking story unfolds.

But let's not rush things. First, let's meet the lads themselves, in terms of their physical appearances.

So brushing aside the obvious risk that you already know all the details very, very well indeed, here goes. Those long-serving bruvvers Longmuir first. They're the same height (5ft. 9in.) and same weight (10 stone), give or take a quarter of an inch on the first and a few ounces on the second. But Alan is the older; born (Edinburgh, of course) on June 20, 1953.

Then comes Derek, his brother, born (Edinburgh, of course) on March 19, 1955.

We'll formally introduce the others in alphabetical order. So it's Eric Faulkner next, and born on October 21, 1955.

Then Les McKeown, singer, guitarist, pianist, born on November 12, 1955.

Finally—it's Stuart Wood, guitarist, and known as Woody to all his mates, which now includes about forty million fans at the last count. The last one to join the supergroup, he was born on February 25, 1957, weighs in at around 9 stone, and has black hair and greenish peepers.

TAM PATON

Actually there ought to be a similar breakdown on their mate and mentor Tam Paton, who has managed the group through bad times to the good times of today, but he'll get his own name checks and background breakdown later on in the story.

But as we were saying earlier, there are so many aspects and angles of the remarkable rise to fame of the Bay City Rollers, that it really is difficult to know where to start. One day, maybe, there will be a major movie made about how five Scottish lads went on to "rule the world" but for the moment let's just concentrate on stressing that life isn't all roses and honey for a pop group fighting through that evernarrowing gap to the top.

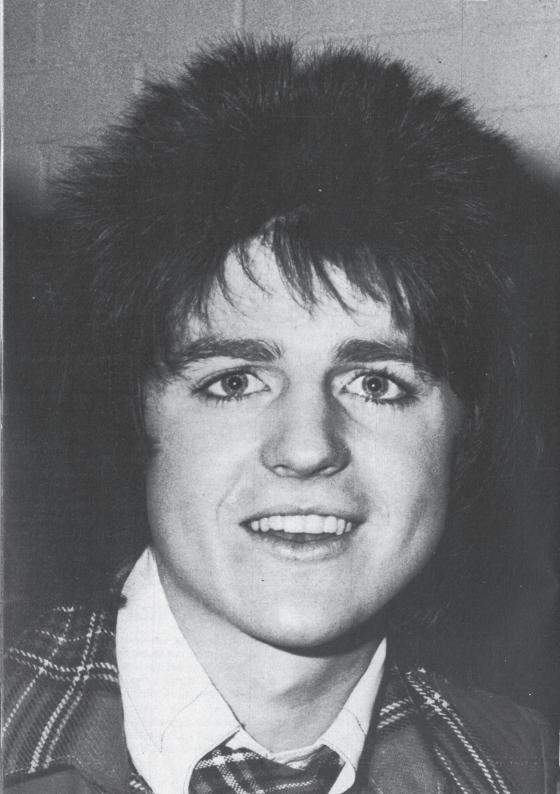
Listen to this: "It was really tough. We were living on maybe six quid a week. And through all that we had to work really hard. There were times, naturally enough, when we felt like chucking the whole thing. We figured that after some years of banging all our heads against brick walls, there would be great pleasure when we stopped doing it and the pain stopped!"

OWN BELIEFS

But fortunately for us—and them, of course—the lads turned out to be fighters. Certainly the Longmuir brothers were fired with a dream that they COULD make the grade if only the right break came along at the right time.

Says Derek: "We always had faith. Sometimes it was hard when one or other of our group-mates got so frustrated that they just had to leave. But we never lost our own beliefs. In

Continued on next page



fact, we never stopped talking about what it would be like at the top of the charts, being interviewed by writers, and maybe having our own magazine, just devoted to what we are doing. Dreams DO come true, you see. They do come true..."

HARD GRAFT

Mind you, those early days of hard graft paid off instantly once hit records made the boys household names. Dick Leahy was managing director of Bell Records and he recalls: "It was the way the Rollers worked on stage that mattered. Long before anyone south of the border had ever heard of them, they were getting tremendous reactions from Scottish audiences. I'm not with Bell now, and have my own label GTO, but a fantastic amount of super talent went through my department with the old company.

"It gives me a lot of pleasure to know that the Bay City Rollers are turning out to be the

biggest of the lot."

When you think the Bell roster included David Cassidy and the Partridge Family, Gary and the Glitter Band, Dawn, Barry Blue and umpteen other big chart names . . . well, that comment of Dick Leahy really does mean something special.

Again, more from that successful man of records later on. But there were those who said that despite the run of hits through 1974 the Rollers were essentially a "singles" band and that they wouldn't mean anything in the album market, which is generally considered to be more in an adult scene.

So what happened? Their first album, Rollin',, went straight to number one in the charts—in the very first week it was out on release. That has happened before. But not often. And even the boys themselves had a job coming to grips with that kind of super-instant sales figure.

DREAMING?

In fact, sometimes Alan, Eric, Derek, Leslie and Woody just can't believe it's all happening. They're up there on stage, in a blaze of spotlights, and the chant is: "Rollers, Rollers, Rollers". Look carefully, and you'll see the boys are pinching each other to make sure THEY are real, and that they're not dreaming. That's all

part of the magic of pop music, the wonderment of the big-time. It's just that it takes a lot of getting used to.

A far cry from schooldays when individual Rollers were recommended (a) to get their hair cut and (b) forget all those stupid dreams of being involved in pop music. There's an awful lot you'd never guess about what the lads were like at school . . . but stick with us, once a month, and you'll get the plain unvarnished facts and figures!

Some of their history is so simple it's hard to believe it happened that way—like how the group actually got the name Bay City Rollers.

When it came to choosing a name the boys felt that as their music was slanted on the American get-up-and-go style, they should have a name that reflected just that—without necessarily giving the impression they had just arrived from the States.

BAY CITY U.S.A.

So they stuck a pin into a map of the United States, and it came down, sharp end spot on, on to a Utah township called Bay City. From then on it could have been the Bay City Rockers, but they decided the Bay City Rollers seemed better. And it was much later on that they discovered that Bay City is actually a famed surfing centre, where the giant waves on the golden beaches are known as . . . The Famous Bay City Rollers.

Mind you, the pin could have pricked a hole in the map over Minneapolis, or El Paso, or Spokane, or whatever—and messed the whole name idea up! As it happens, Bay City Rollers looks just fine on giant posters, and even if you shorten it now to the Rollers or the BCRs, everybody still knows what you're talking about.

That, then, is the band, and the important names in this—the sketchiest of statements about how they've become chart-topping attractions in the pop world, and how it's all too easy to underestimate the guts, fighting spirit and determination that superstars need not only to get to the top . . . but to stay there.

Next month, it's down to the nitty-gritty. To the facts. To the tiniest details. To things that you'll ALL want to know about the fabulous Bay City Rollers.

DON'T MISS CHAPTER TWO IN THE NEXT ISSUE ON SALE FEBRUARY 1ST



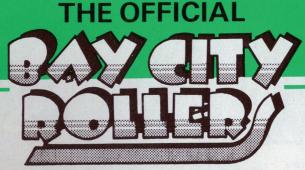




Above: Here are the boys getting out of the police coach that they rode in after their appearance on Saturday Scene on November 30th.

Below: Spot the D.J.'s. Yes, that's Emporor Rosko and Stuart Henry with the boys at the Beeb on November 30th.





FAN CLUB PAGE

27 PRESTON GRANGE RD., PRESTONPANS, EAST LOTHIAN, SCOTLAND.

Hi There,

Thanks for all your letters about our new monthly mag. All the boys are very pleased that you liked it. From now on, of course, we're going to make sure that you get all the latest news, photographs, fax and happenings every month, so don't miss any issue.

Alan, Derek, Eric, Les and Woody all hope you had a marvellous New Year. Our big promise for 1975 is that we're going to see even more of you this year than we did

during the past twelve months.

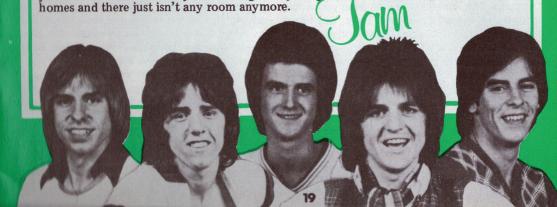
This year we'll be sending out four special Fan Club letters. I'll let you know exactly when to send in your stamped addressed envelope (SAE) to receive our Spring Newsletter. Please don't do anything until I give you full instructions on this page. Otherwise your SAE might get lost.

Unfortunately, we've had to raise the price of the annual subscription to 50p. The only other thing we could do was to lower the quality, which neither the boys or I

was prepared to do.

We have certainly been busy since the last time I wrote this page. We all went to Ireland, where the Rollers did four concerts, as well as several TV and radio shows. We just about had time to catch our breath when we got back, before flying off to do two concerts and some more TV in Hamburg. Before that, of course, we did Saturday Scene, Lift Off, Junior Choice and Rosko's Round Table, all in the same

We do want to thank everyone who send us Christmas cards or presents. There is, however, one problem which has been growing ever since the Rollers began to take off. Our fan club offices are fairly large, but they're no longer big enough to store all the presents which the boys have received recently. So from now on, if you want to send the Rollers letters or cards on their birthdays or on holidays, please do. But PLEASE, don't send any more gifts. We just don't even have enough room to store them all, yet alone display them properly. It's not that we aren't grateful, it's just that we don't want anyone sending us anything which we can't keep in our own





ROLLEROLOGY—You won't find it in the Oxford English Dictionary, but it's a vital word in the vocabulary of anyone who follows the fortunes of Alan, Derek, Eric, Les and Woody.

Basically, it just means the study of Rollers, but like most studies, it has to be approached with a desire to find the truth.

But unlike a lot of studies, Rollerology has one distinct advantage—it's fun!!

And with that in mind, let's get down to it, and have a close look at the real roots of Rollerology. The first lesson of Rollerology is to make sure that you know what the basic points of being a Roller are. That means getting the names right—and I don't mean the names of Alan, Derek, Eric, Les and Woody, either!

No, I mean the *correct* names for things. Take the Roller's distinctive haircuts, for example. You might think that they didn't even have a proper name—and you'd be wrong!

TUFTIES

The haircuts that the Rollers wear are called "Tufties"—that's the plural, of course. The singular is "Tufty"

As you can easily see, the boys all have Tufties. Although they all like having the same basic style, each of the Rollers wants to make sure that a bit of his own individual personality remains. Eric, for example, has what you would call a one hundred per cent Tufty. Les has a Tufty brushed back, while Derek and Alan have about fifty per cent Tufties. Woody, of course, has almost, but not quite, the same type of Tufty that Eric has.

Ready for the second term? All right, what do you suppose the Rollers call their trousers?

I've heard them called all sorts of things, from

fireman's trousers to cut-offs. But the real, Roller name for them is Short Bags.

The Rollers first started to wear Short Bags before the release of "Remember", and both the boys and their fans seemed to like them so much that they've become a permanent fixture.

When the Rollers first decided to adopt Short Bags, no one had seen anything quite like them before. That meant that it would have been impossible to buy anything like them. So, to save money (which was important to the Rollers in those days), Eric decided that he would dive in and make the trousers himself!

ERIC THE TAILOR

After a few words of advice from his mum, Eric went straight ahead and made his first pair of short bags. From then on, it was easy.

Now, of course, the Rollers can afford to have their trousers made by someone else (which also means that Eric can save his precious fingers for his guitar, and not risk putting a needle through them!).

One last basic fact for all Rollerologists—the term for the Rollers' socks. And that term is just that—Roller Socks! Some people seem to think that they're tights, but as you could plainly see on last month's cover, the Roller Socks are just about the same length as football socks. That, however, is where the resemblance ends.

The Rollers don't make too much of their socks. They like them, and anyone would have to admit that the socks look great with Short Bags. But the boys buy their Roller Socks wherever and whenever they can.

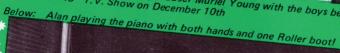
So, congratulations! You have now completed your first lesson in Rollerology. With careful study and a bit of hard work, you could soon become a full-fledged Rollerologist.

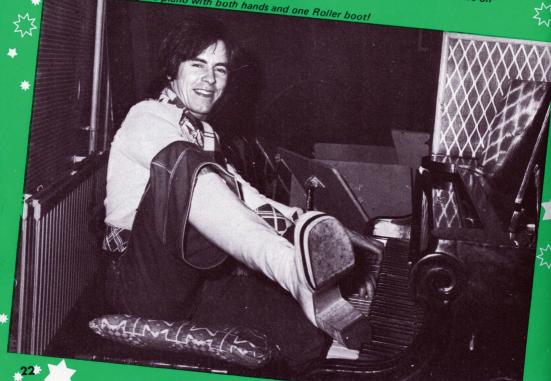
DON'T MISS THE FEBRUARY ISSUE, ON SALE FEB.1

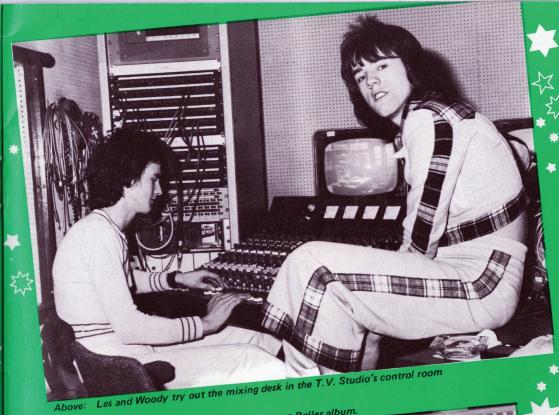




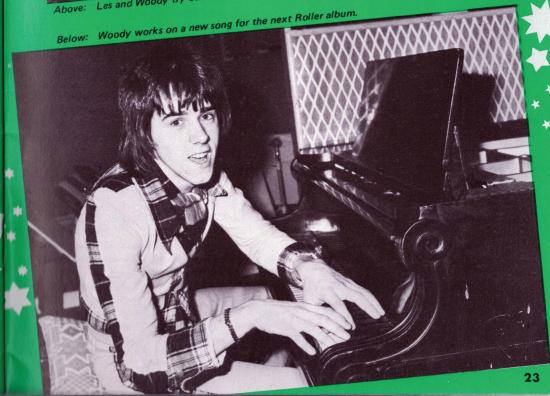
Above: D.J. Kid Jenson and producer Muriel Young with the boys before their appearance on Granada's "45" T.V. Show on December 10th

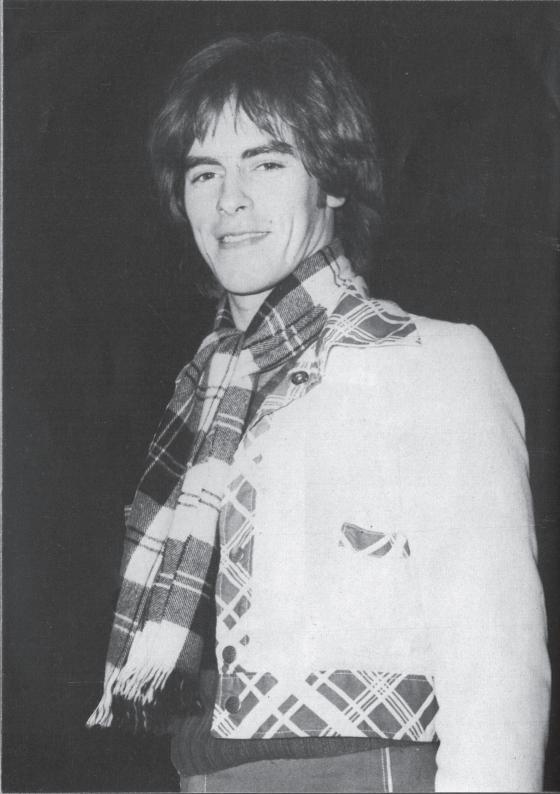


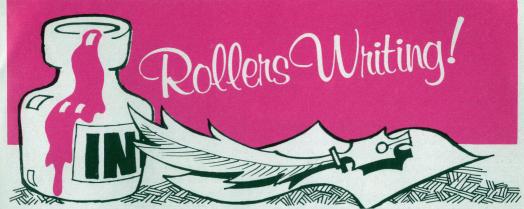




Above:







Hello, it's a very red-faced Alan here. . . .

Why am I embarrassed? I'll tell you, even though I'm still blushing.

You see, last month we went to Ireland for four concerts and some TV shows in the North and the South. We had a really fabulous time, but I'll never forget my day in Dublin.

We were hurrying to catch a train at Dublin station. We had to get down to Cork for a concert and were being chased by some lovely Irish colleens who'd spotted us in Dublin.

Anyway, we had about three minutes to catch the Cork train and were rushing like mad carrying our own suitcases (who said pop stars are pampered?). I saw the train in the platform and started running when suddenly without any warning at all the case I was carrying burst open!

There I was in the middle of Dublin station, with a load of girls after me, and my possessions scattered in four directions.

My lovely neat packing had gone for a burton. Roller trousers and braces flew one way, shirts, toothbrush and everything flew another way.



You should have seen me! Trying to grab all my gear with one hand and close the case with the other. All the other lads thought it was hilarious and laughed their heads off.

But I had the last laugh. Tam was hooting with laughter so much that he slipped on the marble floor and fell flat on his back.

That made everyone laugh even more—including me. You should have seen him. Lying

there surrounded by luggage wiped the smile off his face.

Anyway we managed to catch the train—just. With me and Tam being jeered at all the way by the other four. 'Bye for now and see you next month. Here's Derek. . . .

Hi, Derek here.

Yes, we all had a great laugh at Alan's case. In fact, we had a marvellous time all round in Ireland. We know there's a lot of trouble there but North and South everyone was great to us.

We wondered how things would be there. We've played there before and always done well. But after our fantastic British tour, we wondered if Rollermania had reached Ireland. All the way down to Cork on the train, we talked about what kind of reception we'd get right in the South.

I suppose we hoped for big turn-outs. What we didn't expect was the really tremendous number of people waiting for us. Every seat was sold out and it was just like the British tour all over again.

The audience was great. I'd like to say thanks to them for making it a really exciting trip to Ireland for us.

I was pleased by the way we were recognised all over Ireland. That's what really turns us on, meeting new fans (and old ones, of course!) and appearing in places we've never been before. See you soon, love from me and over to Les who's got a big, big smile on his face . . . dreaming about his new car again, I suppose. He thinks of nothing else these days.

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Rollers writing continued.....

Hello, it's fast-racing-speed-king Leslie here.

Those jealous remarks of Derek's are because I've got the car of my dreams at last—a Ford Mustang. Wow, is it fast! I've been streaking round Scotland (no, not that kind of streaking!) ever since I got it.

Hey, I must tell you about another little bit of fun we had in Ireland. We were asked to appear on television on the late, late show, which was great. Anyway, they had this big turkey, a live one, on the show and people who were watching had to try and guess its weight and win a prize.

Well, Derek's crazy about animals so we kidded him it was first prize and would be killed on the show for the winner. He couldn't believe it. He was almost in tears. He even tried to buy it

from the producer to save its life.

He was getting a bit upset about it, so we let him into the joke. He nearly murdered us! In fact, the turkey was a pet and wasn't gonna be killed at all. It'll live to a ripe old age. Still, old Derek can take a joke.

Mind you, he's looking a bit funny at me at the moment, so I'll hand the column over to good old Woody and be off—in my Mustang, of course. See you all next month.

Wow, it's Woody tuning in to all you super fans.

I'd like to tell you of the secret shopping expedition I made when we were in Ireland.

Shhhh. Don't tell anyone, but I sneaked off one afternoon on a little trip by myself and bought . . . a shillelagh! Yes, that's right, a shillelagh. It was a present for my mum. But ever since I came back with it, I haven't had any trouble with the other Rollers. Even Tam's very nice to me now. Trouble is, I've given it to me Mum now and so everything's back to normal. I enjoyed being in charge for a few days, though.

I did some other shopping, too—for records.

Wee Tam, our mate and manager, recently flogged me his hi-fi set-up and I'm busy collecting records—after all, you can't play your own records all the time (who can't, shouts Eric) so I'm building my collection.

I'm really into Irish folk music—all those jigs and reels are really fantastic, so I bought a few

Irish records to take home with me.

There's something about that really authentic Irish music, the fiddles and things, that really gets to me.

I suppose it's the Celtic in me—hey, that'd make a good song title . . . Feel The Celtic In Me, Mmmmmm, where's me tape recorder? Here, Eric, take over, I feel a hit coming on

Helloooooooo, Eric here!

That Woody's raced off for his cassetterecorder and his guitar. Hope he comes up with something for an album. Anyway, my news this month is really exciting, for me, anyway.

Y'see, I've done it at last. I've bought my own

home back in dear old Scotland.

And it's really great. It's a small cottage miles from anywhere in a secret location that is hard for even me to find! It's super and all mine. I've got three rooms, kitchen and a bathroom, and it's so quiet you can hear the grass grow.

After all, we lead a pretty hectic, exciting life thanks to all you fans, so I need a quiet place to relax and unwind and think about all the amazing times we have. The country cottage is just the place. It's pretty and I've started decorating it and putting in things like furniture and curtains and even things like a washing machine. Gotta be clean, y'know.

And of course I've got my hi-fi gear and all my

guitars in there too.

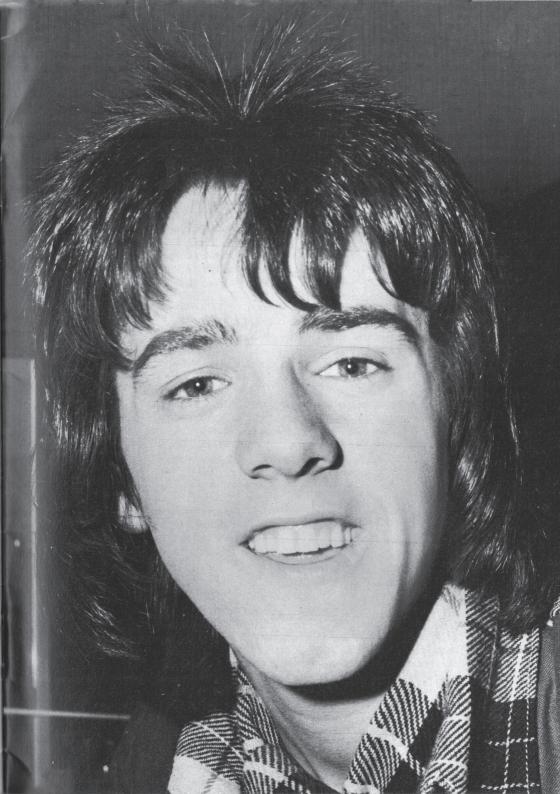
Some of you might have heard that I'm a guitar freak. Well, it's true and I can play my head off in my little cottage with no-one to complain about the noise or the late hour. Bliss, that's what it is. I only wish it were possible to share it with you, but I'm sure you'll realise that's not possible. I'll get some photos done for a future issue of our own monthly though—Eric the domesticated one, that's me.

Tell you what's funny though. I can't drive and the cottage is miles from the shops. So poor old Les or Tam has to come over and drive me down to the shops to get the food and things in.

That's the life. My own place, peace and quiet, and two good looking chauffeurs at my beck and call.

What do you mean, Les, get knotted? You don't mind driving me do you? Ouch!!!!

Hey get off, gotta say goodbye to all the fans. Goodbye from us all. Talk to you again next month.





WHAT PROGRAMMES?

Dear Wilma,

Can you tell me if the Rollers have time to watch television, and if so, what their favourite programmes are?

Myra King, Ickford, Bucks

The Rollers can't always watch telly, but when they can, their favourite programmes are as follows—Alan, Top Of The Pops; Derek, Kojak; Les, Planet Of The Apes; Eric, Some Mothers Do Have Them; and Woody enjoys science fiction films.

ROLLER INFO

Dear Wilma.

I would be very grateful if you could give me the following information. (1) What football team do each of the boys support? (2) Do any of the Rollers smoke? and (3) Are any of the Rollers planning to leave Edinburgh permanently? Heather Clarke, Edinburgh.

Dear Heather,

Alan supports Manchester United; Derek supports Liverpool, as well as Heart of Midlothian in the Scottish League; Les follows the fortunes of Chelsea and Glasgow Rangers; Eric is keen on Spurs and Hibernian; and Woody doesn't have a favourite team.

Of all the Rollers, only Leslie smokes, and none of the boys has any desire to move out of Edinburgh at all.

CRAZY RUMOUR

Dear Wilma,

Could you please tell me if it's true that the Bay City Rollers have been involved in a road accident. I have heard people say that Eric and Leslie are seriously ill in hospital.

Could you also please tell me how old the Rollers are?

Carole Whittaker, Whalley, Lancs.

I am very glad to tell you and everybody that the Rollers have never been involved in a road accident, and that none of them is in hospital. It's just one of those crazy rumours that go around from time to time.

As for their ages, Woody is 17, Derek is 19, Alan is 21, Les is 19, and Eric is also 19.

MARRIAGE

Dear Wilma or Tam,

Could you please answer a simple question which has been worrying me for the past month or so.

The question I have in mind is this—Is Woody of the Bay City Rollers married or even thinking of getting married? Please don't think that I am being nosy because I don't mean to be.

I would be very grateful if you would please tell me if this is true, or if it's only another rumour.

Kim MacGowan, Headington, Oxon.

You can rest assured that Woody certainly isn't married. In fact, he doesn't even have a girlfriend, so you can be absolutely sure that what you heard was just another rumour.

WOODY SINGS

Dear Wilma,

I am a member of The Bay City Rollers' Fan Club and I would like to know who sings the songs on their album *Rollin'*, and also who speaks the words in "There Goes My Baby".

Doreen Thorn, No. 28091

Woody takes the vocals on "Just A Little Love", Eric sings "Angel Angel", and Les sings all the other songs on Rollin', as well as speaking the words on "There Goes My Baby."

