

# RUSS BALLARD

official

## NEWSLETTER



(Banner by Sven Kramer)

A big welcome to all our new readers and a very happy 2015 to everyone!

We are always pleased to hear from you. Feel free to get in touch.  
Contributions are always welcome.

Sue

### NEWS

The second single from Sada Vidoo's album, A Story With No End is now available on iTunes. The single is China Doll and, as with all the songs on the album, was co-written by Russ, Sada and Christian.

<https://itun.es/dk/BjP84>

### THIS MONTH....

**Russ:** *I'm back in the studio writing more songs I'll be releasing on the UMU [MUSIC.com](http://MUSIC.com) site. It looks as though it will be up and running early February.*



(Photo by UMU Music)

*We spent New Year in Dubai. It's great weather this time of year - soft heat with a gentle breeze. I had lunch with Ian and Karen Street. They lived in England until six years ago but Ian was offered a job in Dubai and gave me all the lowdown on the place. There were a few footballers celebrating the New Year in our hotel, Thierry Henry, Pires and Anelka...ex Arsenal players....Being away at New Year made me reflect on 'New Year Resolutions'.*

See attachment for photo

## THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

*Russ: Every New Year we hear people say, "I've made a resolution to get fit" - "Eat less" - "Drink less", so many, and most people give up after a while, mainly because they don't 'stay with it'. I'm sure they mean to stay the course....however, my advice is...When/If you decide to, say, get fit - stay with that feeling you had when you first made the resolution....FEEL IT! - SMELL IT! - BE THERE! Back to when you first thought of it. Think to yourself, "I'll look better"...."I'll have more stamina" - "I'll look more attractive to the opposite sex" - There's so many pluses, but we have to focus on that original feeling....Anyway, Resolutions or not...HAVE A GREAT 2015!*

## YOUR QUESTIONS

I'm a really big fan of Joe Meek, and I know Russ recorded with him when he was very young. I'd be interested to know if Russ remembers much about that session, or sessions. Are there any stories he'd like to share, and what his impressions of Joe were at the time?

I don't even know what was recorded. Would Russ have any of them, or are they in the legendary Joe Meek lost tea chests?

Russ also played at a Joe Meek tribute gig. I wonder how he got involved with that too.

*Russ: I had two sessions at Joe Meek's. One was an audition for the 'Outlaws' and the other was a guitar session for Buster Meikle.....where I was backing him at his audition.....Joe didn't sign him, he said "He's good, but I already have a Ricky Nelson singer" [Michael Cox] - As for the Outlaws audition - I was asked to do a session for them, when I arrived, Joe asked me to play something....I said, "What do you want me to play?" - he said, "Anything" - I played "Trambone" in the Chet Atkins style....Joe said "Yeah he's fine"....The Manager of the group said "You have the job in the Outlaws" - I said, "I don't want it" - I loved the guys in the group...Chas Hodges, Reg Hawkins, Bobby Graham and Billy Kuy. I often took the place of Billy Kuy, when he had an argument as such, with them.....I didn't want to join them full time, I was in a group with my mates Bob Henrit and my brother Roy.*

*I did play at a tribute gig with Mike Berry and Reg Hawkins...years ago*

## RECORDED BY OTHERS

"Liar" appeared on Argent's first album, "Argent" in 1970. No Argent hit singles came from this album but "Liar" was covered the following year by Three Dog Night, with Danny Hutton on vocals at that time, and became a Billboard top 10 hit. Here is an unusual version by Three Dog Night.

[http://youtu.be/\\_ytPxNYoWhE](http://youtu.be/_ytPxNYoWhE)

## MISHEARD LYRICS

Just something interesting I came across. Does anyone have any more?

### "Voices"

*Misheard Lyrics:*

Hidden behind my Canadian friends

*Original Lyrics:*

Hidden behind my comedian face

## "Voices"

### *Misheard Lyrics:*

Don't look back, look straight.

A head. Don't look back 'til the voice is dead  
or

Don't look back, looks dead ahead.

Don't look around to the voice instead.

### *Original Lyrics:*

Don't look back, look straight ahead.

Don't turn away then the voice it said





