



Many many thanks to Sven for making a new banner for us. I am sure you will agree that it brightens the place up!!

It has been a month for radio interviews. For those outside of the UK, the Ken Bruce Show and Johnnie Walker's 'Sounds of the 70s' are THE shows to be on. Both are on BBC Radio 2, Ken Bruce on weekdays 9.30am - 12noon and Johnnie Walker on Sundays 3.00pm - 5.00pm.

Ken Bruce: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006wr34>

Johnnie Walker: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b00j1wqd>

As this is a very special birthday month for Russ, we just have to have this one here!! Can you guess what it is?

<https://youtu.be/sMEI5PONsBA>

Waiting to hear from you all!

Sue

**THIS MONTH...**

Russ: *"I have just recorded Tracks Of My Years for the Ken Bruce Show on BBC Radio 2. It was relaxed & Ken asked me the reason I'd chosen the songs for TOMY. Ken Bruce is certainly clued up, which is good. People have said to me in the past - "You should get in touch with KB, he plays your songs & often gives you a name-check" - I never did, anyway, Ken said something to the effect, 'No it's my pleasure to play them'. What a nice man, that Ken!*

[Sue: For the song list.....you will have to listen to the show, which is due to go out in the second week of January. See the attachment for a photo of Russ with Ken.]

*Just about every day in September I've been in my studio, mainly trying to re-aquaint myself with songs I'll be performing 'Live'. I'm pretty good at remembering words to songs...the last three weeks I've been 'designing' guitar solos. I'm pleased to say, I have my long term friends playing along side me on the tour for early 2016 - Steve Smith on Keyboards - Chris Winter on Guitar and Keyboards - Stuee Ross on Bass and my great friend from my childhood days, Bob Henrit [Bob was with me in the Roulettes, Unit Four and Argent before joining the Kinks for twenty years]. The tour manager will be Paul Meredith. [Sue: I know a number of readers will be pleased to see Paul's involvement]*

*Last week I had dinner again at a great restaurant in Highgate with my close friends, Richard Desmond and Greg Lake...For the last eight years we've been playing together in The Crusaders, raising money for various charities....Roger Daltrey started the group and we've also had many guest artists - Robert Plant, Peter Andre, Gary Moore, Lulu, Mark Ronson, Elkie Brooks and Gary Brooker. Spending three hours around a dinner table with Richard and Greg is always fun...They're both 'Larger than life' and have lead very full lives, to say the least. We used to rehearse at Richard's house in Mallorca and it was hilarious....After breakfast every day we used to run up a hill a couple of kilometers away...it is a 'killer' hill but from the top it's a beautiful view over the Med. I loved the stories, every day there would be another couple, so outrageous, you couldn't make them up!*

*Bob H and I were invited by a good friend, Ian Street and his wife, Karen, to see David Gilmour's show at the Royal Albert Hall. DG played all the best Floyd songs 'Us and Them' and 'Money' were stand out's for me. I'd never been to Pink Floyd show before and I've heard a lot about the 'Light and Screen Show' - it is impressive - I could tell, by people reactions, they didn't know the newer tunes...It's a little dilemma that an Artist wants to perform*

*the new songs, but, until the audience gets to know them, they don't get the best reaction...*

*Ian and Karen certainly, are good hosts...They kept the Champagne and Canapés coming...It was a good night! [See attachment for a photo of Russ, Bob, Ian, Karen and friends in their box at the Royal Albert Hall]*

*I recorded the Johnnie Walker Show, last Thursday....It is being broadcast on 1st. November. - As the show is 'Sound of The Seventies' - That decade was basically what we talked about...except, he asked me about Unit Four Plus Two - [They were sixties] - JW wanted to know how I went from that group in to Argent....He played some of my songs and wanted to know a bit about the songwriting process. Also, he asked a strange one...his first question was, "Give me a piece of wisdom, Russ" - Funny! I first heard him in the sixties...amazing how the time has flown." [See attachment for a photo of Russ with JW]*

## THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

Russ: "Teachers & Teaching...

*Teaching is a very important occupation - We've all had a special Teacher at school - If we're lucky, we might have two. I believe the best teaching is by example - [ It's not good telling a pupil not to smoke while the Teacher has a cigarette in his/her hand ]...Anyway, we're all Teachers, as Mothers and Fathers, Aunts & Uncles...We should always keep in mind what we say and do in front of young ones...quite often, I hear my Son and Daughter quoting certain phrases that affected me years ago. - I sometimes show the young ones interesting stuff online that they wouldn't know...Caterpillars, Butterflies, Mountains, The underwater Universe....People that have achieved things, in Sports & Science...There's so much...And of course, the best thing we can do is just give time... But to profess to be a Teacher, it's important to have our own 'House in order', psychologically, and know ones own conditioning, so as not to pass on our own prejudices."*

## TOUR

The complete list of dates is not yet confirmed but we can give you two dates which are being promoted on the websites of the venues.

Sat 12th March 2016    The Flowerpot, Derby [http://www.rawpromo.co.uk/gig\\_guide.html](http://www.rawpromo.co.uk/gig_guide.html)

Sun 13th March 2016 Robin 2, Bilston, Wolverhampton [http://www.therobin.co.uk/whats\\_on/?m=201603](http://www.therobin.co.uk/whats_on/?m=201603)

Please note that Russ is no longer appearing at The Great British Rock and Blues Festival at Butlins in Skegness in January.

## FRIDA

To celebrate her 70th birthday, Frida's solo album, 'Something's Going On', will be released on 23rd October and will be limited to 2000 copies worldwide. It will be part of a deluxe box set. which will include a bonus single edit of Russ's song, 'I Know There's Something Going On', a standalone 7" single of 'I Know There's Something Goin' On' and other goodies.

<http://www.udiscovermusic.com/frida-music-somethings-going-on-box-set-due>

## YOUR QUESTIONS

I was talking to a friend from Waltham Cross and he said that if Russ had not had his accident he would have probably ended up playing for Spurs, he was that good a footballer. So my question for Russ is...

Would you prefer to be a musician or a footballer? Is it true that you had connections with Spurs when you were young?

Russ: *"I was passionate about football when I was young and people have told me I could have been a pro. (I'm not so sure) - When I was hit in the eye and landed up in Moorfields Hospital, I did receive a book from Danny Blanchflower ( then captain of Spurs and N. Ireland). I still have a lovely letter he inserted in to the book - telling me "When the boys at Spurs have a 'Whack' they're told, you'll get over it in twenty years" -Funny! I knew I would never be able to pursue a career in football from then, so, I put my energy into playing guitar & piano - (I was always mad about music & it consumed my life, day & night...)*  
*I'm still a football junkie & watch everything on Sky & BT. - I'm still kind of living my football dreams through Archie, Emi & Lennie - They're all talented strikers!*  
*Between the two passions, I would choose music...I'm still writing, playing & singing...Had I been a footballer, my playing days would have been over years ago - (that's a sad fact for sportsmen & women)...*

*I still take my boots whenever I go to White Hart Lane....just in case they need me!"*

## RECORDED BY OTHERS

A few months ago we had Hello's New York Groove. This is Ace Frehley's version. Paul Daniel "Ace" Frehley (did you know that? 😊 ) is an American musician who played lead guitar with Kiss from 1973 until 1992. He then had a solo career before rejoining Kiss in 1996 for their reunion tour. He resumed his solo career in 2002. New York Groove was the single from his 1978 solo album, 'Ace Frehley', and it reached #13 on the Billboard Hot 100.

<https://youtu.be/fE7Yhgjj2RU>

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