

THE OFFICIAL RUSS BALLARD NEWSLETTER



EST. 2013



(Header by Sven)

July 2025

THIS MONTH - RUSS'S DIARY

I always look forward to getting into the studio most mornings and June has been very much business as usual except, in my brain, I've been aware of the festival that's looming just two weeks or so away - and the fact that I have to be ready (along with the guys in the band).

It occurred to me after the German tour, which ended May 9th, that I needed a couple of new foot pedals for the festival as I left a couple in Germany. Anyway, Denny put in an order for two foot pedals, plus power supplies and cables. They arrived today, now I'm all set for rehearsals in a few days. Then I'm told, from my good friend, (road manager Robin), that he has my equipment (foot pedals and cables) safely stored in Germany since the April/May tour past...Now, focus is on our show in Mosbach in two weeks...

I look forward to seeing you there 🎵 😊 xxx

RUSS - LIFE STORIES

Hello all, Continuing my memoir with Bob H. and myself joining The Unit Four Plus Two for a period of six months....In this item we're in Germany [Cologne to be exact] at a club called The Storyville... The year is 1968 ...In this edition we're trying to negotiate AN1 tablets. We decided to buy them from a pharmacy

after being told we would be playing at least an hour and half to two hours a night for two weeks....We asked a young man who worked at the club, "How do singers get through, having to sing for so long?" We took his advice and bought 50 AN1 pills from a pharmacy.....I remember thinking, these pills can't be very strong otherwise they wouldn't sell over the counter....Wrong!!! After the first couple of songs the pills started to 'kick in' [with the help of a bottle of strong lager]. I felt my senses be enhanced, then I found it easier to hit high notes as I was singing...also, concentration seemed more intense and my nose started to run. I looked across at our bass player, Lem. He looked at me and smiled a 'Yogi Bear' grin. It seemed his AN1 pills were kicking in. When we came off stage at the end of the night, we were still feeling 'wired' and we knew it would be a waste of time trying to sleep...So, Bob, Lem, Tom and myself went to the local disco club, where we thought we might 'unwind'. However, we stayed high. In fact, even when we arrived back at the hotel and finally into bed, we couldn't sleep, and as the pills wore off we experienced a 'come down', a feeling of sadness and hopelessness. It was the opposite of how we felt on stage.

By the morning, the 'Down' wasn't so bad but I felt very tired....voices also became raw. The Unit Four were not earning very much, and usually we wandered to the train station to eat lunch, which was as cheap as we could find. The evening show started at 7pm and as the week went on we became more tired, especially for poor Tom who was singing most lead vocals...so, we took more AN1 pills, which gave us more of a 'low'.

The girls at the bar decided which member of the band they wanted - and some of the girls were very attractive, although, I didn't indulge. There was a funny incident toward the end of our time at The Storyville....which I will tell you next month.....Wow, that will be August.....Crazy! The football season will be starting again. Happy Holidays My Friends.

COMING UP - VERY SOON

I know some of our readers are going to this festival. If anyone would like to write us a review, we would all like to read about it. It is bound to be a great gig with Russ and his usual band, Roly, Marc, PJ and John. In case you are making a last minute decision, here is a link for tickets.... <https://www.eventim.de/en/event/die-mosbacher-rock-night-mit-the-hooters-level-42-russ-ballard-grosser->

[elzpark-19551235/?](https://www.elzpark-19551235/?srsltid=AfmBOoqXrYkY1T7csgOAS0m4Kc7m2DglQIYmea2J4Dyw2js-XZccGz3E)

[srsltid=AfmBOoqXrYkY1T7csgOAS0m4Kc7m2DglQIYmea2J4Dyw2js-XZccGz3E](https://www.elzpark-19551235/?srsltid=AfmBOoqXrYkY1T7csgOAS0m4Kc7m2DglQIYmea2J4Dyw2js-XZccGz3E)



Die Mosbacher Rock Night mit The Hooters, Level 42, Russ Ballard

26.07.2025

US OPEN TENNIS

With Wimbledon only just over, tickets are on sale for the US Open in a few weeks. Have a look at their promotion here and listen to the background music. This one pops up in all sorts of places!

<https://youtu.be/6VmR4dkOUuE?si=ynTCQdMG-7-FAxsp>



LYRIC OF THE MONTH

Lets come right up to date. I have listened to Songs From The Warehouse so many times I reckon I know all the lyrics now. I wonder how many of you have done the same. I think I could name a few. I thought we might visit some of those tracks so let's start with this one. Do you know which song this is from? Scroll down to the bottom of the newsletter to find the answer and listen to the track.

The ship, it sailed on a sea of tears

One more life you'll find, will be out of sight, out of mind.

PODCAST OF THE MONTH

Russ has done so many interviews and podcasts in the last three months or so, it would be impossible to put them all in the newsletter. However, I was just about to send this newsletter out and I spotted this, which just came onto YouTube today from Rock History Music. It is only around 10 minutes and fits nicely with Russ's biog for this month.

<https://youtu.be/qzo30wjI2vw?si=yHRkB0KFOamG8C5q>

AMATEUR HOUR

From Dave



Voices by Emma Washington

The dividing line between professional artists and home recording musicians is becoming harder to determine, but as this release appears to only be available by streaming companies such as Spotify, SoundCloud, Apple Music etc. Behind the release is an Italian company called Only The Best Records, founded in 2011 by Luca Todesco.

Emma provides a different take on Voices to Russ Ballard's version, with four remixes recorded, two of which I've linked below.

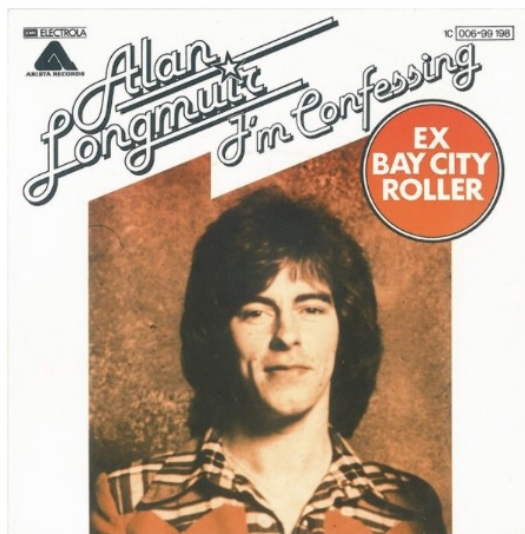
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zANO16lrw0k>

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[v=zANO16lrw0k&list=OLAK5uy_leU6F4GXu1N02m7yYTfY-x5xlPjReevoc&index=3](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zANO16lrw0k&list=OLAK5uy_leU6F4GXu1N02m7yYTfY-x5xlPjReevoc&index=3)

DAVE'S COVER QUEST

Back to the glam era this month. **The Bay City Rollers** famously covered **Are You Cuckoo** in 1977 and stuck it on the B side of their maxi single **You Made Me Believe in Magic**, which was a silly thing to do. Only kidding, the A side, written by Len Boone, was actually a decent song. By this time, bass guitarist **Alan Longmuir** had left the band, and briefly attempted to start a solo career.
No.83



I'm Confessing by Alan Longmuir

There's a touch of sadness about this one, because Alan's attempt at a solo career amounted to this one and only single release, a Russ Ballard song called I'm Confessing. Sadly, Alan began to suffer health problems including a couple of heart attacks and a stroke, which left him paralysed down most of his left side. He passed away in July 2018 aged 70.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V4wpcpFt6l8&list=RDV4wpcpFt6l8&start_radio=1

LYRIC OF THE MONTH TRACK

The Family Way. Did you know it? Have a listen....

<https://youtu.be/KETm17q5lOQ?si=HvJrliENj8jczEV7>