



(Header by Sven)

October 2025

A big welcome to our new readers.

Markus has sent us an update to the voting for New York Groove on the German radio station. This vote is ongoing. Please click on Markus's link and vote if you can and get more plays for the track. A bit more news about radio plays in Germany too.

Russ has been travelling a bit this month. Otherwise he has been as busy as usual and has gigs to prepare for in the new year.

If you have been waiting for merch or a signed CD, we now have some for sale.

Thank you to Markus, Cat and our own Dave for their contributions this month.
Sue

THIS MONTH - RUSS'S DIARY

Allo, FriendsDiary,

This past month I took a few days out of the studio and flew to Portugal to see my good friends, Ian and Karen Street. They moved there from Abu Dhabi, where Ian worked for many years. To be honest, I'm not good at doing holidays, I prefer making music, however, with Ian, he's heavily into music as a fan, so much so that I asked him if he'd like to accompany me on my tour of Germany last year on the 'Rock meets Classic' tour. I needed a tour manager and I just knew Ian would

rise to the occasion. After three successful weeks with sixty Classical musicians, string players, woodwind, brass and choir...he navigated everything so easily, I thought he'd be able to handle a four piece rock outfit and me.

We spent three days on the small break just relaxing and eating - the time went very quickly and I was home and almost immediately I was on a flight to Madrid to appear with Ronnie Romero in the making of a video for a song of mine that he has recorded. Ronnie has been the singer in Ritchie Blackmore's Rainbow for the past years....Actually, I don't know how many years - I think his tenure with Rainbow started probably 7 or 8 years ago.

Anyway, for me, it was a lot of fun miming and playing with Ronnie and his players for two or three hours...I guess you'll see the video when his cd is released (do we still call it 'RELEASING' an album - I don't know). I do know I'll be with you again in November, for the next news letter. Peace & Love,

Russ 🥰

RUSS - LIFE STORIES

Autumn 1968... Bob Henrit and I were still playing with Unit 4 plus 2 -We'd completed our two weeks at the Storyville Club in Germany and we were back in the UK playing one nighters. One show we played was somewhere in Essex. This night we were playing two sets of forty five minutes each. My one solo vocal in the first set was a progressive version of 'Our Day Will Come', The Ruby and The Romantics song. We finished the first set and walked in to the dressing room... suddenly there was a knock at the door and in walked Rod Argent and Chris White, our friends from The Zombies -

"What are you doing here?" I said, "We were just passing and saw the gig" - I hadn't seen Rod for a couple of years and, as the Zombies had split about a year before, I asked him...."Don't you miss playing in a band?" - "Yeah" he said...."it gets in to the blood", I replied, "Yeah" he said. Chris and Rod stayed talking until we went on for our second set. Then we didn't see them again that night. About a week later the phone rang, my mother picked it up, "It's Rod Argent, he wants to talk to you" "I'm starting a new group, I wondered if you'd like to be a part" Straight away I said I would. I'd always rated Rod as a special musician and writer..."Who else is in the group?" Rod replied, "My cousin Jim Rodford". Jim was the bass player Bob and I had seen playing in the Mike Cotton Sound when we'd played on the same bill two years before....Bob and I stood at the back of The Boston Gliderdrome both saying how good Jim was. We would like Bob on drums, too, he said.

I'll continue the story of how 'Argent' came to be....

HAPPY BIRTHDAY AT 80!

Around 800 people receive this newsletter and, so far, I have received birthday greetings from about 10. The birthday email with all the messages will go out to Russ and everyone on his birthday, 31st October. Please send me a message to russ.b.news@hotmail.co.uk (or just reply to this newsletter). Even if it is only "Happy Birthday" plus your name, he will read it and love it. This is a special birthday...let's make it a good birthday email. Thank you to those who have already sent their messages. If you would rather your message went to Russ in a private email, I am happy to do that too. Just make it clear.

CHANGE OF DATE - PORTUGAL

Unfortunately, the date of the show in Estoril, Portugal has had to be changed. All tickets for 14th November will be valid for the new date. See Emanuel's statement and the new poster.

Remember Minds

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT — EVENT POSTPONEMENT

Due to reasons beyond our control, the Russ Ballard and Tyketto concert, originally scheduled for November 14, 2025, has been postponed to May 8, 2026.

This decision aims to ensure the best possible experience for all fans and to guarantee ideal conditions for a concert worthy of these rock legends.

The new date will maintain all the previously announced energy, quality, and artistic lineup — an unmissable night of international rock at the iconic Salão Preto e Prata do Casino Estoril.

 Tickets already purchased remain valid for the new date.

We appreciate your understanding and, above all, the tireless support of true rock fans, who make this show possible.

Rock lives thanks to you! 🙌

Remember Minds

M/18

RUSS BALLARD



8 MAIO 2026
SALÃO PRETO E PRATA | 21:30



**CASINO
ESTORIL**



TYKETTO

 **CASINO
ESTORIL**

COMING UP LATER

Our fabulous Sven has made a poster for Russ's UK shows in the new year.

UK 2026

RUSS BALLARD

16 TH JAN	HULL	WRECKING BALL ARTS CENTRE	
17 TH JAN	BARNOLDSWICK	MUSIC AND ARTS CENTRE	SOLO OUT
18 TH JAN	BARNOLDSWICK	MUSIC AND ARTS CENTRE	SOLO OUT
18 TH JAN	BARNOLDSWICK	MUSIC AND ARTS CENTRE	SOLO OUT
23 RD JAN	MILTON KEYNES	THE STABLES	
24 TH JAN	WORCESTER	HUNTINGDON HALL	TICKETS ON SALE

RUSSBALLARDMUSIC.COM | @RUSSBALLARDMUSICOFFICIAL

Tickets:

Hull <https://wreckingballmusic.myshopify.com/products/russ-ballard-friday-jan-16th-2026-8pm-10pm>

Stables <https://stables.org/boxoffice/ticket/487001>

Worcester <https://purchase.worcestertheatres.co.uk/ChooseSeats/93801>

PODCAST OF THE MONTH

This is a podcast from Hammer Away and was originally put out live on YouTube on 1st October. Because it was live, there are a few technical problems at the beginning and, because it was live, it is quite long at around 1 hour 40 minutes.

https://www.youtube.com/live/YevWe8sAW_8?si=y4LA2CgDF5aB56Zo



MERCH

New merch, designed by Sven Kramer, was made for Russ's tour in Germany this year. Russ also signed a few hundred CDs. We are now offering for sale the items we have left. We have caps, tote bags and signed "Songs From The Warehouse" CDs. If you would like to buy or if you have further questions, please email me at russ.b.news@hotmail.co.uk and I will send you payment details. Payment will be by PayPal. For logistical reasons, these can't be posted out until November. I will need to find out P&P costs.

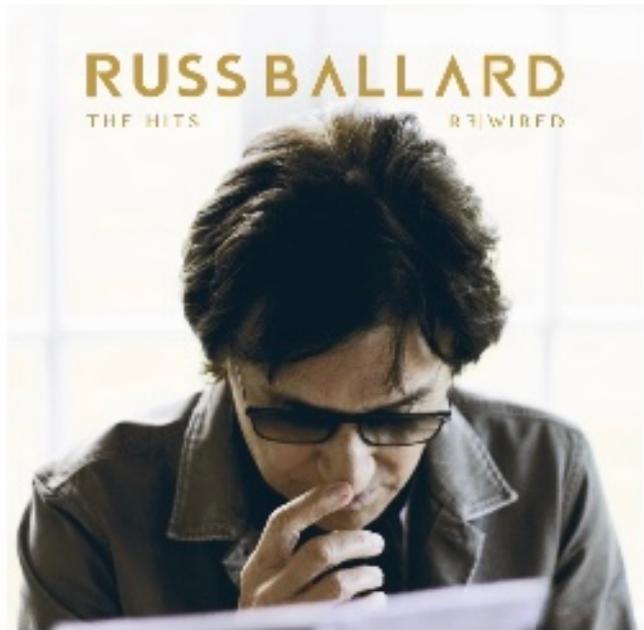
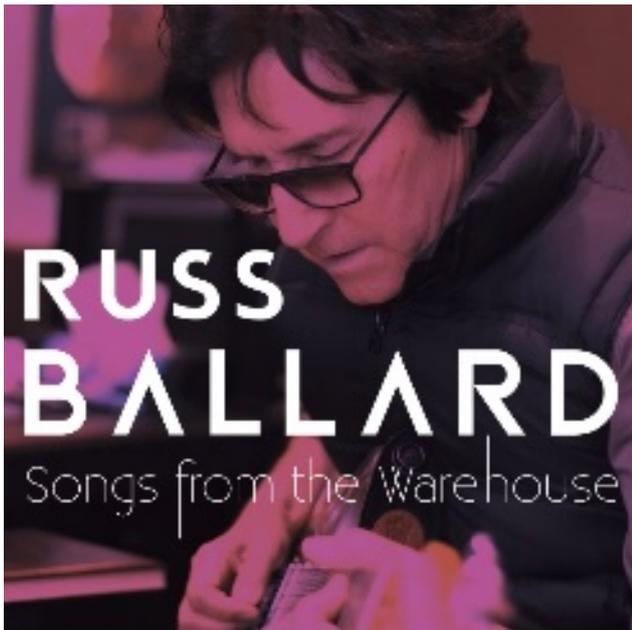
Caps £20 + P&P



Tote Bags £10 + P&P



Signed CDs £20 + P&P



ACE FREHLEY

Thanks to Cat Frummerman for sending this article from the New York Times after the sad death of Ace Frehley. It is a tribute to Ace Frehley but it is more about New York Groove.

https://www.nytimes.com/2025/10/17/arts/music/ace-frehley-kiss-new-york-groove.html?unlocked_article_code=1.uE8.MfA.eJ2T9ueVYcDM&smid=url-share

FROM DAVE - MYSTERY BIRTHDAY CALLER

Here's a little puzzle for you to contemplate, now the dark nights are setting in. If my memory is correct, on October 31st Russ Ballard's phone will ring and at the other end a voice will say "Hi Satan, Happy Birthday". Next year on 1st March, that same person's phone will ring, this time the conversation will be reversed, and Russ will say "Hi Saint, Happy Birthday". Who is Russ's mystery caller? The answer will be revealed next month.

LYRIC OF THE MONTH

Sticking with Songs From The Warehouse. Maybe a more difficult one.....

That could be you, that could be me

**But if you don't believe in me - I'll go
Not make a fuss**

OK. which of you hardcore fans knows this one? Scroll to the end to see if you are right.

FROM MARKUS - NEW YORK GROOVE VOTE

Hello Sue,

great news from Germany: On Friday, MDR 80er Club first played Elkie Brooks with "No More the Fool" (a request from me) and later the second song from Russ Ballard's album: In the Night.

No More the Fool starts at 0:39:50, In the Night at 1:16:50: <https://www.mdr.de/mdr-sachsen-anhalt/der-achtziger-club100.html>.

On Saturday New York groove reached number 3 in "Discothek im WDR" - you can vote again for Hello: <https://www1.wdr.de/radio/wdr4/programm/sendungen/discothek-im-wdr/discothek-im-wdr-voting-102.html>.

Yesterday you could listen to Russ' Song "I don't believe in miracles", starting at 1:16:50 <https://www.mdr.de/mdr-sachsen-anhalt/programm/der-oldie-club-mit-peter-hofmann-100.html>.

Also Ace Frehley's version of "New York Groove" was played at the beginning of the radio show (Kiss has been quite successful for many years in Germany).

Best wishes
Markus

CALENDAR

Thank you to everyone who ordered a Russ 2026 calendar. The order will be going in this week. All photos in the calendar are by Sven Kramer.

COVER QUEST MISSING LINKS

A quick update on 3 songs originally featured in Cover Quest that, at the time, were not available to hear on You Tube. These have since become available

No.15 - He's So in Love by Scottish singer **Lulu**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zOjF6vrevPM>

No.63 - Prove It by former Motown Detroit band **Rare Earth**

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

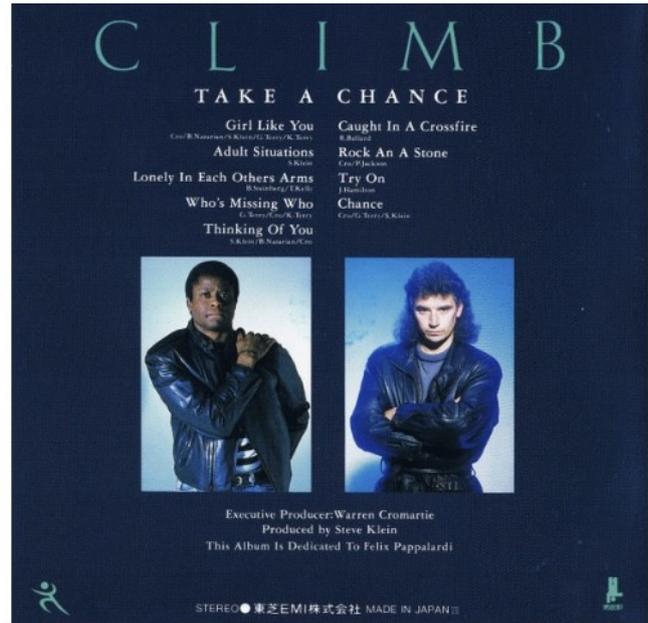
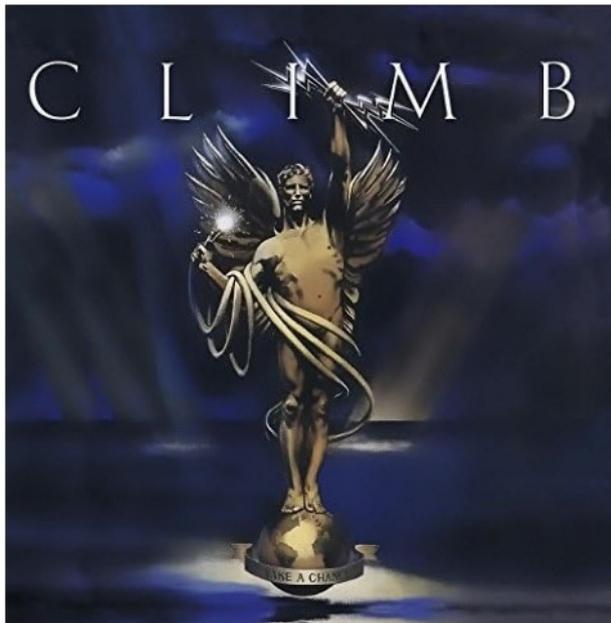
No.74 - I'm A Clown by the 1970s Australian trio **New World**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mQTCU3o7IME>

DAVE'S COVER QUEST

A sporting theme to this month's cover quest, and a Russ Ballard song that was new to me when I discovered it a few years ago.

No.86



Caught in a Crossfire by **Climb**

Climb was an AOR band made up of drummer **Warren 'Cro' Cromartie** and Austrian vocalist **Joe Hamilton**. Cromartie made his name as a successful baseball player with Montreal Expos, and at 30 years old became the first prominent US player to sign in his prime with a baseball team in Japan, achieving the coveted MVP (Most Valuable Player) award in 1989 after leading his team to the Japan Series Championship.

An accomplished drummer, Cromartie befriended, and jammed with, the Canadian band **Rush**, receiving a credit on the sleeve of their 1982 LP **Signals**. It was while in Japan that Warren formed the AOR band **Climb**, releasing a limited-edition album titled **Take a Chance**. It would appear from the hand-written note inside the lyric sheet, that recording an album was one of Cromartie's personal ambitions, for which he thanked those responsible for helping to make it happen. These included **Mitch Molloy** (ex-**Great White** vocalist), **Lou Gramm** (ex-**Foreigner** lead vocalist), former **Rainbow** keyboard player **David Rosenthal** and **Rush** bassist **Geddy Lee**.

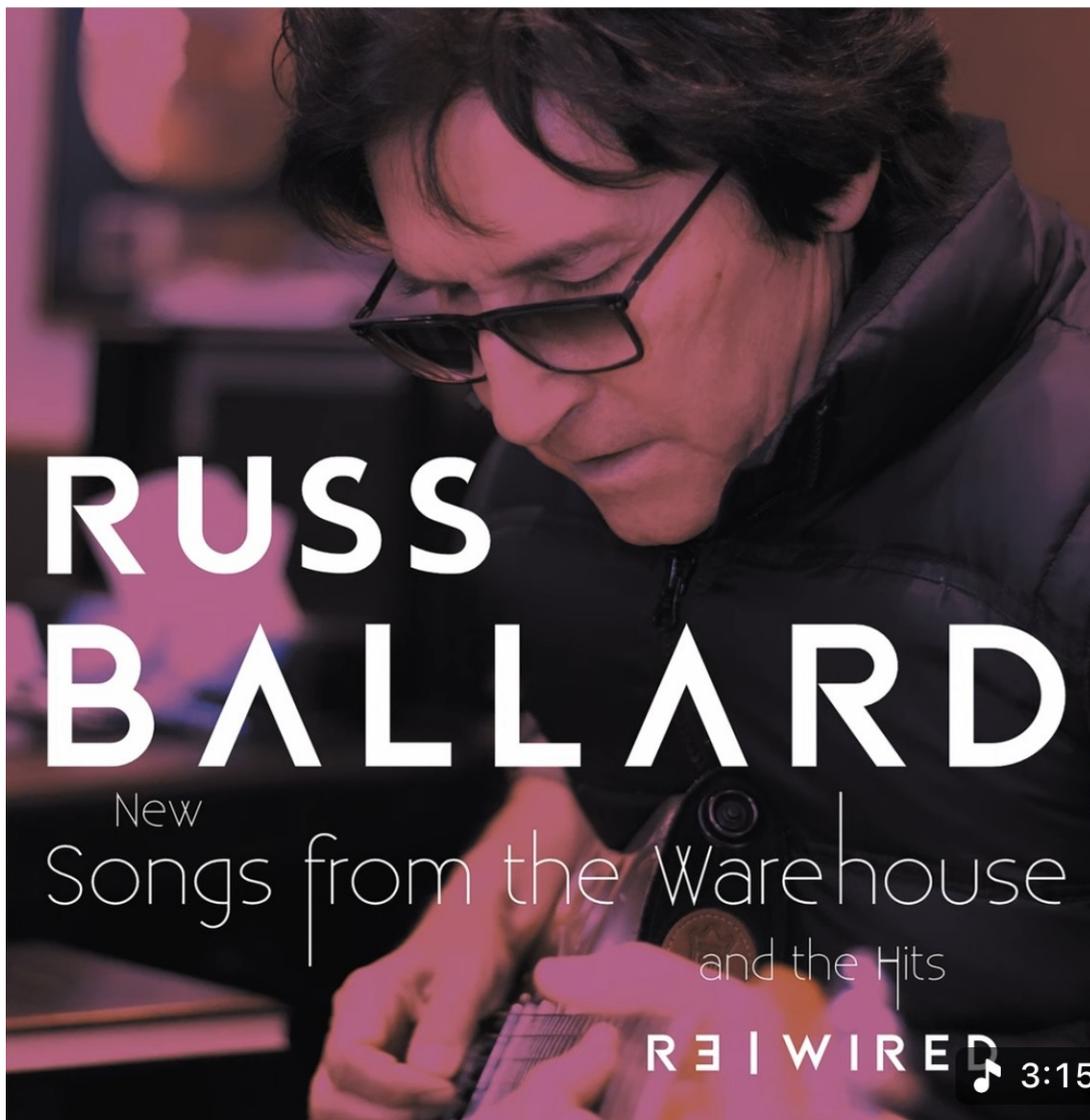
Take A Chance achieved rave reviews in Japan and features Russ Ballard's excellent song **Caught in a Crossfire**.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PRCO8CEIjg8>

A second album, **Back in Action Again**, was recorded two years later, with a new singer **Pete Hewlett**, though it lay unreleased for many years, eventually surfacing in 2016.

LYRIC OF THE MONTH - ANSWER

Charlatan



Charlatan



https://youtu.be/U3gBKEqr_H8?si=Hi5SYoVG9Esydh9s