

AUTUMN NEWSLETTER

18 October 2007

This newsletter contains photos as well as links to video clips. Simply click on the link and you will be redirected to view the clip.

Please forgive us if all doesn't go as planned. This is new technology for us. We're only just letting go of carrier pigeons and sealing wax, so there may be a few teething troubles.

Do email us your comments, thoughts (both good and bad), also any suggestions for what you'd like to see in future editions. We'll do our best!



Contents

- 1) Welcome to Our New Home
 - 2) The Year in Gigs - It was a very good year
 - 3) Old Folks Boogie
 - 4) Norwegian Wood
 - 5) Lola, L-o-l-a Lola, la la la la Lola
- Woking in a Coal-mine (Bisley here we we come!)
- Gig and Ticket info

Shock Horror Over New Format No this isn't spam!

Dear Friends of The SAS Band,

Well it's already autumn again, so it's time to consider the year behind us and the exciting events to come! The big news so far is the launch of the new SAS Band website. After much deliberating and procrastination we, at last, managed to get things off the ground at the beginning of the summer. Sterling and unstinting work by our designer Simon Butcher and our editor Kyle (Mrs E.), plus hours of collecting and collating all the info we could scrounge or remember, resulted in, what we think is, a fairly comprehensive site.

We went scurrying around the length and breadth of this nation (Haslemere and Gosport actually) to find old set-lists, CV's, biographies and the

names of everyone who has performed with us over the years (that was tricky!) Now we have a fairly hefty collection of info and data concerning the history of the band from its inception in 1994 right up to the present. So, if you need to know anything about the members of the band, where they came from, their blood types or parole details, I'm sure you'll find it somewhere on the site.

Obviously, it's a work in progress and now starts the mammoth task of keeping it up-to-date. We are always looking for new photos, reviews, etc. to add, so if you have something in your own archive from our past, please let us see it so that we can include the best selection on the site.

I'm under some pressure to release the collection of

behind the scenes video that I've accumulated over the past few years. I'm afraid the footage seems at times like a cross between The Three Stooges and Carry On Marx Brothers. However, I will make it my duty to wade through it and put it up for your illumination and edification, no matter how humiliating it may be for most of us. You, the loyal fans deserve to know the truth, apparently, so over the coming year I will be deep in the editing underworld and will release anything fit for human consumption as it surfaces.

I hope you enjoy this new-look newsletter. I've got a new iMac and I'm still experimenting

Cheers!
Spike xxx

The Year in Gigs Corporate, Weddings, local Policia It's All Good!

As you know, we rarely play public shows as it's not practical and it's an expensive operation.

However, we do get to meet up during the summer months when we appear at corporate or private shows.

Our first gathering was early May in Sorrento, Italy where we descended on The Sorrento Hilton for 4 days to play to the members of a major financial institution. The weather was so pleasant, we decided to sit and rehearse by the pool with my portable roll-up rubber piano. No, I'm not joking and it's not rubber so that you can take it swimming (as some wag observed), it's just convenient..... that's all!

We had a great show playing under the stars with Chris Thompson, Madeline Bell, Tommy Blaize, Kiki and Carmelo, plus Mr. Roger Taylor - apparently we could be heard clear across The Bay of Naples! Fearing an imminent eruption by Vesuvius the local constabulary rushed up to the venue to quell the noise, only to grab a beer, turn their hats back to front and start dancing with everyone else.

A couple of weeks later we returned to Italy, this time to the exclusive resort of Portofino, to



Sorrento 1
click here
for video

Sorrento 3
click here
for video



appear at the closely guarded nuptials of Miss Penny Lancaster and Mr. Rod Stewart. We were smuggled in through swathes of paparazzi and had to give up phones and cameras so as not give anything away before the official publication. The highlight of the event for us was the fact that "Rod The Mod" had specifically requested that the whole show consist of nothing but great soul classics from the Motown, Stax and Atlantic record labels, so we prepared a program of Four Tops, Temptations, Stevie Wonder, Wilson Pickett, Aretha Franklin, Sam & Dave, Marvin Gaye & Otis Redding. For us it was "music heaven" as we all grew up adoring this stuff. It's on nights like this that I know I'm in the right job. The dance floor was heaving, the stage was rockin' as classic hit after hit flowed. We were supposed to take a break, but there so much fun going on that we just kept going. We launched into Sam Cooke's "Twistin' the Night Away", fully expecting the groom to leap up, but apparently he suffered a loss of leg control issue and was forced to go for a quiet lie down. After all, he had been dancing all night with his trousers tucked into his socks..... Bless!

The next morning I took Jamie, Steve Stroud and Johnny Marter off to Mallorca to appear at the Super Yacht Regatta. It is an awe-



Sorrento 2
click here
for video

inspiring sight to see 70 of the world's largest sailing ships, none less than 100' long, all berthed together in Palma Harbour. The thought of the insurance premiums alone brought me out in a sweat.

For three nights we entertained the boat crews and owners. On the second night, some bright spark (sorry guys!) suggested that we should have a "Super Yacht Idol" talent competition. I thought we'd get a few drab Leonard Cohen strummers and the odd Irish gob iron merchant and that would be it.... WRONG !!

First up was the 19 piece Ukulele orchestra of New Zealand. What the bejabbers were they doing there?!! Then we had a brilliant Blues guitarist who stunned us all. (Moses was not pleased). Next up was some random jock that ranted unintelligibly for 10 minutes - a bit like performing with Fish. Then up came Aussie Rob with a weird, satanic glint in his eye. He got to the mic and delivered the most profane, disgusting diatribe that I had ever witnessed coming out of a P.A system, well apart from my wedding anyway. We rugby tackled him to the ground and I was expecting to be dragged off to the local clink by the federales, when I looked up to see the crowd all laughing and cheering. This was all good, clean, family fun to them. They're a weird lot them yachties.

I was expecting to be dragged off to the local clink by the Federales... Ouch! (seriously old gag)



NOVEMBER 7-11, 2007 • VETERAN'S DAY WEEKEND
JAM WITH THE STARS!
 A SPECIAL 10TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION
Las Vegas

Jack Bruce
Cream

Slash
Guns N' Roses
Velvet Revolver

Roger Daltrey
The Who

Vince Neil
Mötley Crüe

Joe Walsh
The Eagles

SPECIAL GUESTS & COUNSELORS INCLUDE:

NICKO MCBRAIN (IRON MAIDEN)	MARK HUDSON (PRODUCER/AEROSMITH)	JEFF "SKUNK" BAXTER (STEELY DAN)
ALAN WHITE (YES)	SANDY GENNARO (JOAN JETT)	SPIKE EDNEY (QUEEN)
SIMON KIRKE (BAD COMPANY)	KIP WINGER (WINGER)	KELLY KEAGY (NIGHT RANGER)
BRUCE KULICK (KISS)	MARK SLAUGHTER (SLAUGHTER)	AND MANY MORE!
TEDDY ANDREADIS (GUNS 'N' ROSES)	DAVE ELLEFSON (FORMER MEGADETH BASSIST)	

Perform live at the **HOUSE OF BLUES**
 in the fabulous **Mandalay Bay Resort & Casino**
 Produced by David Fishof

Space is Limited, Call Now to Register!
LINK TO RRFC

If you're rubbish, we'll help you improve. If you can't play or sing, we'll teach and encourage you. If you like Vodka Martinis, or if you just want to hang out and hear old tales of the road from some of music's great characters, you'll be in the right place.

Live Medium Paced & Die Relatively Old!

(after a long comfortable Life)

Are you ready to Rock ??!!!!

There's been an interesting development this year, as I was approached to participate in Rock & Roll Fantasy Camp. This is an American experience where wannabe musicians from all walks-of-life, come to live, work and play like Rock-Stars. Founded by David Fishof, former manager of Ringo Starr's All Star Band; there's a Fantasy camp held every 2 or 3 months. A dozen counsellors like myself and 60 or so would be rock-stars congregate at a glamorous location in the USA. We divide them into band size units of five to six musicians, then they rehearse, play and record together under the direction of an experienced musician (ahem!). It's a fascinating experience to see these varied punters of all ages, sex, ability and backgrounds swap their regular lives for that of a professional musician for 5 days.

Over the period of a long weekend they get to jam with living legends such as Jack Bruce, Roger Daltrey and Joe Walsh. They also write and record their own original song. Finally, they get to play a fifteen minute set at The House of Blues. Then they get to break up the band over musical differences and go back to the real world fully enriched and elated by their experiences.

I had the pleasure of being Head Counsellor at the London Camp back in May and brought Jamie and Neil Murray on board to join the fun. We all went to the world famous Abbey Road Studios and each band recorded a Beatles song in the very studio used by the Fab 4.

We also took the train up to Liverpool, went on The Official Magical Mystery Tour and played a three hour session at the revamped Cavern Club!

My favourite Rock and Roll Fantasy Camp moment was in Hollywood, during the L.A. camp, when my band was rehearsing a Beach Boys song. The door suddenly swings open and in strolls a familiar face saying, "Hi, I'm Brian Wilson play me my song!" Stone me if it wasn't him!

Later that evening the rest of his band arrived and they treated us to a private concert of non-stop Beach Boys classic hits. A moment of pure joy for me and something never to be forgotten.

Each camp has had it's own unique flavour and collection of characters amongst the campers, counsellors and visiting legends. The next camp will be in Las Vegas with Slash, Jack Bruce & Joe Walsh, so if you know of anyone who has always wanted to be Rock-Star, then this is the experience of a lifetime and the beauty of it is... if you're rubbish, we'll help you, if you can't play or sing, we'll teach and encourage you and if you just want to hang out and hear old tales of the road from some great characters, you'll be in the right place. What's more, you don't even have to know how to hold a tambourine to participate! We'll even teach you how to do that! For more up-to-date info go to www.rockandrollfantasycamp.com



RRFC- footage
 click here
 for video

Norwegian Sports Awards 2007

Chorus, Chaos and Karaoke

Normally, I would expect to have a quiet time in January and February, so that I can recover from the December escapades. I should be so lucky! New Year was barely over when I had to rouse the band out of their drunken slumbers and whisk them off to Lillehammer in Norway (venue of the '94 Winter Olympics) where we were invited to perform at the NRK TV Sports Awards. Our singers were Fish, Paul Young and Kiki Dee and it was broadcast live!

All was going well - we'd met the guest of honour, a Norwegian Crown Princess and we were waiting for the final award to be made to the "Sports Personality of the Year" (I think she was a netball captain, or something similar). Anyway, we were on the "B" stage ready to launch into our medley. It's live TV - quite tense and everything has to be precise to the second. The presenter rattles on, giving the netball captain a big build up when she steps forward to tumultuous applause to accept the precious trophy; a beautiful crystal globe. As it is handed to her she promptly DROPS it, with a huge "CLUNK!", it hits the deck and bounces like a giant, shining bowling ball and rolls off the edge of the podium! Hilarity ensues and we all double up laughing. Jamie at this point decides he'll sit down on his amp, which is on wheels and unsecured. There's a mighty "CRASH BANG!" as he loses his balance and the amp goes one way while Jamie goes the other! At this point the announcer, desperate to move proceedings on, shouts "And now The SAS Band ..2..3...4". Terror overtakes us all!

Moses lurches to his feet, guitar clanging and we crash into the first song, all in various states of disrepair, giggling and laughing through our noses. Needless-to-say, everyone loved us and we were a huge hit!

After the show we hit the karaoke bars of Lillehammer where, after several large Norwegian beers apparently (and these reports are unconfirmed), we were all seen holding each other up whilst bellowing "1999" (by Prince) into a horribly distorted sound system. I personally don't remember the exact course of events, but it sounds like a normal night out with The SAS Band, so it's probably true.

One final note, you remember the lady whose butterfingers dropped the coveted globe - The Norwegian Sports Personality of the Year..... ? Well, it turns out she was their goalie!

Jamie at this point decides he'll sit down on his amp, which is on wheels and unsecured. There's a mighty "Crash Bang!" as he loses his balance and the amp goes one way while Jamie goes the other!



Ahoy
[click here for video](#)

This is a movie. Click on the link to view it
 We often have to rely on local posters to tell us where we're playing. This one led us straight to it!

L-O-L-A Lola, La La La La Lola

Never work with animals

18 October 2007

As Mrs E. and I were queuing up to board the ten-seater, Cessna light aircraft to ferry across from Hyannis to Nantucket Island, I looked down to see a mangy, flatulent bulldog with a face that only a mother could love. Try to imagine a horribly mottled, dangling tongue, cascading from a protruding overbite, laced with a curtain of saliva, all overlooked by two lazy, opaque, rheumy eyes and a nose resembling a squashed sea slug!

As the passengers were climbing aboard and we were edging towards the steps, my thoughts escaped and I said out loud "I hope that ugly, smelly, dribbling bitch isn't coming on this plane". Quick as a flash the baggage handler quipped, "She has to buddy.....she owns the dog!" My shoulders went and I laughed so hard my nose nearly exploded. Fortunately, no one else heard it, so they just assumed I was some Brit having a seizure.

Chortling away for the next 10 minutes, while we buckled in and prepared for take off, I soon realized that "Lola" (the dog) was in front of me, standing facing forward, giving me a vet's eye

view of her ample derrière. Too much visual information I can assure you and if I thought the face was bad, this was something else. For a creature to look so distressed at both ends, there can only have been some previous misfortune in the proximity of a malfunctioning hand grenade.

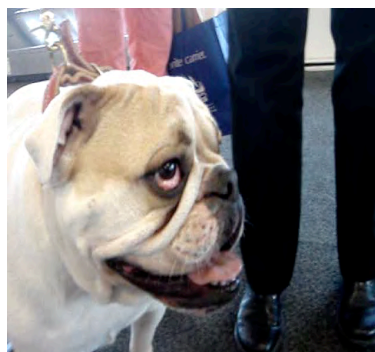
Anyway, as the propellers revved loudly and we began to taxi along the runway, Lola becomes agitated and starts to lose her grip. The vibrations increase and she starts to slide (into panic and towards me). The engines build to a roar and she scrabbles sideways, nails ripping at the rubber flooring. I'm laughing so hard I nearly burst. Just as the engines hit their screaming peak, I look out of the window to see lift-off and when I look back, Lola's bomb blast face is in between my thighs with her previously dead shark eyes now wide, vein laced and on stalks, staring directly at me in complete frozen terror. I then watch in open mouthed horror as her big, pink, mottled tongue falls from her overbite drowning in a tsunami of saliva..... and then she licks my bollocks!

The Universe morphs into slow free fall. I reach down to push the wet, lilo sized tongue away, like a handful of warm tripe - I have no fear! Was I in a coma, or did I just dream a Twilight Zone episode? I looked at Kyle and she was now red faced, tears streaming over her flushed cheeks, whilst gagging silently through her nose, so I do have a witness!

I also took some video of Lola as back up evidence, which can be viewed below.... Be very afraid!

Nantucket Island, just off the coast of Maine was, interestingly enough, the birthplace of the founding chapter of The Pilgrim Father's ACRSS (American Cockney Rhyming Slang Society).

It sadly closed after 150 years due to lack of interest and a dearth of any further original material.



Lola 1
click here for video



Lola 2
click here for video

Bisley, The Brook and forthcoming events

Onward and upward

So...to the rest of this year. In November I will be in Las Vegas for the next Rock and Roll Fantasy Camp and immediately upon my return the SAS House Band start on rehearsals for Nelson Mandela's 46664 concert planned for Saturday, 1st Dec. in Johannesburg for World Aids Day. At this time, the list of proposed artists hasn't been published, but I'm sure there'll be some favourites returning as well as some great new additions to the list. Keep an eye on www.46664.com for the latest updates.

Our December dates this year we will be at Bisley Pavilion on Friday, 7th and Saturday, 8th. On Sunday the 9th we will return to The Brook in Southampton, which has narrowly avoided closure and still really needs our support, lest it be turned into a block of flats! See the last page of this newsletter for all ticket details.

The Friday, 7th December show at Bisley will be a departure from the regular kind of show we do as I'm going to take a leaf out of "Rod the Mod's" book and have an evening totally devoted to the magic of Tamla Motown, Stax and Atlantic records.

It will be an unforgettable night of classic soul. We will be featuring the music of Stevie Wonder, Marvin Gaye, Aretha Franklin, The Four Tops, The Temptations, Sam & Dave, etc. It is because we had such a blast performing such wonderful music that we want to share it with you, so 'get ready' for an evening of full-on dancing and singing to some of the greatest soul songs ever recorded. Saturday, the 8th December will be the usual magnificent selection of music and artists across-the-board. We think that a couple of surprises might be in the pipeline.

We are also intending to upgrade our P.A. system and lighting rig, so it should look and sound even better! We'll also be using the screen again this year, as so many of you liked it. I'm contemplating recording and filming both performances at Bisley to see if we have enough quality material to release a DVD. More on that later. The web-site will have full details and updates.

Another new development is that this year we are fully equipped to take credit cards (look at us go with our trendy new fangled technology!) Now you'll be able to choose between paying by cheque, or credit card. For credit card bookings call the SAS Band Hot line 020 8761 2329, Monday – Friday, 11 a.m - 5 p.m. Tickets for both nights will be priced at £27.50, which includes VAT @ £4.10 and processing fee.

The ONLY cards that we can accept are Mastercard, Visa, Electron Visa, Maestro and Solo.



To comply with the data legislation governing Consumer Protection, the credit card information that you give will be shredded after the transaction has been authorised.

We will keep your address and phone number on record so that we may contact you in case of an emergency update, queries, problems with the post etc.

GIG & TICKET INFORMATION

Everything you need to know about gig and ticket information for both The Brook and Bisley gigs is listed below. It is strongly advised you apply for your tickets as soon as you receive this Newsletter, as the gigs can sell-out quickly.

If you have any questions, please contact Jill Davies at the SAS Band office on +44 (0)20 8761 2329, or email jill@sasband.com. Office hours are 11.00 am to 5.00 pm, Monday to Friday .

THE SAS BAND at Bisley Pavilion, Surrey
Friday, 7th December (Motown /Stax/Soul Extravaganza)
Saturday 8th, December (Rock/Pop Spectacular)

Doors open 7.30 pm.

Bisley Pavilion, National Shooting Centre, Queens Road, Brookwood, Woking, Surrey,
GU24 0NY, www.bisleypavilion.com

Ticket price: £27.50 incl VAT. We now accept most major credit and debit cards, so you can either call the SAS Band office with your credit card details on the number above, or pay by cheque by sending your cheque to Jill Davies, SAS Band, PO Box 8658, London SE27 9ZT.

Cheques should be made payable to 'JILL DAVIES – SAS A/C'. We accept Sterling cheques only – Euro cheques not accepted. We do not reserve tickets for payment on the night.

Please note: with your cheque it is essential to include

A stamped, self-addressed envelope (a normal DL envelope is fine) for the return of your tickets. You should allow ten working days for your cheque to clear and your tickets to be processed.

- 2) A daytime telephone number (or daytime email address) in case of queries during office hours.
- 3) The date of the gig you want to attend and the number of tickets you require.

THE SAS BAND at The Brook, Southampton
Sunday, 9th December

Doors open at 7.30 p.m.

The Brook, 466 Portswood Road, Southampton, Hants. SO17 3SD

Ticket price: £24.50, Master-Card, Visa and Switch cards accepted.

Book with the The Brook Box Office on 023 80 555 366, or buy on-line at www.the-brook.com.

Please note: tickets for this gig are not available through the SAS Band office.