

Wet Wet Wet



The ONLY OFFICIAL *Wet Wet Wet* Magazine



ISSUE 11



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what's news

'Goodnight Girl' was released on 23rd December, 1991, and entered the charts straight in at No.20. The following week, it shot up to No.9, and by 12th January it was at No.3.

Queen's 'Bohemian Rhapsody' had held the No.1 slot for 5 weeks after the death of Freddie Mercury. (all royalties from the single were in aid of the Terence Higgins Trust, into the research of aids).

The following week, Wet Wet Wet achieved the success they deserved and went to No.1! And despite all the critics, they stayed there for 4 weeks!

Just as relevant to the band, though, was the fact that from 13th January they topped the Scottish chart for 5 weeks, showing the fabulous support that the Scottish fans always give Wet Wet Wet.

'High On The Happy Side' was released on 27th January and shot straight to No.1 by the 3rd February, achieving spectacular sales of 140,000 copies in the first week. (The free limited edition cover album 'Cloak And Dagger' by Maggie Pie And The Imposters, who are of course Wet Wet Wet, sold out in days).

Phonogram Records threw a congratulatory party for Wet Wet Wet on 3rd February and presented them with their gold discs for selling more than 100,000 copies of the album - quite an achievement in six days!

Since then the album has gone platinum (300,000) and is rapidly approaching double platinum (600,000) with sales at the time of writing over 450,000.

**STOP
PRESS**

**The Wets have added
5 extra dates to their
SOULED OUT
tour**

JULY 3 BIRMINGHAM NEC

JULY 6 WEMBLEY ARENA

JULY 8 WEMBLEY ARENA

JULY 11 MANCHESTER G-MEX CENTRE

JULY 15 SHEFFIELD ARENA

wet wet wet



ON
TOUR

HAPPY
CLUBBING
'91



n late October
of last year,
Wet Wet Wet
announced
their Happy
'Clubbing' 91
tour....

At the time, they were in the process of confirming their full U.K. tour, which kicks off in March. The band, however, had decided to play 5 club dates as it would give their fans (well, some of them!) their only opportunity to see them play live in 1991, and to preview tracks from the forthcoming *High On The Happy Side* album.

It's no secret to any Wet Wet Wet fans that the band enjoy playing occasional, low key gigs, but there was some sound reasoning behind the Happy Clubbing Tour.

Firstly, the Wets wanted to play some low key dates as a warm up to the official *High On The Happy Side* tour. Since they spent almost all of last year in various stages of recording 'High On The Happy Side' they hadn't played live together for ages, and were desperate to do so.

Since live music is as important to Marti, Graeme, Neil and Tommy as it is on record, they used the mini tour as an opportunity to hone down their playing, and refamiliarise themselves with older

classics from 'Popped In Souled Out' and 'Holding Back The River'.

Secondly, it gives the band a chance to introduce new songs to the audience, and to gauge how the audience responds to each number. Remember that 'High.....' hadn't been released at this stage, so it was possible to get a reaction to songs which hadn't been heard before.

Furthermore, it gives the boys a chance to work out as exciting a set list as possible, including songs from all 3 albums (4 if you include 'The Memphis Sessions'). The band have said that the set they'll be touring in March is very similar to the set they played from on the club dates. The set list appears in full, exclusively for *SPLASH* readers, in this issue. As you can see, it's a healthy mix of old favourites and new classics.



photo courtesy of Jo Sexual

Finally, smaller venues take the Wets back to the days when they were a club band. The average capacity was 500-600, and this for a band who played before 100,000 people on Glasgow Green a couple of years back.

Another advantage of playing hot and

sweaty club dates is that everything can be kept low key. No hi-tech lighting rigs, no massive P.A. system... just the Wets, their music and their fans.

So the Happy Clubbing tour was the Wets way of saying, as emphatically as possible, 'We're back'.

The tour opened at the Boardwalk in Manchester on November 26th, where the band proved once again their ability to play live. The set opened with an old Temptations stomper, 'Get Ready', taken from 'Cloak And Dagger'. (Incidentally, if you didn't manage to get a hold of 'Cloak And Dagger', you can hear a different version of 'Get Ready' on the Big Day cassette - see elsewhere in this issue).

Many of the Wets older classics were given different musical treatment to the original recorded versions. Proof, if any were needed, on a good song's ability to adapt to virtually any musical style. 'Sweet Surrender' was beefed up a bit, while 'Broke Away' was altered dramatically, scarcely resembling the version on 'Holding Back The River'.



Happy Clubbing

Set List

Get Ready
Lip Service
Sweet Surrender
More Than Love
Make It Tonight
Angel Eyes
Broke Away
If You Only Knew
East Of The River
Goodnight Girl
Maybe Tomorrow
I Can Give You Everything

High On The Happy Side
Wishing I Was Lucky
Hold Back The River

Other highlights included 'Hold Back The River' itself, and one of their all time favourites, 'Wishing I Was Lucky'.

The following evening, the boys appeared at Goldwyns in Birmingham, before another frantic, packed audience.

One week later, on December 2nd, the Wets played their home town of Glasgow, always an emotionally charged event, particularly in the presence of their friends and family.

Once again, the boys raised the roof, this time at the 500 capacity Henry Wood



Hall. Displaying all their charm and confidence (and with Marti displaying a 'High On The Happy Side' T-shirt), they looked and sounded every bit a number one band, thrilling the crammed crowd with classics from 'Popped In Souled Out' and 'Holding Back The River' and some great new songs from 'High On The Happy Side'.

When the set ended and the screams died down, both the band and their fans left happy, knowing the new songs were every bit as powerful as their vintage material.

The next day, the boys played Edinburgh's Calton Studios, and on December 9th ended the Happy Clubbing tour at London's Subterranea. Both shows were ecstatically received, to the delight of fans and band alike.

If you saw the Wets on the Happy Clubbing tour, you'll know exactly how

exciting they were. If you didn't, hopefully you'll be going to see them on their official tour, which started in Manchester on March 2nd, because the Wets are going from strength to strength. Don't miss it.

NON-DRIP CLASS ACT

I always found it hard to grasp what Wet Wet Wet were all about. In my ignorance I tagged them pretty boy popsters with little else but looks. I held up my hands...I was wrong.

They brought their party to the tiny but intimate Boardwalk on Tuesday night and packed it wall to wall.

Live Review
by
Adam Moss

BACK TO BASICS
FOR PELLOW AND
COMPANY

WET WET WET
Goldwyn's Birmingham

...In front of what must have seemed to them just a handful of followers, Marti Willow and co. totally stripped down to the basics and proved, if indeed proof was needed, just what a classy soul outfit they really are.

No pretensions, no grand backdrops, not even a bit of dry ice, just music, down to earth, no pretence about real music.

Wet Wet Wet • Boardwalk

Wet Wet Wet have achieved the single most difficult thing in pop - they started their rise to fame supported by screaming teenage girls, yet they won over an adult audience.

Along the way, they have also re-invented their own image, re-done all this merely by following their best musical instincts.

Just a few
of the
rave
reviews
the Wets
received
during
the
'Happy
Clubbing'
tour.







NO **rest** *for*

For the rest of us, Christmas & New Year are times to relax and take it easy. For the Wets, though, there was work to be done and a single to sell....

With a new album on the way, the Wets were faced with the challenge of cramming in as many T.V. appearances as possible to promote their new material, and to give their fans a chance to see them before they go on tour.

Lounging around a T.V. studio, chatting a little and playing a song at the end, however, is not as easy, and certainly not as glamorous as it looks. In fact, the schedule can be hectic, you wonder how the boys can even manage a grin, never mind a conversation!

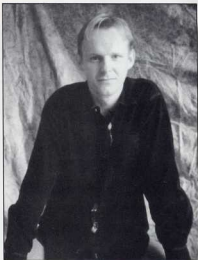
As an extreme example of just how hectic things can get, have a glance at the Wets schedule for the first few days of December!

On December 1st, they played a charity concert for Sick Kids at the Usher Hall in Edinburgh.

The following day, at the crack of dawn, the lads flew to Longleat House in Bath, to record an interview and a performance of 'Put The Light On' for 'Going Live!'.



Later that same day, the Wets flew back



to Glasgow for a sound check at the Henry Wood Hall, part of their 'Happy Clubbing' tour.

The following night, they were in Edinburgh again for the next date of the mini tour!

On December 5th, three days later, the Wets appeared on First Night, performing 'Put The Light On' and being interviewed, along with some past videos.

Their next T.V. slot was not until December 17th, and this was to be their longest break from promoting until the end of January. On the 17th, the boys

appeared on Entertainment UK, performing

The Wets

photo courtesy of Esher Highland



'Put The Light On' and being interviewed.

Two days later, the boys appeared on Whats New and performed both 'Maybe Tomorrow' and 'Goodnight Girl' live.

On December 23rd, the Wets performed 'Goodnight Girl' on Tonight With Jonathon Ross, coinciding with its official release date.

On Christmas Eve, the boys were interviewed on TV AM, and both Graeme Duffin and Marti Pellow performed 'You've Got A Friend'. 'You've Got A Friend', of course, appears both on Maggie Pie And The Imposters 'Cloak And Dagger', and also live on the Wets Big Day cassette (see P14).

The boys returned to playing their current single on Going Live! on December 28th. The interview recorded on December 2nd in Longleat House, Bath, was also screened.

After several well deserved days off for Christmas, The Wets performed an acoustic version of 'Put The Light On' for Music Box

on December 30th and were interviewed once again. (It's crazy they never run out of things to say, isn't it!).

On January 2nd, they made their first Top Of The Pops appearance playing 'Goodnight Girl'.

Two days later, on Saturday January 4th, the Wets guested on Motormouth, and did both 'Goodnight Girl' and 'Maybe Tomorrow'.

On January 8th, they again performed 'Goodnight Girl', this time on the Des

O'Connor Show.

By this time, however, 'Goodnight Girl' was climbing the charts rapidly, and by the time of their second Top Of The Pops appearance, had reached No.3.

To date, 'Goodnight Girl' has shifted almost 360,000 copies. Not bad for the band a few critics had written off several months ago!





A busy SPLASH person sifts through the stacks of cards, letters, and parcels sent to the Wets on St. Valentines Day. The tiny office is made even more hectic by the floods of mail, but it's all much appreciated!



If you would like to be a member of SPLASH and receive 4 issues of the magazine, please write to:

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Glasgow G20 8YE

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Do not send cash.

If you live outside the U.K. or in Eire, please send an International Money Order in Sterling only



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Wet Wet Wet

MORE THAN LOVE



On March 9th, the Wets follow up their No.1 hit 'Goodnight Girl' with the fourth single from their No.1 album, 'High On The Happy Side'. 'More Than Love' is available on Precious through Phonogram.

Written and produced by Wet Wet Wet, 'More Than Love' will be available on 7", cassette and CD single. The 7" and cassette singles will be backed with 'Goodnight Girl', and the CD single will include past favourites, 'Sweet Little Mystery', 'Broke Away', and 'Goodnight Girl' (Rhythm Mix).



PHONELINE

The most up to date information on what the band are up to can be found on the Wet Wet Wet information Line. By dialling 0891 345 070, you can find out the most up to date tour information, the latest news on single releases, as well as interviews with the various members of the band. The cost of this service is 48p per minute at peak times and 36p per minute off peak (weekends and **after 6pm**). **If you stay with parents, please check with them before you call the line.**

SPECIAL OFFER FOR THE BIG DAY

WET WET WET have released a cassette only album, of songs recorded at **The Big Day** on the 3rd June 1990 at George Square, this is available exclusively through Splash.

The cassette features 11 songs, 8 of which are cover versions including I Feel Fine, Get Ready and Second Hand News, and 3 of the bands own favourites, Wishing I Was Lucky, HTHDTGH, and Sweet Little Mystery.

The cassette costs **£3.50 for the UK only** (please quote your membership number). Please make cheques/postal orders payable to Precious Objects, to Big Day Offer, 24 Gairbraid Avenue, Glasgow G20 8YE.

If you live **outside the UK** the cassette costs **£4.50** (please quote your membership number). Please make International Money Orders payable to: Precious Objects, to Big Day Offer, 24 Gairbraid Avenue, Glasgow G20 8YE Scotland UK.

If you are not a member of Splash, but would like to take advantage of this terrific offer send a cheque/postal order for **£4.50** made payable to Precious Objects, to Big Day Offer, 24 Gairbraid Avenue, Glasgow G20 8YE.

Due to the delays in bank clearing, we will process your order more quickly if you send us a Postal Order.

HERE ARE THE COMPETITIONS FOR



ELEVEN

COMPETITION

No.

1

1. Who are Maggie Pie And The Imposters?
2. What is the name of their album?

PRIZE: Original artwork for Maggie Pie And The Imposters album.

COMPETITION

No.

2

1. How many copies of the album do the band have to sell before it goes double platinum?

PRIZE: Rare limited edition T-shirt showing Wet Wet Wet at No.1 in the Music Week Single and Album chart.

Answers on a postcard or sealed down envelope to SPLASH, 24 Gairbraid Avenue, Glasgow, G20 8YE. Please mark clearly competition No.1 or No.2. Closing date for both competitions 30/4/92.

SPECIAL OFFERS

only
10
left!

We have sold out of the Holding Back The River Picture T-Shirt and have only 10 Holding Back The River Black Tour Design T-Shirts left!

Hurry now and place your order, available for the bargain price of just £5.00.

Send us a cheque or Postal Order made payable to Precious Objects, to Precious Objects, 24 Gairbraid Avenue, Glasgow, G20 8YE. Please allow 28 days for delivery.



VERY SPECIAL OFFER

We're trying to clear some space to stock up on the fabulous new 'High On The Happy Side' merchandise, so we're offering the ten SPLASH magazines at the bargain price of £2 each, or all ten together for £10!

Send us a cheque or Postal Order made payable to Precious Objects, to Precious Objects, 24 Gairbraid Avenue, Glasgow, G20 8YE. Please allow 28 days for delivery.

THE SOUND
IS ONLY
HALF THE
PICTURE

Includes the No 1 hit single
"Goodnight Girl", the new
single "More Than Love" and
all the clips from
"Holding Back The River"

NEW ON



VIDEO

Available at around £10.99
from Woolworths, HMV,
Our Price, WH Smith,
Tower Records, Boots, Virgin
and all good video stores.

Also available the No. 1 bestselling
L P, C D, M C
"High On The Happy Side".



CATALOGUE No. 084 484-2
ALSO AVAILABLE ON LASERDISC No. 084 484-1

On tour July 1992 - London, Birmingham, Sheffield and Manchester.