

No.17 **SPLASH** 

# **FEATURE**

The Wets in New York

**ON THE SPOT** 

with **Tommy & Neil** 



# **SPLASH**

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# stop press

Please write with all your news and views, drawings and poems, pen pals and enquiries to:

SPLASH, 14 - 16 Speirs Wharf, Port Dundas, Glasgow. G4 9TB

Don't forget to keep up to date with all the latest Wets' information by regularly sending S.A.E.s marked 'Newsletter'.

Please remember to enclose a stamped, self addressed envelope with all your letters as we cannot answer letters/enquiries without one!

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# (a) christmas message



# wet wet wet

We wanted to take time out of our hectic schedule to say hello to everyone and to thank you all for your support over the last year.

By the time you read this letter, we'll be mid-way through our Greatest Hits tour. We're really looking forward to playing live again and seeing everyone having a really great time at our gigs.

We'd like to wish everyone a really happy Christmas and a fabulous New Year. 1994 promises to be an important year in the history of Wet Wet Wet, with a brand new album in the pipeline. We hope to be able to continue to count on your support next year and for many more years to come.

All this leads us to say thank you all for the kind works and letters you have sent us through Splash. We may not be able to reply personally to every single one, but we read and appreciate all your letters.

Once again, have a very happy Christmas and see you in '94.









# Wets in NEW YORK

It's August and Wet Wet Wet are in New York at the Hit Factory Studio, working with the legendary producer Nile Rodgers. It's humid and it's baking hot and it's thousands of miles from home and the band are working crazy hours and packing in a photo shot as well as filming for a forthcoming documentary. In the midst of all this we asked Neil to take his camera along with him. We also asked the Wets for their reactions to working and visiting New York. This is what they told us:

# **Graeme Duffin**

FAC

Graeme Duffin working on some chords

New York is a place I like going to visit, although I'm definitely not a native New Yorker. Working there has been a valuable experience. In many ways it was really enjoyable, but I think we were all glad to get home after five weeks! Being a Scotsman, I couldn't really used to the air aet conditioned buildings. "Cold inside" to me means it must be much colder outside. It's confusing to walk out into the humid heat of a New York summer afternoon.

It's also a city of twenty four hour noise. It's funny how even thirty storeys up in a double glazed hotel room, the wailing of police or ambulance sirens never seems to diminish.

The hotel/studio lifestyle, for me, is not the same as "living and working" in a place. I think before I said I had lived and worked in New York, I would have to have been there for longer, stayed in an apartment and got to know some of the people in the neigbourhood. That kind of thing!

The next time I go there, I'll do the tourist bit and go up the Empire State Building, which I still haven't done yet. Ah well...

# Tommy in New York

"Working in New York should have been a frightening experience as it is a very violent city, but I guess having a street degree from Glasgow set us in good stead for it. We found it invigorating, exciting - everything apart from intimidating".

Tommy

# **Graeme Clark on New York**

I love New York and hate it too. Some of it looks really brilliant with its lovely old buildings that just breath history and some really stunning, new, sharp looking office blocks.

The downside is its poverty; Nile's studio is not on Park Avenue and sometimes you see people and you think "wow, what brought you so low, man".

# Neil on what he saw and did in

# New York

### **Nile Rogers**

The producer the band worked with while recording at New York.

Nile's favourite word is "Boom". Whenever anyone would do a good take, whether it be drums, bass, vocals, keys or guitar, "boom" would be the reply from Nile. (I guess you had to be there...)

### Shopping

During the four week session we had some time to ourselves to do some shopping. Our favourite stores were Saks of Fifth Avenue, Barneys, Charivari, Bloomingdales and quite a lot of the stores down in Greenwich Village, Soho and the East Village.

### Food

Our favourite restaurant was Da Tommasa, just a few yards from The Hit Factory, so we would always get a delivery to keep us going. It served spicy, hot, Italian food - very nice indeed. If we just needed a snack, we could get a Blimpie sandwich from across the road.

There is also a very good Indian restaurant that we frequented, that overlooks Central Park. At night it has a fantastic view.

Mexican food was also a big favourite with the chaps, polished off with a chilled Mexican beer or Margarita, or course.

The closest bar to the studio was called the Triple Inn, a typical American bar, with baseball on the Big Screen, juke box and an "old saloon" type bar. We spent a lot of nights in there!

There are a lot of Irish bars in New York (of course) and we'd frequent MaGee's on Broadway. It stands right next to the old Ed Sullivan Theatre where American chat show host David Letterman does his show from, so it is always busy.

There was an other bar that we visited but I can't remember the name of it for the life of me, but all I remember was that the women didn't keep their clothes on for some reason...

Our hotel, The Palace, was just a wee bit too expensive to drink in so we tried to stay clear of that.

### **Best Moments:**

Highlights of the trip were meeting "Diamond" Dave, David Lee Roth, ex Van Halen - that's one helluva funny guy!

Having lunch with Nile Rogers the day we got to New York, not knowing at the time that we would never eat out together again, in the whole trip (weird!). Meeting Nile's other half, Bernard Edward, the legendary bass player from Chic.

Graeme Duffin and Nile Jamming some "free" jazz every

Apart from that... it was hard, hard work.



Neil

# **Marti Pellow** on New York

You can never get bored with New York - it's like walking around a gigantic movie set; on every corner you see something that is just classic. New York is just buzzing with life.



Below: Graeme Clark with Nile Rogers, producer and ex-Chic member.







# (011) the spot

# tommy cunningham

# on the spot

name: Tommy Cunningham

date of birth: 22/6/64 colour of eyes: Blue colour of hair: Red

height: 6ft

married or single: Married favourite food: Italian

favourite holiday location: Bed

**best thing about being famous:** Meeting more famous people

worst thing about being famous:

Having no privacy

what's your earlist memory?

Having a nightmare about my wall paper - the teddy bears were going to get me!

What's the funniest thing that has ever happened to you?

Too many to mention

What is your favourite journey?

Transatlantic first class

how do you relax when not working?

I am always working

how do you cope with criticism?

Very well!

what has been the highlight of your career so far?

Joint number one single and album

what would you be doing now if you weren't in the band?

Signing on the dole

what thrills you?

Music

why did you choose music?

Easy option (touches my soul)

who has had the biggest influence on your career?

Graeme, Marti and Neil

who or what is your biggest musical

influence; why?

The chord of E major. It has it all

favourite track you've recorded

**How Long** 

favourite concert attended?

Boomtown Rats, Glasgow Apollo 1978

favourite concert given

The Royal Albert Hall

best recording studio

Ocean Way, L.A.

most exciting new act you've seen

Stereo MC's

Porno for Pyros

how do you prepare for a gig?

Have a shower five minutes before

going on stage!

what keeps you interested in music?

Its variations

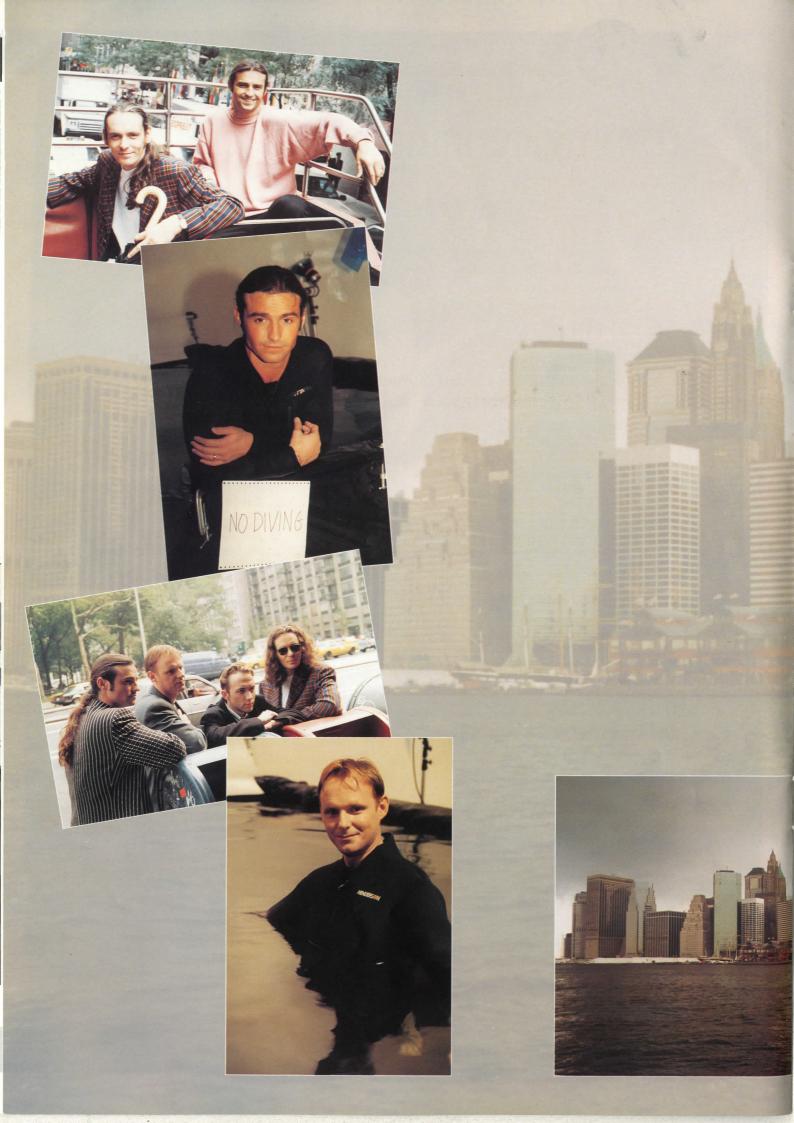
what is your next ambition?

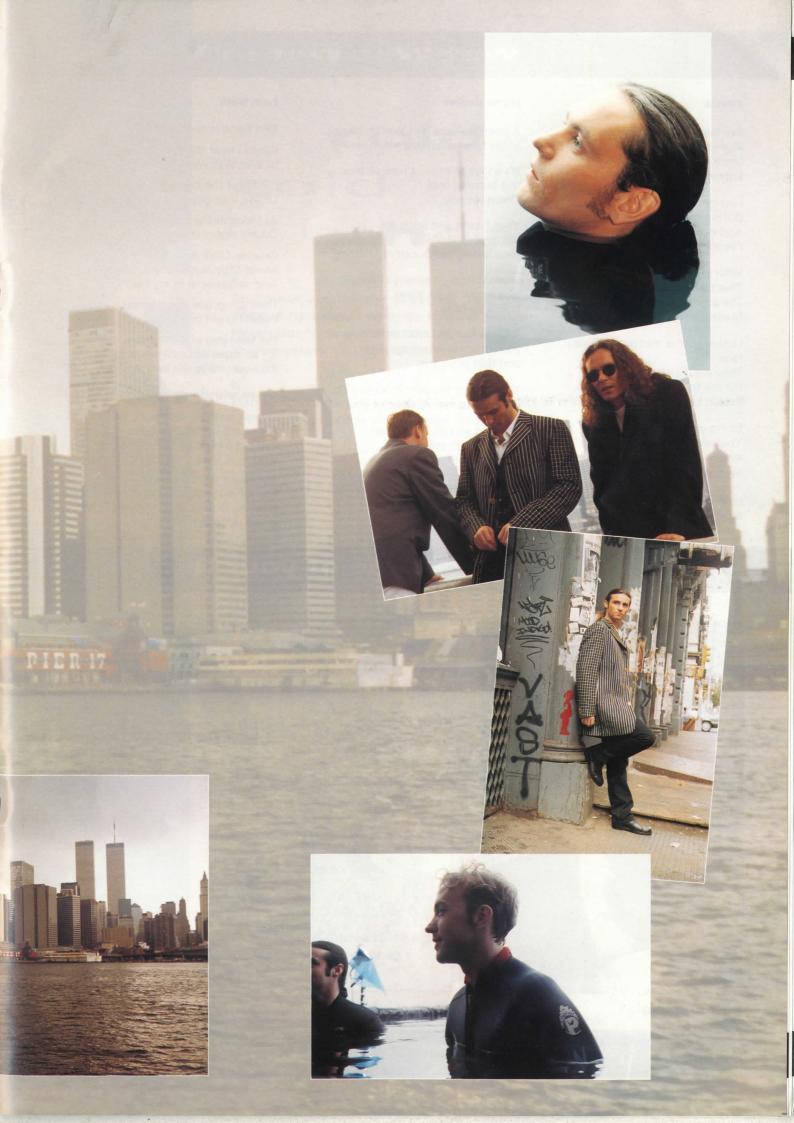
Two year world wide tour

what single thing would improve the

quality of your life?

More time





# Wet Wet in VERSE

### emma

I've been a dedicated fan, Right from the start, Since Wishing I Was Lucky, Entered the chart.

I saw you at Sheffield Arena, During the Lip Service tour, And ever since that night, I've loved you even more.

With my head in the clouds That's how I felt, The sound of your songs, Made my heart start to melt.

I know you've met some of your fans

They are a lucky few, For me to ever get the chance, Would be a lifetime wish come true.

So I'm writing to say You're the best, no doubt, And thanks for giving me, My best night out.

Looking forward to seeing you all again!

# jayne davies

A poem to Wet Wet Wet to let you know how much you mean.

It's a love so pure, a love so true this burning love I have for you.

Your hearts and souls are in your songs, your loving words carry me along.

when things go wrong I listen to you when your music plays I can't be blue

A band like you must be very rare, you show your feelings and that you care.

You involve the fans in all you do, it makes us feel so close to you.

To meet you all is my ideal, Just to say thank you for the joy I feel.

A better band, you couldn't get, You're fantastic, WET WET WET.

# lynn beck

Best Band in the Land

When I hear the sound of Wet Wet Wet

I think of the angel eyes Of the four guys

As I look at their pictures On my bedroom wall.

Graeme Clark is to me a Sweet little mystery And very special in my heart.

Their songs are the greatest I wish I could meet them.

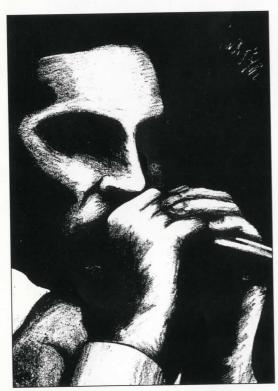
I've seen you play live twice It's an experience I'll never forget Because you're the best WET WET WET.

# susan whittington

There's nothing on the TV tonight. It doesn't matter, it's quite all right. I've put a tape of the Wets in the deck, And from that moment on, all is perfect.

The music starts and the drum beat goes on, The air is electric, the rhythm is strong. Nothing can match the style of these guys, on an all time high.

# here are some of your DRAWINGS



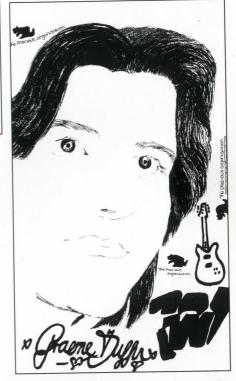
Suzanne Eagles



Andrea Barber



Jenny Johnson



Kerry Stafford

# Wet Wet Wet

# cold cold heart

### 1.

Suddenly, you get the strangest feeling Then in harmony I wont be trading places Now your history, forget the time I let you play Your mystery 'n' I don't know.

### b

**H**appy from the start, ripped and torn apart **L**ooking for a place within your heart.

### chorus:

**C**old heart, not like the starts that shine so bright **C**old heart of mine.

### 2.

Close to me you're taking out the boy in me your Chemistry frightens all the life from me. Honesty, somtimes aint so good for your Mystery, 'n' I don't know.

### b

Happy from the start, ripped and torn apart Looking for a place within your heart.

# chorus:

**C**old heart, not like the stars that shine so bright **C**old heart of mine.

### M8.

Love's for nothing but you try to get much more.

Looking for something you never had before,

The words left unspoken, just walked right out the door for evermore.

chorus to fade.

# ad lib.

The magic that love brings, the magic that lights the stars so bright so so bright.

fade.

# neil mitchell

# on the spot

name: Neil Mitchell date of birth: 08/6/65 colour of eyes: Blue

colour of hair: Dirty Blonde

height: 5'7"

married or single: Single favourite food: Fish 'n' Chips

favourite holiday location: Australian (Barrier Reef)

best thing about being famous:

Hanging out with Marti!

worst thing about being famous: Not being as famous as Marti

what's your earliest memory? Ask my mother

what's the funniest thing that has ever happened to you? Nothing funny has ever happened to me

what is your favourite journey? Down to the pub

how do you relax when not working? Sleep

how do you cope with criticism? Admirably

what has been the highlight of your career so far?
Touring America with Elton John

what would you be doing now if you weren't in the band?
Gigolo

what thrills you? Rollorcoaster rides

why did you choose music? Cause I enjoy it (most of the time) who has had the biggest influence on your career?

My mother and father

who or what is your biggest musical influence; why?
Willie Mitchell, he's a genius

favourite track you've recorded Don't know really!

favourite concert attended? Frank, Lisa and Sammy, Royal Albert Hall

favourite concert given MTV Unplugged (it was a dream)

**best recording studio** Dave Stewart's pad

most exciting new act you've seen Suede

how do you prepare for a gig? Down a couple of cherryades

what keeps you interested in music? Mozart

what is your next ambition? To date Claudia Schiffer

when and where were you happiest? In my mother's womb in '65

what single thing would improve the quality of your life?
MTV playing our videos



# splash competition

# SPLASH

# Competition 1.

- Complete the following lines from three famous Wet Wet wet songs:
- b. "Ev'rything it seemed the same tonight ...... in the middle of the night."
- c. "Say I wouldn't ..... baby."
- 2. Which songs are a, b and c taken from?

**PRIZE:** An exclusive, giant sized promotional poster of "Blue For You/This Time" signed by all the band.

# Competition 2.

What was the band's name before they decided to call themselves Wet Wet?

**PRIZE:** Hand written lyrics for Cold Cold Heart, signed by Graeme Clark.

To enter the Splash competitions please send your answers on a postcard or a sealed down envelope to: SPLASH, 14-16 Speirs Wharf, Port Dundas, Glasgow G4 9TB.

Closing date for entries is January 31st 1994.

# competition winners

### **SPLASH 16 competition winners**

Competition 1.

Jackie Jones - Telford (02163)

Answer: Goodnight Girl

Jackie has won a copy of the video The Gift of Song featuring the Wets' song Goodnight Girl.

Competition 2.

Janette Clark - Birkenhead (14075)

Answers:

1. Holding Back The River

2. 1989

Janette has won all formats of the Blue For You/This Time single Competition 3.

Pat Beever - Chester (12667)

Pat has won a copy of The Wets Live at the Royal Albert Hall album.

# a brilliant way to keep up to date!

The most up to date information on what the band are up to can be found on the 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.

item

prices

UK EEC rest of world

white t-shirt

(navy blue Wets logo) £10.00 £10.00 £12.50

We have a full collection of tour merchandise including t-shirts, posters etc. Details are not ready at the time of going to press.

Please send S.A.E. for a full tour merchandise list

please remember that all t-shirts come in one size only - big and baggy

# limited edition merchandise

item

prices

UK EEC rest of world

Quality Metal Badges (High on the Happy Side masks) set of four

f12.50 f15.50 f15.50 f 2.00 f 2.55 f 2.55

# very special offer very special offer

**Bar Badges** 

We are offering packs of back editions of Splash at discount prices. We have Splash magazines 1 to 9 at the special price of £9.00 and magazines 13 to 16 at £5.00 a set. You can also buy each issue separately at the price of £2.00 each. Splash magazines 10, 11 and 12 are all sold out.

# sold out sold out sold out

The Clydebank jerseys, the Royal Albert hall t-shirt, the black album cover t-shirt, the set of four postcards, the High On The Happy Side t-shirt, the Edinburgh Castle t-shirts and tour brochure and the 1993 calendar are ALL SOLD OUT.

# how to order how to order how to

### **UK ORDERS**

Send us a cheque or postal order made payable to PRECIOUS OBJECTS at 14 - 16 Speirs Wharf, Port Dundas, Glasgow G4 9TB.

### **EEC/Rest of the World**

Send us an International Money Order or Bank Giro in **STERLING ONLY** made payable to PRECIOUS OBJECTS at the same address.

Please note that we CANNOT accept Eurocheques. Please allow 28 days for delivery

