

RUSTY CAGE PRESENTS...

BLACKENED

ISSUE #2
JUNE '10

HELLO AGAIN, and welcome to Issue #2 of Blackened, a monthly newsletter for alternative music in Manchester. In case you missed last month's, we'll give you the lowdown once again. If you don't remember Rusty Cage, we did some club nights at The Phoenix a couple of years back. We decided to return, with the objective of running a series of grunge/rock/metal themed events, donating all the proceeds to the Layne Staley Fund, a charity close to our grunge-filled hearts.

We're hoping to announce some cracking events this summer, starting with a top notch night of rock, featuring a grungetastic band, the girls of RockIt! Belly Dance and finished with the creme de la creme of rock tunes into the wee small hours. We're working on it, so watch this space. In the meantime, enjoy Blackened #2.

Bye for now,

Team Cage XoXo \m/
hazel@rustycage.co.uk

More Goodbyes

Last month we wrote about the sad deaths of Pete Steele and Ronnie James Dio. Tragically, we now have had two more rockers pass away since the last issue.

Paul Gray, bassist of Slipknot, died on May 24th 2010 of an accidental overdose, leaving behind his wife and unborn child.

Stuart Cable, ex-drummer of the Stereophonics, passed away on the 7th June 2010., cause of death as yet unconfirmed.
Rest in peace.

GIG REVIEW

Rage Against The Machine

Finsbury Park, London

June 6th 2010

You'd have had to have been unconscious from too much office-party boozage to miss the hoo-ha surrounding last year's battle for Christmas number 1.

Fed up with The X Factor seasonal chart domination, a Facebook group led by Tracy and John Morter decided enough was enough, and downloaded their little hearts out to ensure that Rage's iconic track Killing in the Name became the UK's festive front runner.

Prior to claiming victory, RATM promised us that they would do a free gig in the UK if they got to number 1.

And so it came to pass.

On the 6th June, myself and my Rage-loving pals Megabussed it down to London, tickets not quite in hand, but collected at the gates. We were greeted at Finsbury park with legions of buzzing Rage fans and a first class atmosphere.

Gallows were on first, they were pretty pants, followed by Roots Manuva, who were good but not my cup of tea. I properly stopped focussing on cider and gave it my attention when Gogol Bordello came on. They caught my attention randomly in a tent at Leeds Festival a few years back, their frantic energy and Gypsy punk sound making it impossible not to dance about like a twat.

By the time Rage came on, everyone was in a jolly good mood, having enjoyed the sunshine, cider and Eugene Hutz's gang of quirky punky awesomeness

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR
rock/metal/alternative music
IN MANCHESTER

The performance was superb. Proceedings kicked off with a nice piss-taking of Simon Cowell on the big screens, followed by the Rage boys bounding on stage to whoops and cheers. We had stonking classics such as *Bullet in the Head* and my personal favourite *Bulls on Parade*, and we were even treated to a very convincing cover of The Clash's *White Riot*. Pre-encore we were treated to an airing of the X Factor effort/abomination *The Climb*, and we were all drunk and laughed. The encore saw a huge cheque to Shelter presented to the Morters, and of course, a performance of the track that started it all, *Killing in the Name*.

All in all, a blistering gig, and worth it; even getting the Megabus.

Club night picks

Stuff to do now Jilly's is no more...

Midlife Crisis/Retro Bar/final Friday of the month/90s alternative

Rock Bottom/Club coliseum/fortnightly Fridays/rock, metal

Spitfire/Satan's Hollow/every Saturday/Jilly's DJs

Nyte Heet/Retro Bar/monthly ad hoc, 10th July, 14th Aug/classic rock

Dirty Deeds/Phoenix/every 3rd Saturday/clubnight & karaoke/classic rock & party metal

Ignite/Phoenix/every Friday/alternative anthems

Shock/Phoenix/monthly, final Saturday/goth, industrial, EBM, 80s

Reasons why we hate Nickelback

This month: World Cup special

1. Chad Kroeger invented the vuvuzela.
2. Between them, Nickelback fathered the entire German football team.
3. They are shite

More next month...



Something different

Some things we think you should try!

1. Nights out in Preston

As teenager-Cagers we went out a-rocking on a weekly basis in Prestonia, having grown up nearby. And it really does rock! Don't get me wrong, Manchester is fabulous for nights out, but it doesn't hurt to have a change. So sometime this year, why not hop on a train after a pint in The Salisbury or GC and head Preston way for the evening.

A top night up there is Dark-Cide at 53 Degrees, a popular monthly night that's been running for 9 years and is still going strong. Run by the lovely Miss 616, you can dance the night away to 80s, alternative, goth, cyber, EBM and a bit of metal. Not your thing? There's always The Warehouse, off Church St, which boasts 3 floors of alternative tunes. Joy Division recorded a live album there 12 weeks before Ian Curtis' death, and Henry Rollins was beaten up in a mosh pit there. Fun facts! If you get there early enough, be sure to go down Friargate and check out the Dog and Partridge, biker/rock pub extraordinaire and Cage girls' long-time local. Good beers and top tunes on the jukebox.

2. The Bulldog Bash

Fed up of paying 200 squids to go to Download? Yep, me too. Why not check out a smaller festival that still rocks hard and won't break the bank. I first went to Bulldog back in 2006 and had an amazing time.

The Stratford-based biker festival, organised by the Hells Angels, includes rock bands of an evening, and during the day you can enjoy stuff like bike displays, drag racing, bike stunts, wrestling and topless bike washing. Interested yet?

Compared to the big music festivals, it's like living in luxury. The car park, campsite and main arena are all very close to each other, meaning you don't have to endure an epic hike to nip back to the tent. Instead of being woken at 6am by the dulcet tones of squawking teens, you will awake at a much more sociable hour to the blissful growlings of the bikes waking up.

This year's bash kicks off on the 12th August and ends on the 15th. See you there!

Album review

Stone Temple Pilots

'Stone Temple Pilots'

Released 25th May 2010

You could say that Stone Temple Pilots have attempted to walk the path of other bands from their era. They produce a killer first album that doesn't require one skip on the stereo, followed by a second less raw but similarly brilliant offering. Then, away they go into the realm of bizarre musical experimentality. Now, this worked for bands such as Pearl Jam, but I fear that STP lost many of us after Purple. The latest self-titled offering by Stone Temple Pilots thankfully takes us far enough away from the dreary, lovey-dovey

stylings of Shangri-La-Dee-Da, but maybe not close enough even to the likes of No. 4 to give fans some hope that the band haven't gone soft. For the less critical of us, Stone Temple Pilots provides a pleasing variety of sing along tracks (with some very odd lyrics, mind you), possibly peaking too soon with "Between The Lines" at Track 1, but amply backed up by similarly rocking "Take a Load Off" and "Hickory Dichotomy". This album runs at a pretty fast pace, but the band do give some time for their balads such as "Dare If You Dare" and delightfully Bowie-esque "First Kiss on Mars". This album might not stun the critics into silence or draw back those possibly doubting former fans, but to those who appreciate the band for what they are it's a good solid record that grows over time. Not a bad summer listen at all.

Emma Bates

Venues & Volunteers

We're still looking for a suitable venue for our night-time events, so if you know of anything please give us a shout. We're also on the look out for volunteers to write and help out with events and promotion.



Team Cage

Team Cage welcomes Emma, and thanks Gaz from the bottom of our grungey hearts.

You can write to us at hazel@rustycage.co.uk

We love to hear from you! \m/

