

BRUM BEAT

THE MIDLANDS ENTERTAINMENT MONTHLY

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A high-contrast, black and white close-up portrait of Lloyd Cole. He is looking down and slightly to the right, with his eyes closed or looking away. His hair is dark and slightly messy. The lighting is dramatic, with strong shadows on the left side of his face and neck.

LLOYD COLE

"Gets Weird"

ALICE COOPER

"Calls Us From Arizona"

NEWS * REVIEWS * DEMOS * DAVIES * COMPETITIONS

Most publications would probably tuck this apology away in some obscure corner. Here, at Mission Control New Street, we're a little less coy. Seems that in my August column I stepped way beyond the threshold of normal good taste. In an attempt to highlight a personal belief that the introduction of new artists has been the life blood of the music industry since way back when, it would appear that my thoroughly negative words about the John Stewart, Peter Rowan, Guy Clark and Townes Van Zandt date at the Wulfrun Hall caused a considerable amount of distress to the local and national promoter of the event. For those ill chosen words I would offer sincere apologies to both parties.

If there is a positive result to the foregoing affair, close scrutiny of the crowd at the Wulfrun on August 26th indicated a considerable proportion of new faces relative to those who were

Acoustic Roots regulars at Wombourne Civic Centre and Kingswinford and Trysull Village Halls etc. through the eighties. Featuring the quartet in a city centre venue provided one positive result; fresh blood looking at the stage.

For acoustic artists who fall into the area between major label supported tours, [which are generally presented in medium/large halls], and our folk club circuit, the West Midlands currently appears to be in a state of vacuum. Anyone one out there with any thoughts or observations? Solutions even. On the other hand, as I've commented before, IS there actually anybody out there?

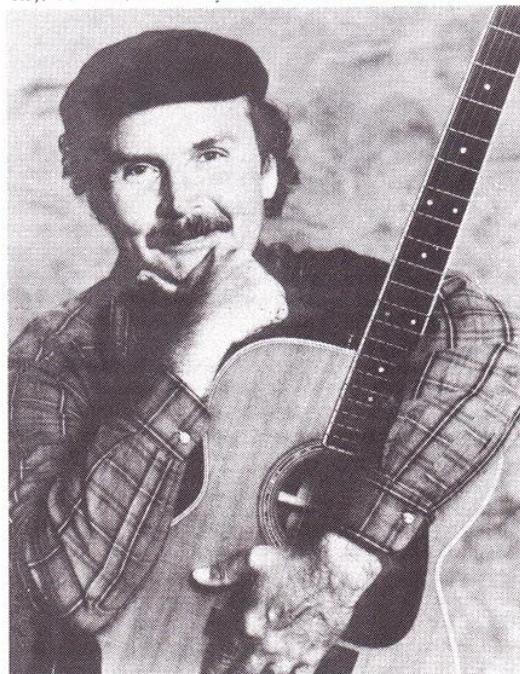
Local fare over the next four weeks goes something like If you want to spend 'An Evening With Tom Paxton', the local

ARTHUR WOOD

stopping off points this year are Shrewsbury Music Hall on Thursday 3rd, Cannock Prnce Of Wales on the following night and Warwick Arts Centre in Coventry on Friday 18th. The Chieftains play Symphony Hall on Tuesday 8th. The Levellers bring their brand of anarchy to The Hummingbird on Friday 25th. Billy Bragg is at the Hummingbird on October 30th, with his latest Go! Discs offering 'Don't Try This At Home' already in the stores. Oh yes, and yet another mention for Steve Young at The Breendon in Cotteridge on October 3rd.

With those dark nights drawing in, the local folk clubs are back in action: Fri 4th, Singers Night (The Market Tavern, Moseley St), Johnny Coppin (Woodman, Kingswinford); Sat 5th, Noel Murphy (Red Lion, Vicarage Rd); Fri 11th, Jim & Sylvia

Barnes (The Market Tavern), Dougie McLean - now causing a stir in Nashville with Kathy Mattea cutting his songs (Woodman); Sat 12th, Maxie & Mitch (Red Lion); Fri 18th, Singers Night (The Market Tavern), Pete Coe (Woodman); Sat 19th, The John Martyn Band - yes, the John Martyn, on the road promoting his new album 'Cool Tide' on the Permanent label (Red Lion); Fri 25th, Damien Barber (The Market Tavern), Lee Collinson (Woodman); Sat 26th, Isaac Guillory (Red Lion) Short but sweet this month!



Tom Paxton

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