

sarah newsletter

July 1993 m4

And a happy summer to you too, rat-face.

Of course, one of the best things about our total indie-pop leper status and general disdain for hob-nobbing with the right people is that we never get invited to these appalling festivals. Oh - maybe living in The West Country gives me a jaundiced outlook, especially now, with The Hippy Season at its height; but when Wells and Shepton Mallet are so much nicer than Glastonbury, I can't imagine why anybody would prefer the latter. But there you go. Yes you do, I'VE SEEN YOU. Anyway, the SARAH Alternative Summer of Pop, a string of dark and gloomy indoor entertainments, is on page four. For now - some news.

BLUEBOY launch our summer schedule on July 19th with their "Some Gorgeous Accident" EP (SARAH 80 7"/CD), recorded the same place as "Meet Johnny Rave" and Heavenly's early stuff, i.e. a barn in Warwickshire surrounded by sheep who (Heavenly inform us) are more than capable of holding their own in a game of football, though Keith and Paul's insistence on challenging them to doubles at badminton proved rather less successful. They've recorded "Try Happiness", "A Gentle Sigh" and "Stephanie", and the sleeve has a wall on it. Hey, so what's wrong with walls all of a sudden? And they've pretty much finished writing a second LP, to be recorded over the summer, and are doing a fanzine called "Applause" for an autumn-ish release; write to their PO Box for details. Er - all this refers to Blueboy, not the sheep - the sheep are doing a fanzine called "Woolly Mammoth" - it's mostly pictures, and a bit rude, apparently.

EVEN AS WE SPEAK have their new single "Blue Eyes Deceiving Me" (SARAH 79 7"/CD) out on July 26th; it features "Blue Eyes", "Air" (both as heard on their last Peel session) and "Getting Faster" (from the Goodier one). And they're recording a third Peel session on July 18th (to be filmed by an Aussie TV crew, seemingly), before hopping off back to Australia at the end of August, the pace of life in Hove having proved too much for them. Those of you of a more traditional racist bent can do a kangaroo joke here. We certainly shan't, as we did them all last time. There should also at long last be some T-shirts - yes, I know we said that before, but we were being ironic.

HEAVENLY are complicated. There's a new 7" (SARAH 81) out on July 26th, the very upfront "P.U.N.K. Girl" (c/w "Hearts & Crosses"), followed confusingly three weeks later (August 16th) by the less upfront more sort of sideways-on 7"EP "Atta Girl" (c/w "Dig Your Own Grave" and "So?" - Heavenly in sappy acoustic SARAH-by-numbers mode) - SARAH 82 - and by a combined 5-track CD of both 7"s (SARAH 82CD). The CD is also out in The States on K. And all this is followed 2 weeks later by August 30th. Meanwhile, as old-time Riot Grrrandmas and Grrrandpas, they're touring the UK with Bratmobile - but also without. And then they're off to the U.S. (United States) in September, but with an autumn UK tour too, probably with Lois again, who'll hopefully have written some slightly more interesting songs by then, and maybe Bristol's Orlando, who have already, several times, so keep your eyes ears potatoes etc. peeled. Oh and, following Amelia's triumphant appearance in Inspector Morse (as a passing cyclist, not Morse himself), they might, thanks to bassist Rob's day-job as script-person, be starring in The Bill. Doing what I know not, presumably some trauma-strewn plot of Rob's own devising involving a stolen bass amp, or maybe cocaine hidden in hollow drumsticks (so that's why Mathew keeps putting them up his nose...) - this is one of those disconcerting points at which make-believe and reality start to merge - we seem to spend an awful lot of our time at the fact/fiction interface these days (like, you wouldn't believe how many letters we get addressed to BRIGHTER or BOYRACER just as if they were actual people!), especially the cat who, by the simple expedient of donning a jaunty cap and posing cutely on the steps by Wapping Bridge, is even now fooling tourists into parting with money for boat-trips round the harbour which never happen.