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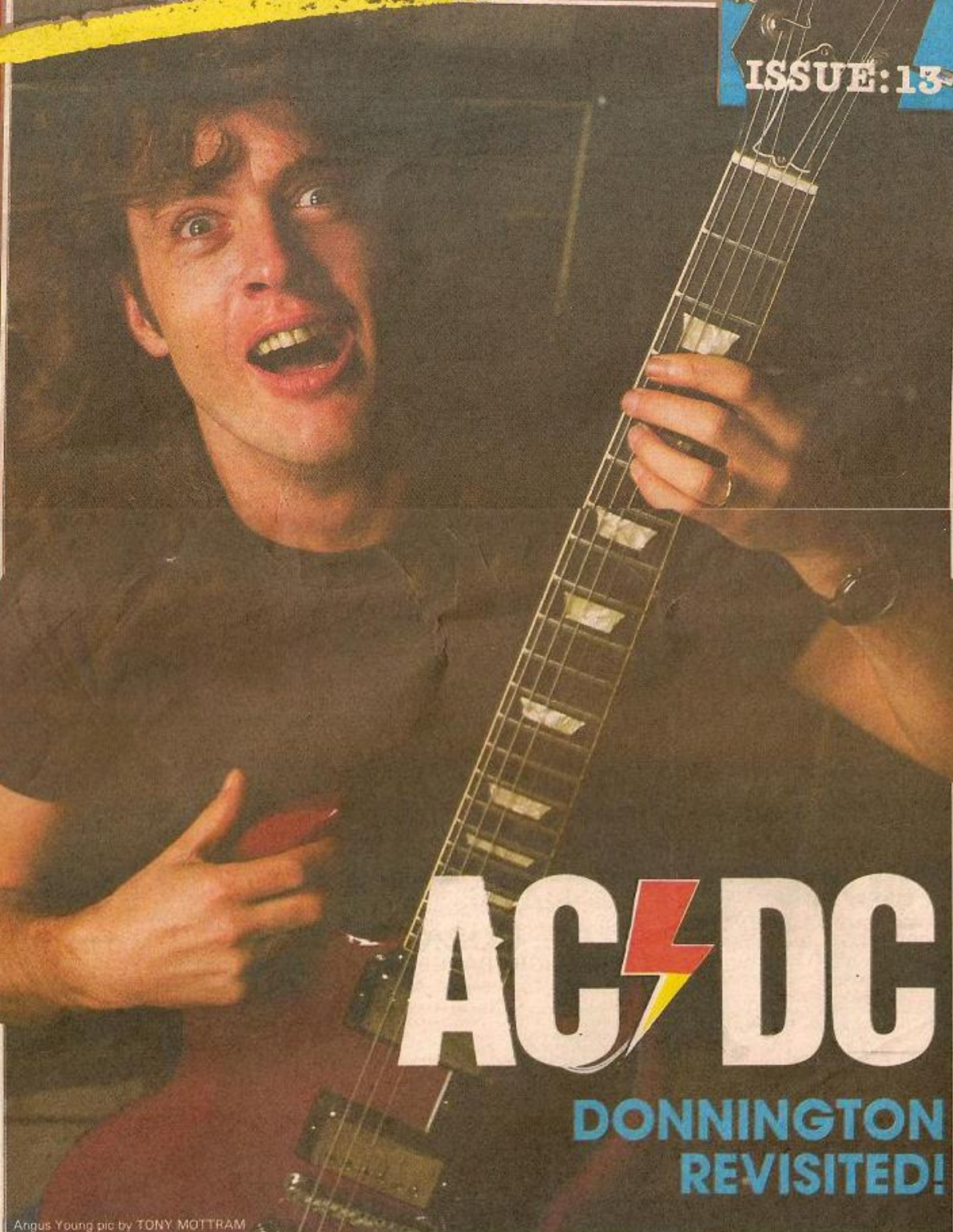
ISSUE: 13

MOTLEY CRUE

KING - SD

THOR

PRESLEY



AC/DC

**DONNINGTON
REVISITED!**

Angus Young pic by TONY MOTTRAM

PLUS VAN HALEN, HEAVY PETTIN COMPS AND LOTS MORE



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BRUSSELS

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£62.00 includes concert ticket * first class hotel in central Brussels * luxury coach * Cross Channel Ferry.
Depart eve 23rd Aug.
Return eve 25th Aug. QB

PARIS

Skipper trip September 18th.
£46.00 includes your concert ticket and all transport from London with a full day in Paris.
Depart eve 17th Sept.
Return a.m. 19th Sept. OP

HOLLAND

HOTEL PACKAGE 20th SEPT.
£65.00 includes * concert ticket * first class hotel * luxury coach * Cross Channel Ferry * full day in Amsterdam.
Depart eve 18th Sept.
Return a.m. 21st Sept. OH

U2

LIVE IN WEST GERMANY 8th October

£65.00 includes * luxury coach travel from London * Cross Channel Ferry * first class hotel accommodation * and your concert ticket * also (not included in the price) is an optional evening excursion to the lively city of Frankfurt.
Depart Saturday 6th October
Return a.m. 9th October U2G

AC/DC

VAN HALEN • DIO
OZZY OSBOURNE • GARY MOORE
ACCEPT • MOTLEY CRUE
MONSTERS OF ROCK WEST GERMANY
September 1st

£68.00 includes * Festival Ticket * 1st class Hotel * Cross Channel Ferry * Friday night out in Frankfurt!
Depart 30th Aug.
Return 2nd Sept. MR

BARCLAY JAMES HARVEST JOE COCKER NIGHT RANGER

West Germany Saturday September 8th

£68.00 includes * concert ticket * first class hotel * luxury coach from London * Cross Channel Ferry * Friday night out in lively Frankfurt!
Depart eve 6th September
Return a.m. 9th September BH

KISS

LIVE IN WEST GERMANY 30th October

£62.00 includes * first class hotel accommodation * Cross Channel Ferry * luxury coach travel * and your concert ticket.
Depart eve 28th Oct.
Return a.m. 31st Oct. KS

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SISTERS OF MERCY plus more!

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Return a.m. 9th Sept. FZ

MIKE OLDFIELD

Live in Frankfurt September 27th/28th

Two night package for £89.00 includes tickets for two Mike Oldfield shows * two nights in a first class hotel in central Frankfurt * all transport from London.
Depart eve 26th Sept.
Return eve 29th Sept. MO

Skipper to Brussels

October 11th

£43.00 includes your concert ticket and all transport from London by luxury coach.
Depart eve 10th Oct.
Return a.m. 12th Oct. MOB

To secure your place on any of these trips please indicate in the correct box the number of places required and send it to us with the appropriate deposit, being £20.00 per person plus £5.00 each personal and cancellation insurance. Please make cheques/P.O.s payable to M.G.P. or quote your ACCESS/VISA Card No. where indicated.

QB QP OH MR BJH
FZ MO MOB KS U2G

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TURN IT ON AGAIN

Here we go, rock 'n' roll. Here we go again, AC/DC... "Stuff all yer concept albums and stuff, rock 'n' roll is supposed to be a laugh, and we've done a hell of a lot of it over the years." (Brian Johnson)

And they're doing it again at Castle Donington, a triumphant reappearance having spent a good six months touring the stadiums stateside to growing acclaim, touting their 'Flick Of The Switch' set and breaking in new drummer — Simon Wright. Unlikely superstars, this bunch. None of your inadequate shower poses here, none of your 'line-all-the-groupies-up-and-get-manager-to-clean-up-afterwards', none of your puerile drinking sessions, not since Bon Scott tipped the scales and went over the top, just a sheer, simplistic charade of pure force, tempered with a warmth and the sweat of true grafters. The garage band who made good. One of the lads

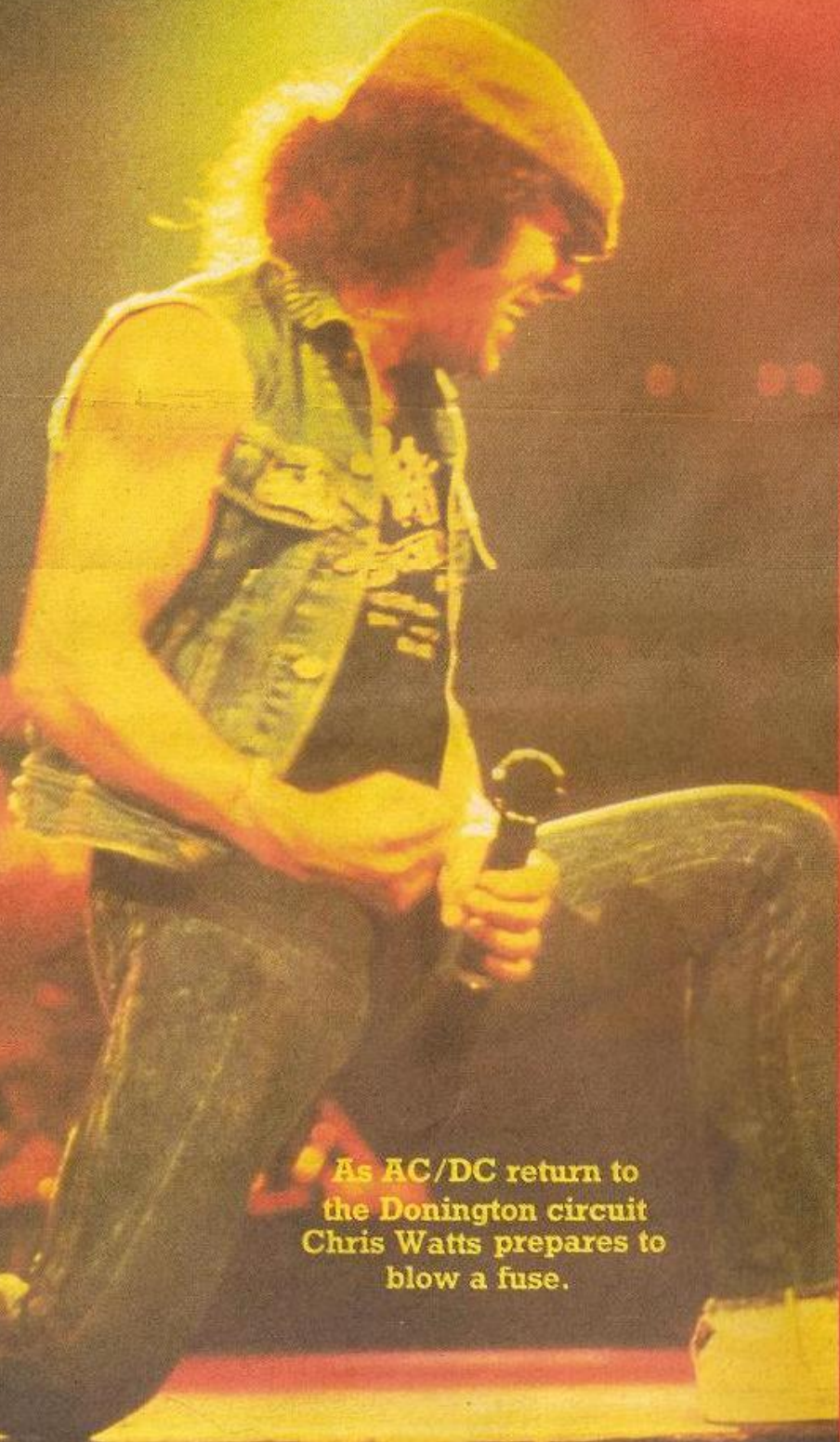
"I think it's the honesty with this band," asserts Brian

roll." You don't flinch when Johnson says something like that, he believes the cliché, accepts the ridicule and simply doesn't give a shit. Rock 'n' roll, innit? 'Highway To Hell' and 'Back In Black' have now been laid to rest alongside Sabbath's 'Heaven And Hell' and Dio's 'Holy Diver' sets as true rock classics, and AC/DC's blazing fusion of decibel and energy has proved to be a faithful combination and one that seems almost incapable of change.

AC/DC have their reputation, and niche, and as yet, no one has vaguely threatened their foothold. Their albums, stubbornly uncluttered, enforce their standing and the band's live shows, at which they excel, simply offer up one of the last remaining testaments to bump 'n' grind. "I guess our anger, frustration or whatever comes out naturally in the music, because it is aggressive music and we can still do it. As soon as that goes and we feel like turning conservative, we'll be gone.



Johnson in his thick accent and beastly laughter, "that people are attracted to, as well as keeping the band together. That and good rock 'n'



As AC/DC return to the Donington circuit Chris Watts prepares to blow a fuse.

That won't happen for quite a while though, not a chance."

AC/DC have found young blood in Phil Rudd's successor — Simon Wright — at twenty a truly privileged lad indeed. Based in Manchester originally with Toral Toral which collapsed after merely one single, a move to London and A-Z with a Polydor contract which too fell apart, as did a lengthy stint with Tytan. Wright finally recouped his losses by answering the infamous ad and suddenly found himself powering one of the biggest names in Rock. He sounds rightfully proud as the rest of the band prepare for the Donington extravaganza.

"I was shocked, to tell you the truth," he says. "But the lads all made me feel at home and auditioning was a doddle because I knew all the songs anyway. I've loved this band for so long. The main appeal for me is simply that Malcolm and Angus (the bands' pivoting Young brothers) write brilliant songs. I remember Malcolm just telling me to treat the whole thing as if it were a club band, and it is that sort of atmosphere. There are no egos pulling everything apart. 'It's good,' he grins, 'having the time of me life. Never had so much fun, and it's great to be able to play with such a professional band for once.' 'Don't worry, Mum,' bellows Brian, 'we're taking good care of 'im! He's only aged about 30 years since he's been with us, and he'll soon be one of us! No seriously, it's great to have 'im aboard.'"

Making their name in and around the worldwide club circuit, pushing and fighting and perfecting their craft, AC/DC were no special protoge, no gift-horse was needed to heave their carcass gently up the stadium gang-plank, they walked proudly up it of their own accord with blazing V-signs for victory to their fans and the traditional insult for all those backstage who said they wouldn't make it. Now that they have, however, their life of album-tour-album-tour hasn't just become another treadmill for the band? "Nah, no way," Brian asserts. "That has never happened with this band — we've always done something because we've wanted to. (Again, you just don't laugh at this, alright?)."

I mean, we didn't have to slog around the clubs but we did because we wanted to work. We've all done it, even Simon. It didn't bother us, so what if we had to

jeans flying in tatters and an obligatory beer in place of guitars, a quiet, family affair with the minimum of fuss. Despite losing one of Rock's most memorable frontmen

just as popular, and once excited stage left, AC/DC keep themselves to themselves.

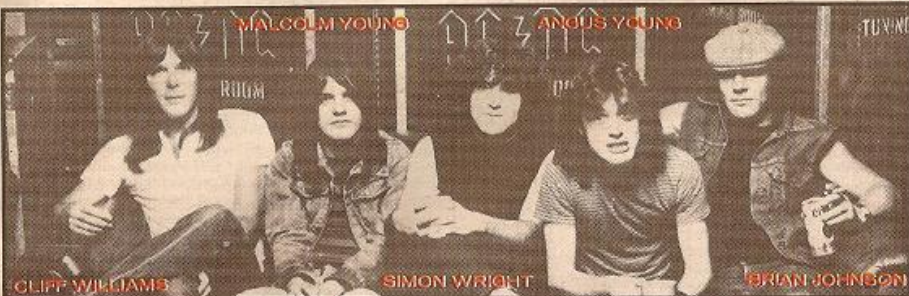
"We try and keep out of those gossip columns," agrees

they're the most important people at a show. Without them there'd be no show. But it's not to say we don't talk to anyone, of course we do. We'll talk to anybody who

our tempers," he continues, "with people like record company executives or whatever. I often feel like slapping them round the face. But that energy we bottle up and save for the stage when we just let everything go. There's no one who can touch you on stage and that's why we love to gig. I'm telling you, as soon as we get tired of touring then we'll pack it in and go home. That's for sure and that is a promise."

"True Metal" was a phrase dreamed up by a number of ineffectual American bands who find it difficult to do anything except turn amplifiers on and up. AC/DC have, and always will be, genuine true metal. At least the last two hours of Donington will be absolutely alloy-free! Absolutely. Just think, it could have been you.

CHRIS WATTS.



sweat? That didn't bother us at all. "But now that we have made it, I don't think we've changed. A gig, is a gig, is a gig, right? Whether it's twenty thousand people or twenty, it's still an atmosphere. If it all fell through after Castle Donnington, I'd guarantee we'd all go out and start all over again. Pretty stupid, aren't we?"

Once in the same position themselves, AC/DC still stick their necks out to help support acts, and possibly tomorrow's betters in general. "I've just opened this studio up in Newcastle," says Brian, "for young bands who want to have a go at it. There are many people out there who just don't get the breaks that we did, so I'd like to do me bit and lend them a hand. It's a cut-throat business and you've got to make the effort otherwise you may as well call it a day there and then."

"We've always tried to get good support bands because that just makes us play better, right? It'd be very easy for us to book a band that was crap and then walk all over them, but that's ridiculous. I love seeing a band out there trying their hardest to blow us off — that's f***** brilliant!"

Collectively plugged in on stage, AC/DC burn with the electric frenzy of five professionals delivering their all for their chosen cause. Brian's matey charisma and Angus' surrogate sixth former act carrying the visual flag, with Malcolm, Simon and Cliff nailing their infectious rhythms to the audience's collective chest cavity, digging in their heels and refusing to let go until they draw blood. Awesome, is the word. Off-stage, the five shamble around like any normal road crew, unkempt hair and

to the great gig in the sky, an opportunity neither offered or accepted for the band to become ensnared in petty speculation and trivia, they found an immediate replacement for Bon Scott who has grown over the years to become

Brian. "A lot of bands seem to get more coverage in those columns than they do anywhere else, which is pretty stupid, really. Sure, we all like a drink, or four, and we'll all go out for meals together with the road crew, because

cares to come around and say 'hello', but you'll never find anyone around us who's trying to catch a meal ticket. At least, not for long, they're straight out the door before they can wipe their bum! "Sometimes we lose



In the bad old days, recording instrumental sounds involved no mean feat of musical gymnastics. Not to mention the sheer bulk and expense of all the different instruments and then the effort of double tracking, over dubbing, mixing down and the like, recording took on marathon proportions.

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