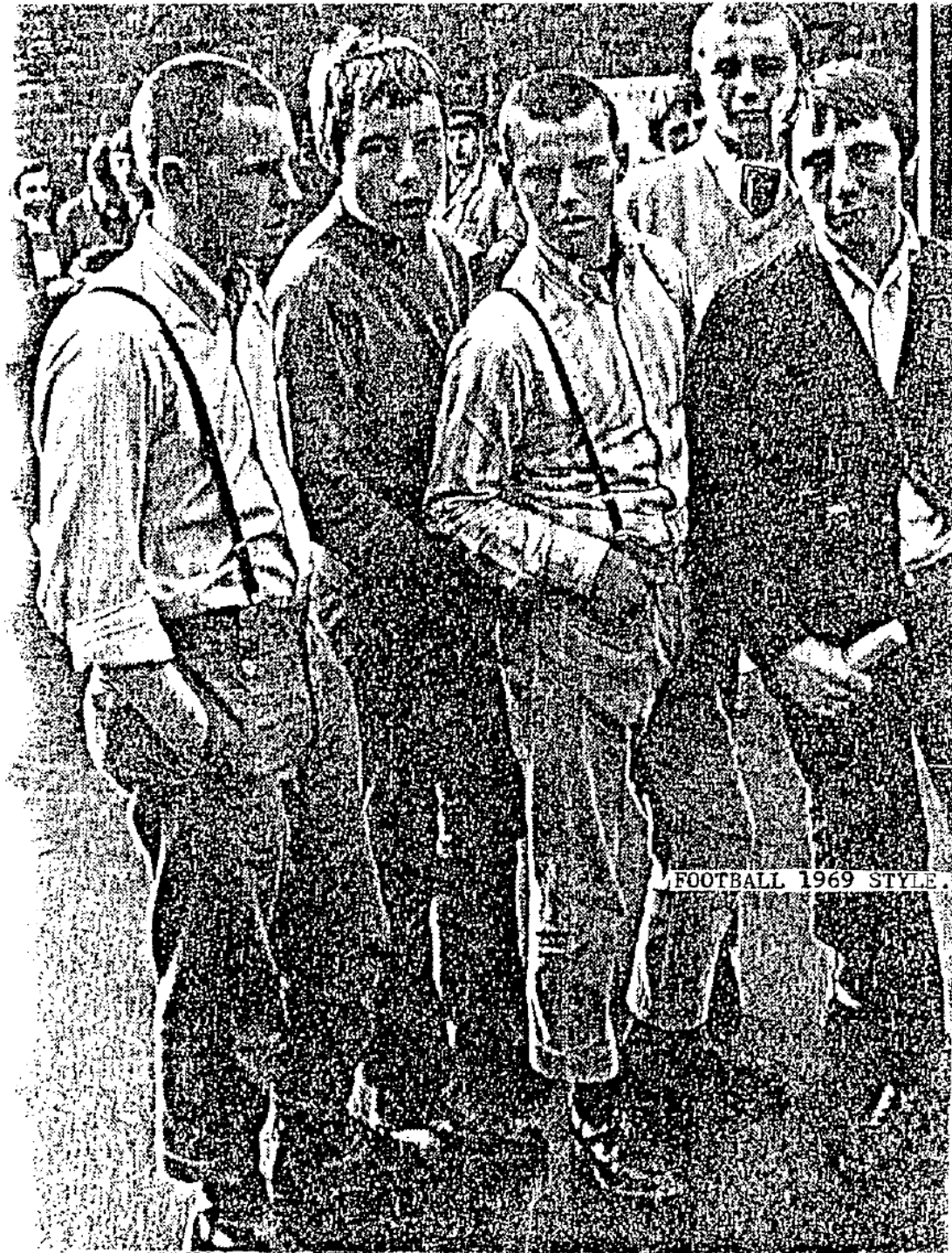
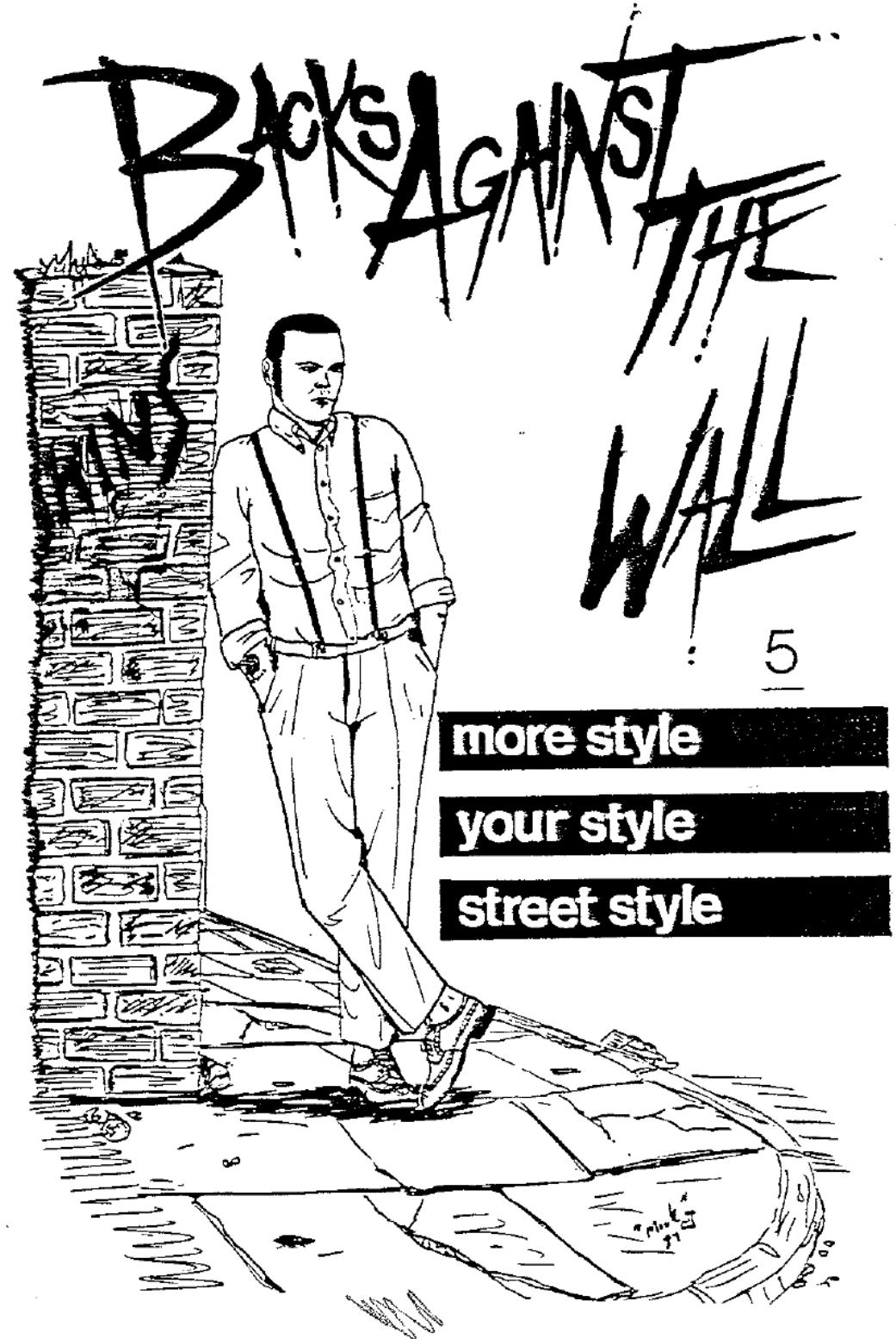




FOOTBALL 1969 STYLE

More Style Your Style Street Style



[illegible]

For full details of the next issue of ZOOR! Skazline, send a SAE or two IRCs (overseas) to:

George Marshall
ZOOT! Skazine
P.O. Box 202
Glasgow
G12 8EQ
Scotland

ZOOT! Skazine - It's wicked!

I don't wish to bore you with all the ska news which most of you will be aware of through the comprehensive cover in Zoot. So, me and Pinhead (right) will just have to come up with other oddities.

There is a dj on Radio Lancashire, Steve Barker, who has been known to play a few tasty ska-reggae records on sunday afternoons. Check him out if you live in N. Wales/NW England.

Did you know that Paul McCartney (ex-Beatle) was once quoted in the early seventies as saying-
"Tighten Up music"

SOUTH
ENGLAND
SKINS

'Ska-Reggae Discographies'. They are available mail order from Dub Vendor, 274 Lavender Hill, Clapham Junction, London, SW11 1LJ (send a sae for more details). I also hear there are plans for the ten volumes to become one large reference book in the future. Thanks are in order to Mr R Dalke of TSI Publications for his kind permission to use some of his material in BATW.

Another quote of interest is this one from a Dandy interview 'I made Reggae In Your Jeggae in Nov 1968 and the Skinheads came about late in '69. But you know how these kids liked to go back and look for early reggae things. That's what happened and they just liked this particular record ...'.

What a difference a few years make. Nothing on (near enough) to more gigs and events than an Arab oil sheik could afford to go to. Let's hope it continues.

as the British kids call it ...reggae is "where it's at!". As our Michael would say, 'not a lot of people know that!'.
 10

If you want
to know what
record was on
what label
(ska-reggae)
then I suggest
you buy

the superb [redacted]
TSI publications

THE RUDE BOYS
original ska band

body dreaming of a night out at ahem !!

DERRICK MORGAN

Great is a much overused word of praise, in the sixties three men from Jamaica easily met all the standards to be deemed 'great', namely Prince Buster, Laurel Aitken and Derrick Morgan - The Mighty Three. They were heroes from Jamaica to Britain, from Rude to Skin. Prince Buster we know is now living in Florida and even played and made a record with the Trojans last December. Laurel Aitken is living in the Midlands and of course is at the vanguard of the 1989 ska scene, we even know what's happened to other Jamaican stars such as Desmond Dekker, Toots, Jimmy Cliff etc, but what of the lad himself, Derrick Morgan (THE BOSS). What the hell happened to him? I presumed he had taken off to the great Palms in the sky to show God how to do the Moon Hop 1. But I have it on good authority (R. Burke of Carib Harvest) that Derrick is in fact alive and will be coming over to Britain soon for gigs. Unfortunately Derrick is now almost blind from a long standing eye problem and will be accompanied on his trip here by Denzil Dennis (who can knock a tune out himself of course). If Derrick Morgan coming to the UK ain't the best news of the year (decade!) then I don't know what is, I bet he can still give Prince Buster and Laurel Aitken a decibel or two and still come out on top!!.

The biggest thing the three had in common was the fact they all were so popular during the ska, rocksteady and early (skinhead) reggae eras. If I had to be judgemental (and why not, as Barry Norman would say) I'd have to go for Derrick, at a hairsbreadth, as the best of the trio, especially for his early reggae records on the Pama labels like Crab and Unity.

He, even more than Laurel Aitken, celebrated the skinheads with tracks like Return Of Jack Slade (Unity) and A Night At The Hop (Crab) - with it's unforgettable lines, including 'hello you

skinheads, I'm here to do this for you, I want you all, guys and girls, to get on your dancing shoes music was playing, skinheads were dancing, do the MOONHOP 1!

Carrying on his skinhead connection, his record Moon Hop (Crab) would undoubtedly have become a major hit if Symarip hadn't jumped in with their cover, Skinhead Moonstomp (Treasure Isle). There's more, Top The Pop (Unity) (and Pop The Top - Andy Capp (Duke) & countless others) was a reggae re-mix of his 1960 record Fat Man (Blue Beat). Not to mention Wet Dream - Max Romeo (Unity), one of the top ever skinhead reggae records, was done originally by Derrick on Island Records, entitled, Hold You Jack.

Going back to before the skinheads, Derrick, along with Prince Buster, produced the highly amusing and successful Judge Bread series of discs describing the unfortunate experiences of the Rude Boy, tracks like on the Pyramid label, Tougher Than Tough (Rudie In Court), Court Dismiss, and Judge Bread In Court.

Going even further back in time, Jamaican ska was all the richer for our Derrick's contributions. Jamaican independence brought classics (I do not use the word lightly) such as Forward March (Island) and Gather Together Now (Island). The Blue Beat hits-Isabella, I Want A Girl and Johnny Grave, the Island hits-Blazing Fire, No Raise No Praise and It's Alright, + the Ska Beat hit-Don't Call Me Daddy (maybe a paternity suit from Isabella?) were all examples of the Derrick Morgan brand of Al Ska, and don't forget the ska duets with his sister Patsy, like Look Before You Leap (Island) and Housewives Choice (Island).

The man was a prolific producer of class records (the discs mentioned above being only the tip of a bloody big iceberg), he is as much part of the skinhead culture as Ben Sherman, the bloke was quite simply BOSS, you better believe it.

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S - FRENCH SKA - AND MORE -

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RG14 5NE,
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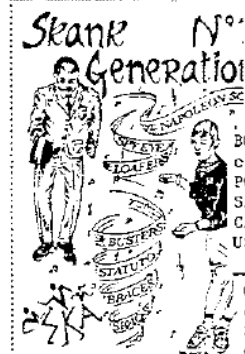
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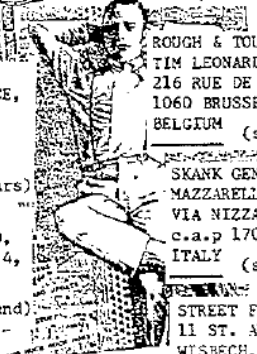
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ESTERN MAJ
The National Newspaper of N. Ireland

Skinheads prepare to defend their image



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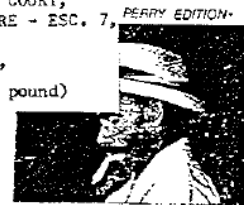
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CATCH
THE
BEAT!

ISSUE NO.1
APRIL 1989



THE OFFICIAL TROJAN APPRECIATION
SOCIETY FANZINE. FREE TO MEMBERS.

SHARP NEWSLETTER,
c/o DARRYL,
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NEW HOPE

Fanzines - an excuse to spend half-an-hour longer on the bog than usual (that means I'm on there for three tortuous hours everytime Postie Pat drops a good read on my doormat!!). Not that every zine I get is that good, the leaders have a few important features that set them apart from the dross. They are interesting, informative, (usually) set out well, and, in my opinion, the most important criteria for a zine, they have a healthy dose of humour. Now, how many zines have you read that have all those qualities? not bloody many I'll wager.

Anyway once you have done a zine your best bet on getting it known is to send it to all the other zines you rate as good. Also send it to people like Scooter Scene, who might think it rates a mention in their wide circulating mags. Another outlet that could be followed up is zine scene on The Oracle (Ch 4, page 547 on Mondays), send your zine to Zine Scene, BSVs, Oracle, Craven House, 25-32 Marshall St, London, W1V 1LL.

What do I think of the current zines in my possession I hear you cry (shut up Mum!), well my fave reads are ZOOT - no argument that this is easily the best presented and written zine aimed at (among others) skinheads. WHEN SATURDAY COMES - an excellent read for football fans, with very biting, interesting articles interspersed with some wonderful football humour. It comes out every month and is professionally set out and printed. Most football clubs have their own zines now, and Cardiff City have no less than four, my fave being INTIFADA - mainly cos of it's rib-tickling laughs, check out the best eating establishments to buy Cardiff cuisine at it's best, chicken curry off the bone!

The three Yank zines are all a jolly spiffing read (DOUBLE BARREL, BOOTS & BOOZE & THE OLD BREED), I was particularly impressed with DOUBLE BARREL - as a debut issue it was of a well high quality.

CATCH THE BEAT - is the organ of the Official Trojan Appreciation Society and like Double Barrel was most impressive on it's debut, lots to titillate the reggae lovers amongst us.

Two zines which made good starts and will maybe reappear (?) were STREET FEELING and ROUGH & TOUGH. AL CAPONE - is ok, could be beefed up a bit, something which will come with time I'm sure.

The SHARP NEWSLETTER - done by Darryl (South Coast) is to keep everyone in touch with Sharp happenings, it's very unpretentious and does it's job more than adequately.

NEVER WILL CHANGE - the Bad Manners zine was ok, but I thought it could have been a lot better, all things considered, I've only seen issue two so I might be talking a load of old cobblers anyway (what do you mean, so whats new?!).

There are quite a few foreign-language zines of interest, most notably RAM JAM - which looks good and from what I'm told is good!. I can not say much else about these zines cos I'm to languages what Kylie Mynogue is to singing & acting!! But if you can read Italian get ENJOY YOURSELF & WHERE THE GIRLS ARE, French - MISTAKE & LIONHEART and Austrian - TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT. Almost forgot (only kidding Andrea!) SKANK GENERATION - which is from Italy but has an english language edition and is a nicely packed ska-zine.

I'm bugging off now, this is all too much like hard work, some thing which goes against the grain, it's alright for you lot you just have to read, it's us poor writers who (cont. The Whingers Conference!!).



Below is an article printed originally in one of the Carib Harvest Collectors News which accompanies all their lists (6ts & 7ts ska/rocksteady/reggae). My thanks to Mr R Dalke for his kind permission to reprint. To receive a Carib Harvest list, send a sae to - PO Box 103, Addlestone, Surrey, KT15 3PH.

Jamaica be warned! that according to several reliable sources the first time to the re-melt period of 1974-5 when Jamaica suffered a vinyl famine for new, and secondly they're doing the same again with one man's old stocks of 45's & LP's and the worst news is that he recently sold records which not only carried it's own stock but everyone else's as well. These were ground up never to be sold again, apart from this I've been told by a Juke Box business owners or from old time record dealers and maybe a few others. I don't want to get regarding second-hand records it's much the same and is getting to be plenty about this is mainly due to what happened in the early 60's when the stores sold their entire stock of Jamaican stock including the 45's at 10p! each and LP's at 50p! each and that was all that was left. The 45's & LP's were sold off in one lot to the group which was the PAB DISCS group as well, in other words a collectors dream of much in the stores and were sold off again to a private dealer who had 100 45's for £5 and 20 LP's for £50 again the same story ensues with a lot of collectors were interested in the music then as they are now and that this amount of stock would be circulating the second-hand scene. In one weekend about two thirds of this 'Gold Mine' perished in a fire which was totally un-playable and useless.

also if one is wondering about the state of the U.K. market regarding second-hand records it's much the same and is getting harder to locate the simplest of one's wants when there should be plenty about this is mainly due to what happened in the early 70's in the U.K., with the demise of Trojan Records at this time all their stock and their distributors stock including the polydor & Selecta & Lugtons (who were all distributors) had their entire stock of Jamaican music sold off in one lot to the giant supermarket chain TESCO'S and they for a time were selling the 45's at 10p! each and LP's at 50p! each and that was all the known labels from 180/FAN, ISLAND & BAC & OCEANOR BIRD group + RAB DISCS group as well, in other words a collectors dream of reggae etc. Now after some time the records weren't selling much in the stores and were sold off again to a private dealer who again offered them to the public at the ridiculous price of 100 45's for £5 and 20 LP's for £30 again the same story ensues with the regard the sales on these records and at the time not a lot of collectors were interested in the music then as they are now so most would be buying current material and maybe hoping that this amount of stock would be circulating the second-hand scene in the next ten years but alas a catastrophe happened when in one weekend about two thirds of this 'Gold Mine' perished in a fire and turned records into six foot stacks of welded plastic totally un-playable and useless.

records, including 45's & LP's, the original stock was just over 2 million so what was left was sold off as an insurance loss to three Dealers two from the U.K. and one from Europe, so whereas in normal circumstances this amount of stock should be circulating the second-hand scene it won't because of this fiasco, and the ones that are rare to locate today you can bet that they were amongst the ones that burned.

From first hand information just some of the labels that perished (*in very large amounts ie more than 500 in some cases and boxes of 25 of a title etc*) BLACK SWAN, DOCTOR BIRD, PIRANIL, RIO, RAB, SKAREAT, TREASURE ISLE, TROJAN 001-699, HOT ROD, STUDIO ONE, COUSONE, DUKE, BLUE CAT, BAMBOO, BARRANA plus others thus making some of these labels extremely rare as you may probably know or have found in collecting and don't forget the LP's as well on these labels.

... where there should be an abundance of this material floating about there isn't that's if anyone wanted to know why prices are escalating, well I hope this has been an informative newsletter and one hopes that maybe more stock wherever it may be is preserved for the collector in years to come.

1. The first step is to identify the key components of the system. This involves understanding the hardware, software, and data involved. For example, in a web application, this might include the server, the database, and the user interface.

send your forms for NOI SHOT in now if you want to have the chance of getting your hands on gear as featured in the above pic !!



HOT SHOT

[illegible]

If you have answered yes to any of the above then read on

Hot Shot are going into the mail order business, we will be inventing the network, second-hand-chemical shops all over England & Wales to find Gemmels, Bruns button, eco's, martingons, levis, ski pres, combs, conics, slippers ski/teepees/laoni/two-tons, etc, etc, etc. In fact we will be looking for absolutely anything to deal with original slippers & jods as well as items from the last ten years. None of the stuff we find will not be in mint condition (though some will) but we will only deal with items of excellent nick.

The point is this: we are not prepared to accept this venture unless we first know that there is a market for it. So if you are interested please fill in the form below and send it to us as soon as possible with a stamped addressed envelope. You will receive your first list of clothes records etc through your set as please agreement to enclose one. As we said because we have to wait to see just how many of you are interested and then we have to go out and get the goods, the first list will not be reaching you for about six months, so please be patient. We can assure you the wait will be well worth it.

Once the first list comes out we will be putting out lists at least every other month. All items will be graded for condition and full descriptions given, all the lists will be sent out at the same time to make it fair to everyone, and purchases will be on a first come first served basis. If you live abroad your lists will be sent earlier so you receive them the same time as British people, there will be a separate list for everyone to receive wanted items. (Also, if living abroad along with an import or export envelope you must send 2 international reply coupons for return postage, which you can buy at your local post office)

PLEASE SEND YOUR ITEMS IN NOW, THIS MEANS EVERYONE, IF WE HAVE NO ITEM FROM YOU, YOU WILL NOT GET THE FIRST LIST.

CUT HERE—

TO HOT SNOT (c/o Dudley), 86 NINIAN ROAD, ROATH, CARDIFF, CF2 5EP, UK.

Please find enclosed a stamped addressed envelope for me to receive your mail order list selling second-hand skinhead/mod related mixtapes/seventies/alphaphos clothes, records etc. Please print below in bold/clear capitals.

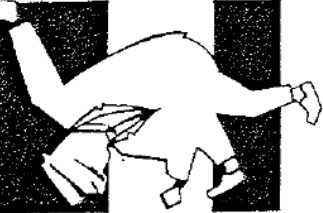
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1

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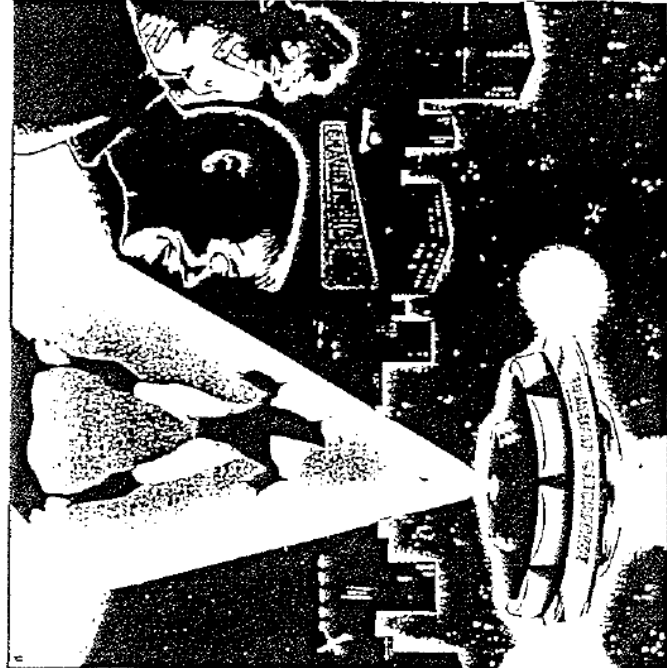
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| SKA 003) COME D'84 | BATTLE SCARED (MINI ALBUM) |
| SKA 004) VARIOUS | THIS IS OIL (COMP. ALBUM) |
| SKA 005) VARIOUS | ANTHONY DAY OR NIGHT (ALBUM) |
| SKA 006) BARBED WIRE | THE AGE THAT DIDN'T CARE (ALBUM) |
| SKA 007) SOCIETY REJECTS | LAST ROUGH CADEE |
| SKA 008) OIL FOLLOI | BEETRAYED |
| SKA 009) MAGNIFICENT | THE ARMY |
| SKA 010) THE ARMY | SKA 011) PUNKS, VOL. 1 |
| SKA 012) PUNKS, VOL. 2 | SKA 013) PUNKS, VOL. 3 |
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CALLING ALL SKINHEADS

Right, lets get this straight, Skinhead is an attitude. It is something which sociologists love writing about but dont understand. If they understood skinheads we wouldnt be here!!

I always believed that a skinhead was a clean living bloke. Not into dope, glue etc and no proper skin would dream of squatting. The whole point about the original skinheads clothes were that they were smart not like the hippies who were scruffy. But some of todays skins look more like punks with scruffy jeans, ripped t-shirts and dirty boots. Could it be that some of the 'New Breed' are more like short haired hippies (into drugs man!) or punks (anarchy, nose studs and face tattoos) instead of clean no nonsense skinheads??

In my view a real skinhead is a bloke with suss. Someone who knows the right clothes to wear and dresses smartly, 'tasty'. A bloke who likes his football and drink and having a laugh. Skinheads arent boy scouts and I'm not saying they should be. However I am fed up of seeing actors on the tv portraying skinheads as thick, scruffy gits kicking any one or anything and I am sick of seeing kids at gigs and in the street behaving the same way because 'thats what skinheads are about innit?' Well no it aint!!

There are a lot of genuine skins about. People with the right ideals and attitude but they are in danger of becoming a minority, leaving the way clear for the 'punk type' skin element. If that does become the case I would rather the skin scene died away peacefully than have a bastardized version of the cult dragged about.

Yours sincerely

(Thanks to John Smith for letting me print the above article, which he originally did for inclusion in Skins.)

IT WENT FAR ENOUGH MORE TO SMILE ABOUT

In the last four - five years in Britain there has been a fundamental shift in the evolution of the Skinhead phenomenon. There have always been skinheads, since the revival in 1977, that have been predominantly interested in dressing to much the original way of '69 - '72, and listening a lot more to 1968 - '73 reggae (tagged together to be known as skinhead reggae) than punk/oi.

In the early 80s these skinheads were, lets say, 'content' to live their own lives while the racist punks who call themselves skinheads fooled the media, and therefore the public, that a stiff right arm was essential to being a skinhead, of course to people in the know this was more of a fairy-tale than someone suggesting that England had a good football team!

The main focus of the inevitable split that was coming was Hard As Nails zine and Skrewdriver. Skrewdriver were and are the big motivators of the 'under-ground (very underground) nazi movement that the racist punk 'skinheads' flocked to, more interested in racist politics, banal music and paramilitary uniforms than the years old natural idea of skinhead as lovers of slick dress, football and melodic beat music as in early ska, reggae, two tone, soul, and some punk and oi.



Skrewdriver prove they've never changed....then they were just punks, now they're bald punks.

Hard As Nails took the views that a large number of skinheads held, and became the vocal point for the premise of 1969 style and music updated to the 80s through the then emerging new ska bands. As it was the first zine inside the skinhead scene that openly questioned the nazis right to use the name of skinhead when it was plainly obvious that they were not skinheads, HaN came in for the expected moronic criticisms that they were splitting the skinhead scene and were commies anyway. The logic being that anyone who is not a nazi must be a commie, it takes more than one brain cell to see through this pathetic attitude, unfortunately nazis brain cells do not often exceed the singular. As for splitting the scene, it is repulsive to most normal thinking people (and skins) to associate in any way with nazis.



Hard As Nails zine... the pioneer.

Since then Skrewdriver have continued to sink lower and lower into out and out stormtroopers and even further away from an accepted skinhead way. While Hard As Nails is long gone, other zines have taken up its message, Spy Kids, Backs Against The Wall, Street Feeling, Rough & Tough, Traditional Lemonheads and perhaps the best Zoot. Ska bands have sprung up in abundance and most encouragingly from all corners of the world, Britain, USA, Germany, Italy etc. Ska gigs have in the last six months become the norm rather than the exception, including the highly successful series of ska festivals held in London, which look set to continue, for the rest of the year at least.

There are regular do's and events up and down Britain playing non-stop 60's ska, soul and skinhead reggae. The talk of whose got the best gear, Bens/Brutus/crombie etc is as of much interest as the latest record release or how your football club did on Saturday.

The numbers of these true skinheads in Britain is growing every day, enough to make the optimistic feel that 1989 is gonna be our year again, first 1969, then 1979, it's gotta be aint it.

From California to Paris, London to Munich, Cardiff to Savona, Glasgow to Dublin, Manchester to Tokyo, its the sound of NOW, fuck the goose-step, DO THE MOONHOP.

PLAYING SAFE

A Brief History

Mention to most people tattoos and they will think of sailors and criminals. Despite the attempts of some famous notables (including several European monarchs) who have been tattooed, the practice remains firmly associated with lack of respectability.

The making of permanent marks on the body through the introduction of pigments is very old. It is claimed that tattoos existed in Egypt between 4,000 and 2,000 years BC. Tattoos developed as an elaborated art form in Japan in the 18th century. Tattoos are still part of the ritual to celebrate manhood in some of the primitive tribes.

I hope this has given you a brief insight into the history of the tattoo.

Self Portrait

So, you want a tattoo yourself ?. Well here are a few points to think over before you start.

1/ Do you really want a tattoo ?? Dont have one done just to keep up with your mates, remember a tattoo is for life, if you have to have one removed it is very painful and costly and can also leave quite a nasty scar.

2/ What to have ?? Again, when choosing your design, remember it is for life. For instance, you may choose a design with scrolls which you have your girls name put in, but what if you should change your girlfriend ?, whats your next girlfriend gonna say ??!. You might put on a tattoo of a bands name or logo which you like now, but will you still like them in a couple of years, or even ten, twenty, thirty years ??.

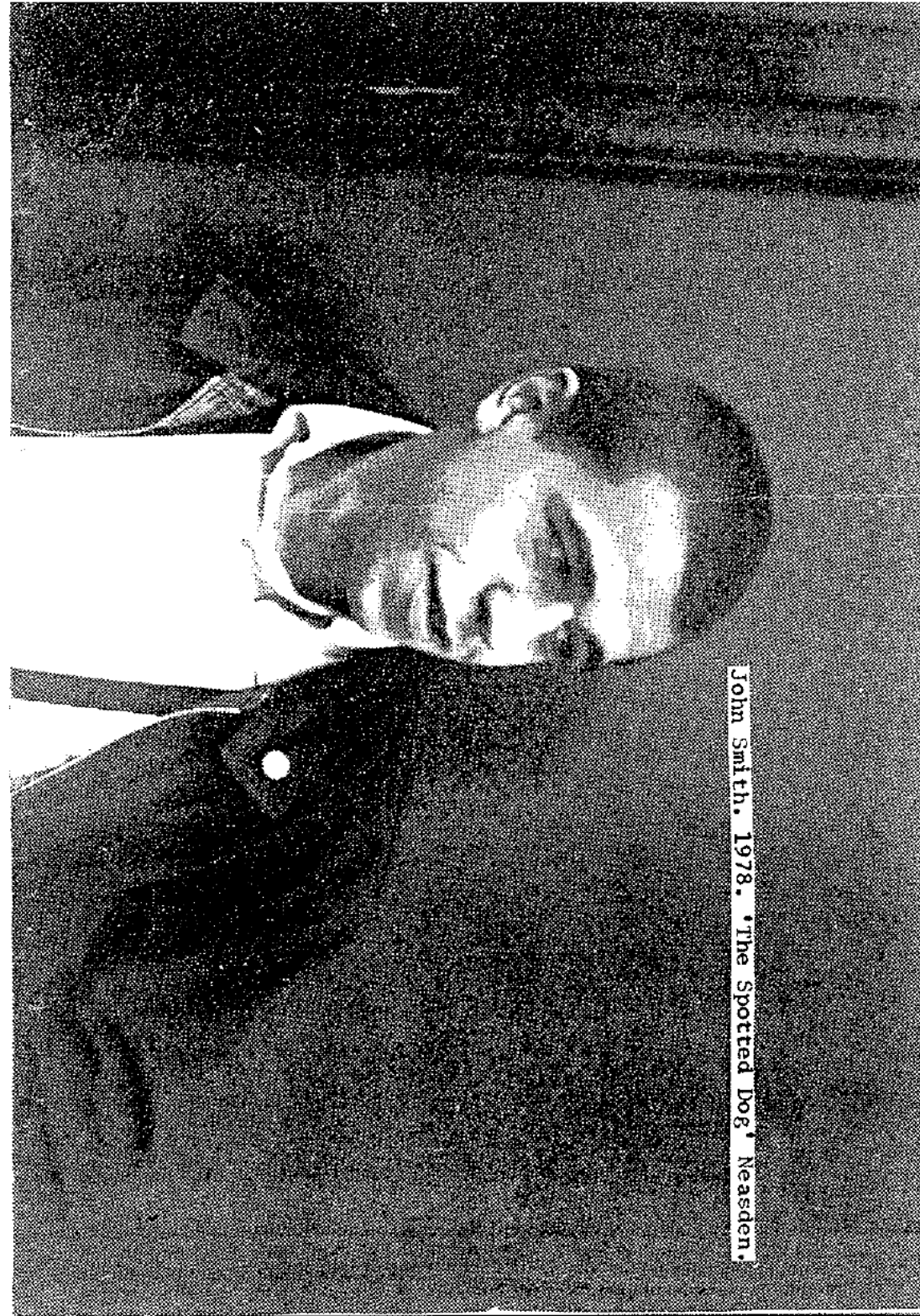
Also choose where you have your tattoo put with care. You may think it is great now to have it on your face, neck or hands, but what about in the years to come ? What are your children and grandchildren gonna think of their grandfather with 'Im A Skin' tattooed across his forehead ???

3/ Getting it done ?? Go to a proper tattoo studio, there everything will be clean and sterile and you will get a good job done. It will cost quite a bit depending on the size, but it is a work of art and something to be proud of. You will also hear that a mate of a mate can do a cheap tattoo, but be warned, at the best it will be a second rate tattoo, and at worst he is likely to use dirty needles which could give you a really bad time, even ending up having your arm off (not to mention aids).

Well I hope I have not put you off having a tattoo. You may even end up like me, getting really hooked, and keep on going back to the tattooist to get more and more done.

I also collect anything to do with tattoos, cards, photos, etc. If any of you have any photos of yourselves showing tattoos, doesnt matter if it is one tattoo or fifty, and you would like to send them to me for my collection it would be appreciated. I will refund your postage.
CHRIS JOHNS, LYKWOOD, CHACEWATER HILL, CHACEWATER, TRURO, CORNWALL, TR4 8QA.
KEEP BRITAIN COLOURFUL, GET TATTOOED !!

Many thanks to Chris for the above article.



John Smith. 1978. 'The Spotted Dog' Neasden.

T * A * T * T * O * O

Instead of Just Reading About Football's Problems

Why Not Do Something About Them?

Football supporters are urged to attack from politicians, politicians, property speculators and even some clubs, who appear to care little for the fans who provide them with their living. We are pushed around and exploited but rarely listened to.

Over the past three years, the F.A. has sought to change all this. We have had some success, but with the Government seemingly indifferent on destroying football as a spectator sport, we need to be bigger and stronger.

Membership is just £7 (under 16's £1) and for that you will receive our regular newsletter and the chance to get involved in monthly branch meetings and social evenings. The F.A. is currently involved in preparing for increased ticket allocations for Cup Finalists' better facilities at grounds for every one (that especially women and the disabled); effective measures to eradicate racism and racist chanting. This season we will fight the conspiracy membership scheme. Most of all, we want supporters to be involved and represented at every level of the game. Together we pay over £60 million a year into the game - far more than any so-called 'spectators', including television. Yet, when have you, the customer, been asked about anything? The only way to change things is to organise and act together.

Loyalty to the game must be our ever-rising loyalty. We must take responsibility now and act in the best interests of the game.

Please complete the form below and send it off with your £2. You'll be taking part in the only fight worth while - the fight to reclaim the game for the fans to whom it really belongs. Why not join us?

SIGNATURE.....
ADDRESS.....

DATE.....
ARE YOU DISABLED? NO/YES (PLEASE CIRCLE/INITIAL/DATE)

TEAM SUPPORTED.....
SEND TO: FOOTBALL SUPPORTERS ASSOCIATION, 59 OAKWOOD ROAD,
LIVERPOOL, L26 1XD.



THE Looking back

As you might recall in back issues of BAW, I have stated that I don't like featuring gig reviews because they tend to be so out of date by the time you get to read them. But there is always the exception to the rule (eg Cardiff City FC can play football, the rest of the league can't!) and this is it, Paddy Suede (Cardiff SHARP) and his account of last December's first night of the London International Ska Festival:-

On a cold Tuesday night, late December, we arrived at the Sir George Robey pub on the Seven Sisters Rd, North London for the first night of the Xmas ska festival. It promised to be a night of dancing, drinking, singing and sweating, I am glad I wasn't disappointed.

Inside was a good mix of skinheads from around the country. There was a large mob down from Scotland, I think they had come down especially to support CAPONE AND THE BULLETS who come from Glasgow. C and the B's are a cracking live band, doing as they do, a wicked cover of "Too Experienced". Their music is in no way stagnant and gets most people dancing and jumping (all except the geriatrics!), I think this was their first gig south of the border, I know it won't be their last as they also played the following night!. They certainly don't play any over-excited, half-baked drivel. They have supported Laurel Aitken in the past so I know they got the thumbs up from him and what's cool for Uncle Laurel is certainly cool enough for me.

I wasn't surprised to see a large number of Germans present as THE BRACES has at least eight members and there were at least six with SKAOS. Skaos in my opinion were the better of the two when on stage, their experience sort of shone through as they have played throughout Europe building up quite a following for themselves. They have a debut album called "Beware" out on Unicorn Records - it's well nutty, I suggest you buy it and see for yourselves.

I suppose I'm being tough on the Braces who had the hardest job of going on first and warming everybody up and being honest I hadn't consumed enough beer to really get into it. They do sing in English and are also with Unicorn, I'm glad these bands got it together to cross the Channel - I'm sure they'll play here again.

Talking of travel, BIM SKALA BIM crossed the pond from the States and were in the middle of a UK mini tour. The Bim boys (and girl) should be committed to a looney bin judging by their crazy antics on stage. They aint your normal ska band, having lots of influences, even skanking up Eric Clapton's "Sunshine Of Your Love", that really got the crowd going. They have got to be one of the best Yankee ska outfits live or on record. Check out "Tuba City", their album on Ska Records, and just listen to the class of Roland Alphonso adding a touch of sax here and there.

The headliners tonight were Gaz Mayall and THE TROJANS, this band is spot on. They have played as far away as Japan, people there paying something like 25 a head to see them, I'm glad it wasn't that much tonight or all my beer dosh would have gone up the spout, leaving me in a drastic withdrawal syndrome!. The word is these boys are heading for the charts, so I wish them every success.

They had a nice surprise for everybody when they'd completed their set because PRINCE BUSTIE, the man himself, took the stage and they started to back him. It was a bit unrehearsed but who the fuck cared, everyone went ape-shit!. What a top Xmas present - nice one lads!. It was good to see that 'sharp' days have returned with everybody getting down and having a laugh!.

To raise money for the USA opposition to the blatantly stupid 'idea' of ID cards for us, comes a flexi disc 'Drastic Plastic' from Sheffield band Blamoi!. A 'pop' record with great lyrics 'Stop that man, He's called Colin Moynihan' (lyrics-right). It costs one pound (inc p&p) and all profits go to Rock Against ID Cards. Keep our game watc- hable, and buy a record at the same time!! Send to P. Watson, 103 Olive Grove Rd, Lowfields, Sheffield, S2.

Chorus:

If you're a fan
Do what you can
To stop that man
He's called Colin Moynihan

Have you heard of the hindrance
To football's renaissance
From the sports politician's
Out of touch (tongued) opinions?

2. With the ID card
The casual fan is barred
And hell cause a queue
Except for the privileged few

3. On the terraces
We're unlikely menaces
Violent minorities
Are our societies'

4. Football ground facilities
Are the nineteenth century's
We need new regulations
To improve our stadiums

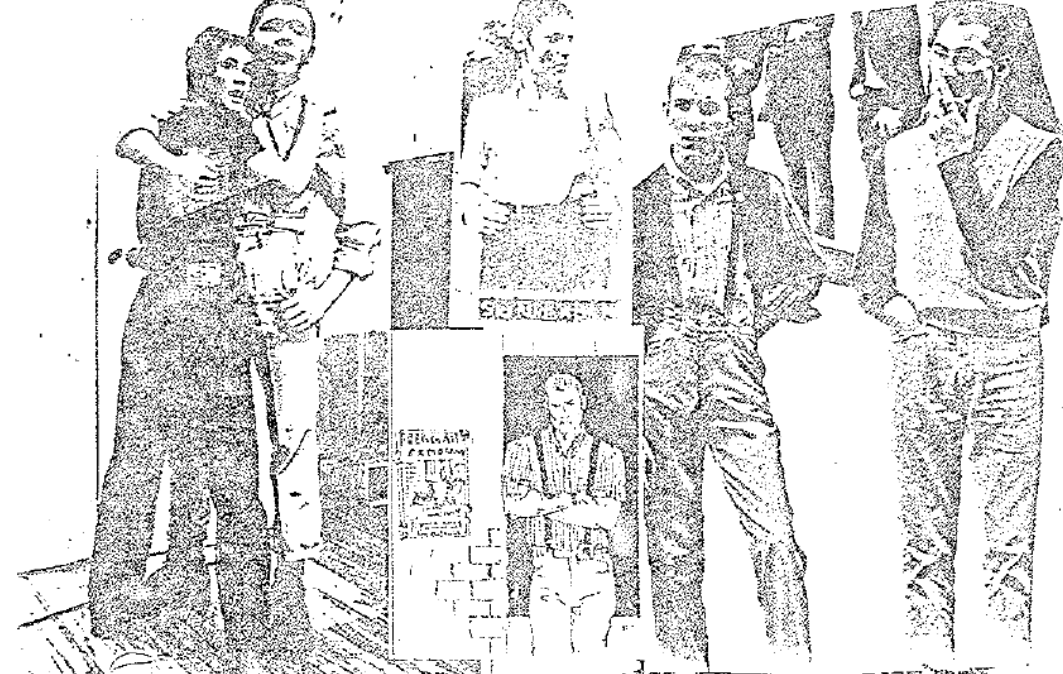
5. First verse
6. And football fan identity
Is a civil liberty
And a foot in the door
For a passport for all

C. Blamoi 1998.

ALL PROFITS TO
ROCK AGAINST ID CARDS



PO
PUL



SUNDAY: Michael Croft introduced me to the phenomenon of the "skinhead" or "punk". Now I see them everywhere—riding along the sides of local trains, wrestling on escalators, hanging around country lanes, throwing stones on television.

At fourteen, they are quite distinct: from hippies, or rockers, or mods, or the Teds of yesteryear. They are anti-hair with only a thin layer in their bullet crevasses. They wear large boots, jeans, braces over T-shirts.

It is almost as if they were deliberately styled in the dead-end lands of pre-war slumdom. Our Gang turned nasty, commonplace virtues no longer funny.

They act as the shock troops of the new revolution, mercenaries who will attack any minority group just for fun—Catholics, Pakistanis, conning country, police, pop groups, football crowds. Inevitable and unpredictable, they are given respectable excuses for vandalism by adults in Ulster as in Slough.

Skinheads set to stop political hijack

A FRIEND of mine recently gave some cigarettes to two skinheads in a popular pub in the centre of Cardiff. They had run out of tobacco, and Dave's gesture was an attempt to 'treat them like anyone else.'

Later they asked the landlord to elect a quiet-looking Asian student who they claimed had been staring at them.

After a discreet inspection of their cellars, Dave concluded that the olive branch had been offered to a couple of young racists.

We all shared his despair at the display of hatred and intolerance, we had witnessed. We did not share any more of it.

This sort of experience is why many people are wary of skinheads, and often regard them as inherently nasty characters. Yet, as anyone else's, their world is full of contradictions.

Scratch the surface of this subculture and the proverbial different picture emerges. In fact, the very idea of 'skinhead' is reminiscent of a struggle, in various interpretations, meanings and individual remedies for the 'skinhead' identity. Roddy Moreno, of Grangetown, Cardiff, is a particularly significant example.

At 22, with a prison record behind him, Roddy has been a 'skinhead' since he was 18, and with Spanish and Irish grandparents, is only too aware of racism. 'Skinhead' means ego he founded the first UK branch of SHARP (Skinheads Against Racial Prejudice) after discovering the organisation during a brief holiday in America.

SHARP now extends to Huddersfield, Bournemouth, Ireland, Devon and Australia.

SHARP is committed to re-appropriating 'skinhead' culture from what is seen as a political hijacking by right-wing extremists.

Determined and articulate, Roddy explains: 'We're saying to ordinary skinheads: Stand up and fight for your sense, for your culture, the Nazis will steal it.'

In South Wales they're organising good games where SHARP is very available and people go inwards the next event.

Recently making a modest living from running two night clubs — but never feeling comfortable with his identity as a 'skinhead' to him, SHARP is equally crucial to what Roddy means to be 'skinhead' in Wales as he is in London.

It's not like it was... we're ending it.



Mike Ormsby

On...
Fighting racism

of us going to harm for a day out. That's all you need, I think the idealist puts people off," said Roddy.

It's not a racist skinhead as a construction in terms. 'It's not, our way of life is all about mixing cultures, sounds and styles... that's how we started, that's how it should be...'

But according to a skinhead I approached outside Nelson Park after a recent evening match, this is not how it should be at all.

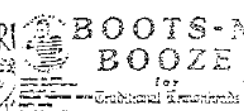
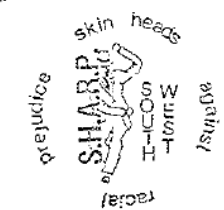
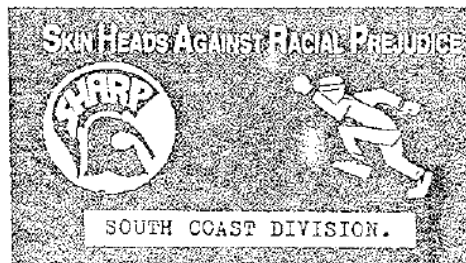
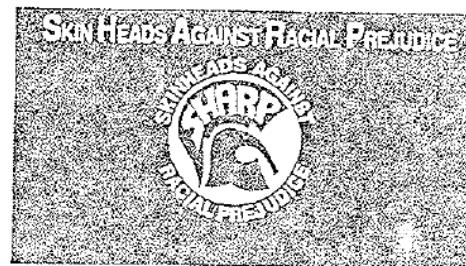
Chris, who declined to give his surname, is 18, employed, and has been a skinhead for six years. He knows of Roddy, likes the music he made as leader of the Originals, but remains unmoved by SHARP. Soft-spoken and with a ready smile, Chris is an active member of the National Front.

A stranger came up to me after Chris and his friend had walked by. A young Welshman, smiling, as Chris was in London, he is a member of an anti-fascist organisation and could hardly conceal his anger.

He knew of my two interviews, and insisted that I include his demonstration of these views in this article. 'There's all the bloody stuff,' he said, and told him about Roddy Moreno.

Mike Ormsby is a freelance writer based in Cardiff.

'Stand up and fight — or the Nazis will win'



HE OLD BREED - THE ORIGINAL WAY
* CUTTINGS CIRCA 1969 - 1971 *

PAMA SUPREME

- 1/ Eastern Promise - Tommy McCook. PS327. 1971.
- 2/ Greatest Hits - Owen Gray. PS333. 1971.
- 3/ Summer Sand - Owen Gray. PS325. 1971.
- 4/ John Crow Skank - Derrick Morgan. PS321. 1971.
- 5/ Throw Away Your Gun - Busty Brown. PS356. 1972.
- 6/ Mama We're All Crazy Now - Denzil Dennis. PS375. 1973.



**PAMA
RECORDS
WITH THE
BEST BEAT**



GAS

- 1/ If It Don't Work Out - Pat Kelly. GAS125. 1969.
- 2/ Cho Cho Train - Soul Cats. GAS109. 1969.
- 3/ 1,000 Tons Of Negaton - Roland Alphonso. GAS112. 1969.
- 4/ Something Sweet The Lady - Pete Weston Band. GAS146. 1970.
- 5/ Power Cut - Glen Adams. GAS135. 1969.
- 6/ Throw Me Corn - Ranny Williams. GAS120. 1969.



**PAMA
RECORDS
WITH THE
BEST BEAT**

PAMA

- 1/ Birch Control - Lloyd Terrell. PM792. 1970.
- 2/ Skinhead Shuffle - Mohawks. PM798. 1970.
- 3/ I Come - Lee Perry. PM740. 1968.
- 4/ Bang Bang Lulu - Lloyd Terrell. PM710. 1968.
- 5/ Push It Up - Termites. PM729. 1968.
- 6/ The Time Has Come - Slim Smith. PM850. 1972.
- 7/ Wet Dream/Bang Bang Lulu/Birch Control/Sex Education - Max Romeo/Lloyd Terrell/The Classics. PM836. 1972. (Maxi Single)
- 8/ Annie Pama - Bunny Lee's All Stars. PM803. 1970.
- 9/ My Time Is The Right Time - Alton Ellis. PM717. 1968.
- 10/ G.N. Express - Clancy's All Stars. PM722. 1968.



PUNCH

- 1/ Too Experienced - Winston Francis. PMS. 1969.
- 2/ Clint Eastwood - Upsetters. PH21. 1969.
- 3/ Dry Acid - Count Sticky. PH19. 1969.
- 4/ Forward March - Derrick Morgan. PH107. 1972.
- 5/ Shocks Of Mighty - Dave Barker. PH25. 1970.
- 6/ The Ark - Trevor & Keith. PH41. 1970.
- 7/ Return Of The Ugly - Upsetters. PH18. 1969.
- 8/ Rudies Nedley - Third & Fourth Generation. PH91. 1972.
- 9/ Soulful Love - Pat Kelly. PH88. 1971.
- 10/ Johnny Too Bad - Slickers. PH59. 1971.



SUPREME

- 1/ Let It Be - Mohawks. SUP204. 1969.
- 2/ Everynight - Buddy & Skarra. SUP218. 1971.
- 3/ Starvation - Pioneers. SUP226. 1971.
- 4/ Johnny Deller - Dave Barker. SUP228. 1971.
- 5/ More Games - Sound Dimension. SUP202. 1970.



**PAMA
RECORDS
WITH THE
BEST BEAT**

UNITY

- 1/ Return Of Jack Slade - Derrick Morgan. UN546. 1970.
- 2/ Wet Dream - Max Romeo. UN503. 1968.
- 3/ 30 Pieces Of Silver - Prince Buster. UN522. 1969.
- 4/ Spooky - Lester Sterling. UN509. 1969.
- 5/ Top The Pop - Derrick Morgan. UN540. 1969.
- 6/ 1,000 Tons Of Version - Jeff Barnes. UN568. 1970.
- 7/ Peyton Place - Don Tony Lee. UN519. 1969.
- 8/ Wine Her Goosie - Max Romeo. UN516. 1969.
- 9/ Bangarang - Lester Sterling. UN502. 1968.
- 10/ Peanut Vendor - Tommy McCook. UN535. 1969.

THE OFFICIAL

thing that Trojan do in the future and being a member of TOTAS means that people are assured of not missing out. This being the 21st anniversary year of Trojan becoming an independant record company should be a really exciting one.

Finally, do you realise that there will be a large amount of skinheads involved with TOTAS and what do Trojan think of this.

(Chris Prete) I do realise that a large proportion of our membership will be skinheads and my view of this as an original skinhead is - great !!. The skinheads have over the years been the only ones to retain a true interest in the music and that means that it is their money that goes in to the record shop tills. All this is a fact of life that Trojan are completely aware of. The policy of Trojan is to give the people what they want, so I think skinheads and Trojan are an inseperable combination that has endured for twenty years, and I don't see any reason why it should end now. Remember that it was Trojan who released the only true skinhead album in 'Skinhead Moonstomp-Symarip' in 1970 and have kept it available all these years, even to the extent of putting it onto a compact disc, back to back with 'Monkey Business-Various'. Skinheads & Trojan, Trojan & Skinheads - GREAT !!!.

SEND TO -- TOTAS, 12 THAYER STREET, LONDON WIM 6AU. (Please print clearly)

FULL NAME

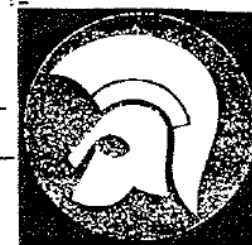
ADDRESS

DATE OF BIRTH

MUSICAL PREFERENCE :-
(tick which one)

☐ SKA
☐ ROCKSTEADY
☐ EARLY REGGAE

How did you hear about TOTAS ?



A CRITICAL POINT OF VIEW



MADNESS



It must be love



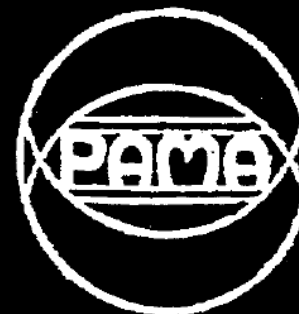
There was a time a few years ago that the only new ska material to review was the pretty awful The Silence. Now the market is well swamped, specially with albums. Whether a lot of the tracks are keeping to a high standard is another question. The companies releasing material will realise the ordinary punter can only afford a limited amount of vinyl. Still at least we can pick and choose, a revelation in itself.

I quite liked the single SKA FEVER - SKA FLAMES, the Japanese band showing their musical prowess to full effect. Nice to see IT MUST BE LOVE - MADNESS being re-released, one of their best. MAKE ME SMILE - DELTONES is their follow up to STAY WHERE YOU ARE which I rate as being the superior. SKAVILLE UK - BAD MANNERS is great, not a classic, but getting there. RUDE BOY SHUFFLE - THE RUDE BOYS is the first outing from Roddy & his merry men, very ska rooty, check it out. A mini elpee by CASINO ROYALE (SOUL OF SKA) which is out in Britain under another title is simply brill, the best new ska band I've heard. A record which was a pleasure to hear it had been made was STACK-O-LEE - PRINCE BUSTER & THE TROJANS, a typical, and therefore triff outing by the Prince. LUMPI - THE TROJANS showed just why they are so talked about, can't say I liked much of their previous stuff so it just shows I'm not right all the time. LIVING IN A SUITCASE - THE LOAFERS was the first chance I had to hear the Newbury band and must say it made quite impressive listening.

SEVEN - TWELVE INCHERS



PAMA RECORDS



BOSS SOUNDS
ON PAMA

Two Tone ? Forget it, Trojan ? Great, but at a push the one company for me who epitomised skinhead reggae was PAMA.

Formed by three Jamaican immigrant brothers, the Palmers, in early 1967 at the height of rocksteady. The first label was Pama followed a year later (1968) by Nu Beat and Unity, the rest following in 1969. A total of thirteen labels; Bullet, Camel, Crab, Escort, Gas, Nu Beat (New Beat), Ocean, Pama, Pama Supreme, Punch, Success, Supreme and Unity.

At the summit of reggae's popularity in '69 - '71 Pama were Trojans only serious rival. (except for the small labels Bamboo and Banana run by Junior Lincoln). In just one week of 1969 there were 180 reggae records released in the UK !!

This competition was exploited by producers in Jamaica who would quite often fly into London, do a deal with Trojan for a record(s) then before hopping back to Kingston they would sign an identical contract with Pama !! Hence don't get too confused if some records on Trojan labels sound very similar to ones on Pama labels, but the titles are different ! Confused ? You will be !! Pama made an attempt to rectify this situation by using a large proportion of their discs produced in the UK by people like Laurel Aitken. It was Pama, far more than Trojan, who capitalised on the new audience reggae had attracted, the skinheads. Records were aimed directly to these lovers of the stomp, Skinhead Train, Night At The Hop, Skinhead Shuffle, Return Of Jack Slade etc.

The Palmer brothers went on to form the Jet Star distribution company which is still going strong today. They virtually finished with the Pama labels by 1973 though they did not stop completely till 1975.

On to the labels themselves, overleaf on the next two pages you will find examples of all twelve Pama labels (I have not bothered with Ocean as it is not worth pursuing) and next to them my own personal recommendations of the best of each. Get them if you can !! Though the predominant style on all the labels was reggae, there were a lot of rocksteady records and even a few tracks of ska, eg 30 Pieces Of Silver - Prince Buster (Unity) and You Should Never Have To Come - Stranger Cole (Crab). Here is a quick summary of each label :-

BULLET - 130 releases. 1969-1973.

CAMEL - 99 releases. 1969-1973.

CRAB - 65 releases. 1969-1971. (A large proportion of Derrick Morgan discs)

ESCORT - 63 releases. 1969-1971.

GAS - 71 releases. 1969-1971.

NU BEAT (NEW BEAT) - 94 releases. 1968-1971. (Changed to New Beat around the NB60s. Large proportion of Laurel Aitken discs)

PAMA - 158 releases. 1967-1973. (54 releases were non reggae, mostly soul including some Northern Soul)

PAMA SUPREME - 91 releases. 1970-1973.

PUNCH - 111 releases. 1969-1972.

SUCCESS - 13 releases. 1969-1970.

SUPREME - 30 releases. 1969-1971.

UNITY - 70 releases. 1968-1973.

My pick of the labels ? A hard choice indeed, but I'd have to go for NU BEAT with the Laurel Aitken classics, closely followed by CRAB, PUNCH and UNITY, which in turn are minutely ahead of BULLET, CAMEL, ESCORT, GAS, PAMA and SUCCESS. There's well over a thousand records between all these closely aligned labels and a fair few are not the greatest of discs, but there's one hell of a lot of fine, nay, supreme examples of skinhead reggae featured, enough to keep you collecting for a few years !! Happy hunting, PAMA SKINS ARE BOSS, OK.



LONGSHOT

Keeping the SKA spirit alive...

Beginning this summer, Longshot will be traveling you informed of the current ska scene locally and internationally.

LONGSHOT featuring:

- Providing a forum for individuals to exchange news and information
- Interviews with up and coming ska bands
- Class concert listings
- Discography reviews
- Reviews, concert, video reviews
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105 Dixon Avenue Toronto, Ontario M4L 1N8

Special Pre...



LAUREL AITKEN at GAZ'S ROCKIN BLUES XMAS '87 DO, DEAN ST, LONDON



Albums are of course still the best value for your money. Specially the compilations like SKANKIN' ROUND THE WORLD - which is easily my fave elpee of its type, check out Thrill Me Up - Toasters and I Love To Dance - Skaos and you'll know what I mean. Its follow up (Vol Two) is another cracker, both highly recommended. BALI ISLAND - DONKEY SHOW is a bit harder to get into and Mr Brown does shine through the other songs COME SEE COME SKA - GANGSTER FUN are yet another US band where they seem (with a few exceptions) to have developed an 'American ska sound' which doesn't always please our ears in the UK, Gangster Fun are better than a lot, worth a hearing. I liked NANA CHOC CHOC - DELTONES but I can't say I was overpowered by it like some. POOL SHARK - TOASTERS was certainly to my taste buds, they seem to be maturing into a class act. Two German bands debut long-players, RUDER THAN RUDE - BUSTERS which is all decent stuff but is shaded by BEWARE - SKAOS, not as strong or quite as good as their live act but shows off their talents well (you have got to hear After Midnight done live to realise just how good they are). HOW TO STEAL THE WORLD - NAPOLEON SOLO is good loud ska/soul done superbly, nice record. SKA VILLE USA VOL 4 is the fourth in the series of various US ska bands and is easily the best, not least cos all the tracks can be classed as ska, particularly appealing is Lets Go Bowling ditty of the same title. Lastly, MUSICAL FEVER - Various Coxsons productions, is one of many Trojan new packages of 6Ts & 7Ts rare records, I wish I was a millionaire so I could afford them all, this one was a must, a double album of top notch quality (remember that word ?).

(Many thanks to UNICORN and SKA RECORDS for the discs)

Unicorn Records - Stay Where You Are/Skankin' Round The World Vol One & Two - Various/Bali Island - Donkey Show/Nana Choc Choc in Paris - Deltones/Make Me Smile - Deltones/Pool Shark - Toasters/Ruder Than Rude - Bustlers/Busters - Skaos/How To Steal The World - Napoleon Solo/Ten Golden Dons - Casino Royale (Italian import titled Soul Of Ska).

Cox's Records - Ska Fever - Ska Flames/Ska-O-Lee - Prince Buster & Trojan/Luigi - Trojans.

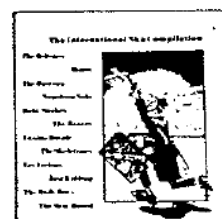
Ska Records - Rude Boy Shuffle - The Rude Boys/Come See Come Ska - Gangster Fun/Skaville USA Vol 4 - Various.

BlusBeat Records - Skaville UK - Bad Ranners.

Trojan Records - Musical Fever - Various.

Steaknole Records - Living In A Ska House - The Loafers.

Stiff Records (the original) - It Must Be Love - Madness.



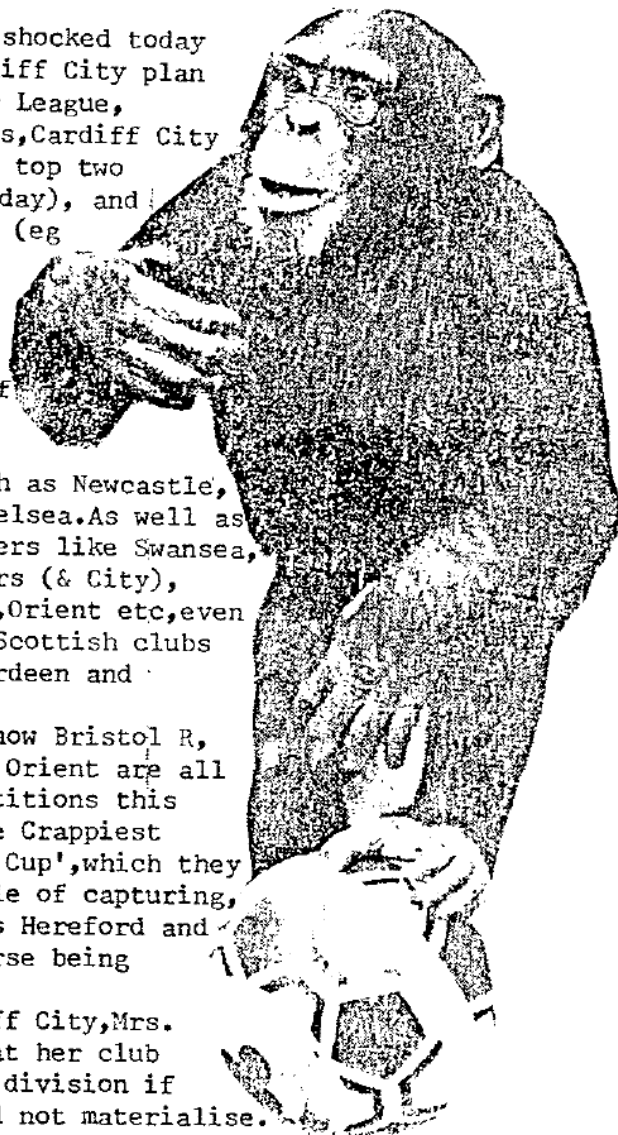
FOCUS ON

The football world was shocked today by the news of the Cardiff City plan to form a British Super League, consisting of themselves, Cardiff City Reserves (obviously the top two teams in the country today), and a few other nonentities (eg Liverpool, Everton etc).

A Football League spokesperson Mr. N.O. Idea (pictured right) claimed that the Cardiff decision would harm the minor, and let's face it, minnows of our game, such as Newcastle, Coventry Village and Chelsea. As well as G.M. Conference contenders like Swansea, Gillingham, Bristol Rovers (& City), Cambridge Utd, Brentford, Orient etc, even affecting quaint, small Scottish clubs the likes of Celtic, Aberdeen and Airdrie (?!?!).

Of course as we all know Bristol R, Cambridge, Brentford and Orient are all involved in stiff competitions this season, most notably, 'The Crappiest Ground Of Great Britain Cup', which they are all more than capable of capturing, along with odds on faves Hereford and Torquay (Newport of course being absent this season).

A spokesman for Cardiff City, Mrs. Queen Liz 2, revealed that her club would play in the third division if the Superleague plan did not materialise. After all, she so eloquently explained, Cardiff City (Queens Award for Industry-Police day outing section) would not want to embarrass the Scouse gits (Liver-ton) with the superior Cardiff talent.



IN OFF THE POST



Dudley,

Cheers for issue 4. I don't know how you did it but it managed to better no. 3! It's a pity that some of the glued-up scum bags who like to think of themselves as Skins don't get a chance to read BATW. Perhaps it would teach them a thing or two about what skinheadism really is about; but then again they probably never learned to read anyway. Happy boozing, all the best, Leigh, Stourport.

Dudley,

Hope your keeping well, I'll get straight to the point, is BATW still in production? The reason I ask is that I've heard nothing of it for a very long time. I do realise that a lot of hard work and time must go into producing BATW but I do feel it would be a great loss to skinheads everywhere if it should cease. Anyway thanks for reading, Jamie, Loughborough.

Dudley,

I've been off the scene for a couple of years, and BATW 4 was the first of its kind I've seen for ages. It's great to know there are a few people left with enough brains to suss out the mugs. The cheque, when it stops bouncing is for BATW 5, and a tape.

Dudley,

Thanks for the tape, got it just before Xmas but I've only just sobered up to write back. Hope your New Year started better than mine, in the back of a police car before it was an hour old. Beat that Micky Geggus! Wasn't it nice to see Garry Bushell on 'Telly Addicts' and is it true his next appearance is on 'Casualty' playing the part of a scab?!. Enough of the sarcasm, well done for producing the best thing to read since Sounds curled up and died. Just remember we'll never be beaten if we never give up, and if you ever think your on your own you couldn't be more wrong (unless you support Birmingham City where solitude is a way of life!). Dave, Tipton.

Dudley,

This is just to let you know what we think of your zine, it's 'BOLLOCKS'. You say you're going to keep your political views personal, well it's quite clear what your views are, your a bit of a lefty cunt. Skins don't like reggae, ska, tamla motown and northern soul. They like bands like Skrewdriver, Brutal Attack, The Business, Vicious Rumours, Die Hards and Ovaltines. There is hardly anything in your zine to interest most skinz. I'm just glad to say I didn't have to pay for your poxy zine. I found it on the floor of a pub, where it fucking belongs. Hard As Nails was full of shit too. They are a bunch of commie shit cunts a bit like you I think. Just one more thing to add 'up your bollocks'.

British Movement Skins(?), Dagenham.

Dudley,

My mate bought a copy of your skinzine, I thought it was brilliant especially your articles on rare reggae and rare northern, its about time that people realised that soul is just as much a part of skinhead as reggae is. So keep up the good work, so those Hard As Nails boys can turn in their graves. But please don't fall into the trap of slagging off one type of music then spend the rest of the zine saying how good it is (another dig at HAN) 50/50 eh! Good luck and all the best. Shane, Dalston, London.

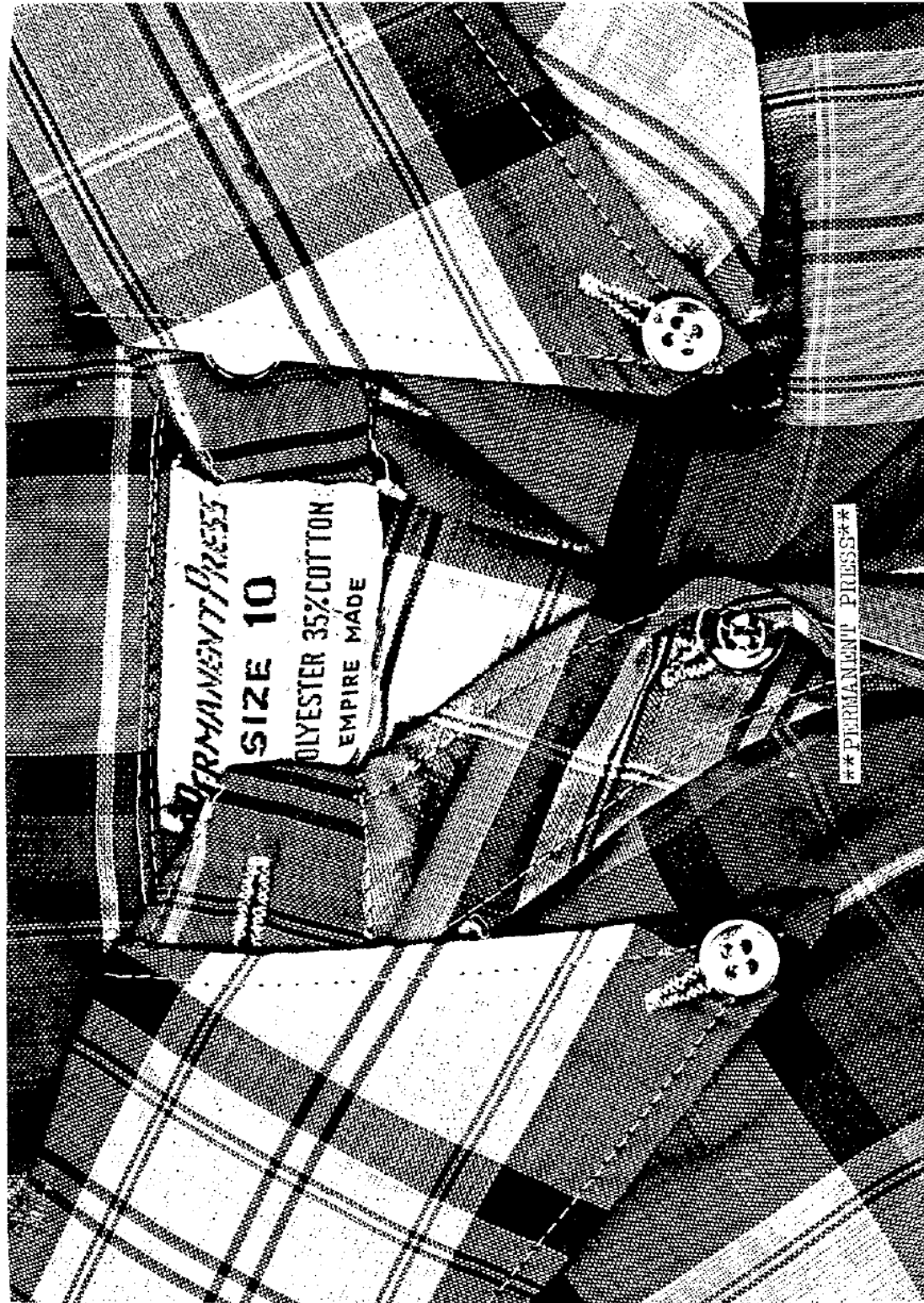
Dudley,

The last issue of BATW I bought was no. 4 which I found most enjoyable. My only criticisms are on your articles relating to oil music which in my opinion have nothing what so ever to do with skinheads because as you well know skinhead music is and always will be reggae, ska, soul. Please try to concentrate solely on the issues relevant to the original ideals of skinheadism and let the abundant other fanzines around deal with oil music. Still all in all I would like to say that your fanzine is the best one I've read catering for skinhead tastes like my own. Keep up the good work, yours sincerely, Tony, Sidcup.

Dudley,

I am writing in response to your zine, its good to know that there is a strengthening traditional skinhead scene happening in the UK. Last time in London ('85) I was searching high and low for proper skins but only found nazis and skins that didn't know their ass from their heads. Anyway the reasons I am writing are to tell you a little about skinheads here. I've been a traditional skinhead for about six years now, getting into it from a friend in England. I lived in San Francisco only to be constantly fighting with the nazi skins (known as the American Front, original eh?). Me and my couple of real skin buddies knew that for some odd reason, Santa Cruz had plenty of our kind, so recently we moved up here. In Santa Cruz we have a stronghold over the nazis (we outnumber them about 5 to 1) whereas in other places, San Jose, San Francisco, Los Angeles, things are the opposite. Many times the nazis have tried to bring their buddies up from San Francisco, San Jose or wherever, but get chased out of town with their tails up their asses. Sincerely, Mike, Santa Cruz, California, USA.

Just a few letters from the literally hundreds received by BATW over the years, keep sending them in, always nice to hear your views. I just wish I hadn't chucked bundles of old mail out or I could have reprinted classics like the lad who honestly didn't know Joe Hawkins (BATW4) was now living in Walsall, and did I have his address?!. Not to mention the few separate enquiries I had on how much and where to obtain Really Hard Bastards zine (BATW4) !!. It's a funny old game innit?!!.



PERMANENT PRESS
SIZE 10
OLYESTER 35% COTTON
EMPIRE MADE

PERMANENT PRESS

DON'T GET SHIRTY

There is one piece of clothing that screams out style & skinhead, the good old button-down. There is more to it than just a couple of buttons on the end of a collar, important extras mark out if the shirt is of acceptable standard.

It was a Canadian, Ben Sherman, who came to Britain in the early sixties, opening a shop in Brighton selling his own shirt designs that started it all off. British kids then loved everything: American (don't ask me, ask your old man!) which shirt wise happened to be button-downs, Ben Sherman made his shirts with the obligatory button down collars, left side breast pocket, back button (on the neck collar), pleat, and loop (at the top of the pleat) presumably to hang the shirt up. All the above are an absolute must when getting a shirt now, they are our trademark, and if one or more are missing then you ain't got the genuine article in your paws. Getting back to Ben Sherman, his shirts made a big impact on the mods, who eagerly incorporated his shirts as their own.

By the time skinheads had arrived on the scene, Ben Sherman had become the shirt to wear. It was with skinheads that the button-down reached its peak, around '71 there were twelve factories producing Bennies non-stop. The skinheads saw the button-down as an essential part of the uniform, far more than the mods had, especially the hard wearing Oxford weave now favoured by Mr Sherman. The collars now were $\frac{3}{4}$ inches long (up until the late sixties they were longer) and it is these shirts between 1969 and 1973 that are universally thought of as the look. Not just because they are obviously from the same era as the original skins, but because they have never equalled the checks, the stripes, the colours from that period, and most importantly the length of the collar at $\frac{3}{4}$ inches made the collar hang just right, in fact, to quote Prince Charlie "these shirts are fuckin' perfection" (well, that's what he would have said if asked!). The button-downs by Mr Sherman were produced as Ben Sherman Originals, this was to distinguish them from the non button-downs also made by the company, in 1972 he sold out to, of all people, the British Government, who situated all the factories in N. Ireland. The skinheads were of course fading out by now and the button-down production faded with them.

So, God wore a Ben Sherman?! if so he almost certainly had a number of other shirts. Ben Shermans were easily the biggest seller, but to skinheads other makes were of equal acceptability, Brutus, Jaytex, Arnold Palmer and Permanent Press were all in demand and followed the strict conditions needed for a skinheads loyalty. Brutus were the next biggest producers after Ben Sherman, some say they were better, Jaytex did not come out with a very large proportion of shirts that met all the criteria (back button, loop, pleat, left pocket) but the ones that did were quite exceptional, Arnold Palmer (presumably the golfer?) were the smallest company and therefore probably the hardest to get hold of today, and Permanent Press, who did mens button-down shirts, but were best known for the stunning, multi coloured checks made for women (eg the buttons to do the shirt up being on the left hand side).

All the shirts had numerous combinations, some were plain, small checks, chunky checks, window pane checks (a particular fave of skinheads), different variations of stripes, and all with glorious colours. They came in long sleeve or short sleeve (for the summer), the short sleeves quite often having buttons on the hem, the most stylish being the short sleeves with a V cut out of the hem and a button either side.

Ben Shermans, and to a lesser extent Brutus, are of course available today in High St shops, the button down making a comeback in the late seventies. But the quality is minimal compared to their late sixties/early seventies counterparts, the colours are not as good, and the checks, especially, are inferior, most importantly the collars have become shorter and shorter, so much so that they 'hang' just does not look authentic. Reasonably acceptable are collars of $2\frac{1}{4}$ or $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches, anything less is taking the piss in a big way!, these can be found in said High St shops if you look well enough.

So, to sum up, Ben Sherman, Brutus, Jaytex, Arnold Palmer and Permanent Press, with $\frac{3}{4}$ inch button down collars, left breast pocket, back button, loop and pleat are the shirts to wear, you'll only find them in charity shops and the like, but if you can get them you'll feel ten foot tall, they just o-o-z-e that essential skinhead ingredient - Class.



**BEN SHERMAN ORIGINAL (EARLY SEVENTIES
BENNIES LABELS WERE WRITTEN - Ben Sherman
(in orange, hence it didn't come out in
this photocopy +) and underneath (in white)
the word, original, all on a black background
label)**



