

Robert McLaren (Fortune Tellers)

# Stirling Beat Scene in the 60's (Memories of a Band Member)



## Foreword

Firstly, I would like to give my heartfelt thanks to Robert for asking me to write this Foreword, especially as it covers a subject dear to my heart - 1960s local music heritage.

When I first heard from Robert about his new Booklet: “Stirling’s Beat Scene in the Sixties” I felt a sense of Deja vu and a real connection with my own trials and tribulations in publishing my Book \* in 2021. He explained that he had ‘thought’ about writing his ‘book’ for many years but life, family, work and other things “always seemed to get in the way”. Having had some input into the contents of this much needed piece of work, I can honestly say that it builds upon and compliments my previous output. His personal input (and that of others) as a member of the great local Pop Group - The Fortune Tellers - is insightful, educational and humorous and will endure for many years to come. Hopefully his work will encourage others to do the same, especially as none of us from that time “are getting any younger”.

Thankfully, Robert has now overcome all those ‘obstacles and distractions’ and has put his experiences, memories and thoughts in to words for us all to share!

DAVID MELDRUM LOWE  
SUMMER 2023

\*”KEEPING THE STORIES ALIVE: Stirlingshire & Clackmannanshire Entertainers and Venues Pre- 1950s to 1989” (2021).

## Introduction

For many years I struggled as to whether or not I should put my thoughts and experiences of the 1960's Pop Group scene in the Stirling area down on paper. At different times over the years I used to scribble little notes of things that I remembered about that great time, but I really never got much further than that. I can cite many reasons for this that include; work, family, age etc. Then, my good friend and band-mate Jim Haston gave me a book for my birthday on our local music history (by David Meldrum Lowe), reading it rekindled my enthusiasm to write 'something'. Like Davy, I believe that the 'little people' involved in our music heritage never really received the credit they deserved and this knowledge spurred me on.

As a result, the following pages of this short booklet contain many of my thoughts, experiences and memories along with some input from other musicians who played during that amazing decade (1960 to 1970). I start by reminiscing about "What a decade it was" - and it was! The progression from strict tempo dancing with large orchestras would soon give way to a new 'teenage movement' with its trendy clothes and beat scene, delivered mostly by new and young up-and-coming Pop Groups and Artistes. I then spend some time relating the evolution of such groups by noting "How did the bands start" and then relate my memories of meeting up with band-members and friends "Where did we all hang out". I then move on to discuss the type of instruments and gear we used in "The instruments we played to make the music".

Further Chapters look at the vast variety of venues that were available in "Where was the music played" and what were the transport challenges of getting to these in "How did the band get there". I follow this up and take a more in-depth look at "The venues and their location in Stirling and it's surrounds" and take a little peek into 'having a wee (illegal) drink' in "A bevvie afore yeh go".

Chapter 9 gives a great insight into the bands that played at the various venues around Stirlingshire and further afield in "Here comes the band" while "What did you and the band wear" relates the type of stage apparel that was available at the time and a memory of what the dancers might be wearing. This is followed by a discussion on "What music did you dance to", finally ending up with Chapter 12 which asserts "What a great time we had".

Robert McLaren

## Index

Chapter 1	— What a decade it was.	— P3
Chapter 2	— How did the bands start.	— P5
Chapter 3	— Where did we all hang out.	— P7
Chapter 4	— The instruments we played to make the music.	— P8
Chapter 5	— Where was the music played.	— P9
Chapter 6	— How did the band get there.	— P13
Chapter 7	— The venues and their location in Stirling and it's surrounds.	— P14
Chapter 8	— A bevvie afore yeh go.	— P24
Chapter 9	— Here comes the band.	— P25
Chapter 10	— What did you and the band wear.	— P113
Chapter 11	— What did you dance to.	— P114
Chapter 12	— What a great time we had.	— P117

## CHAPTER 1

### “What a decade it was”

The 1960s was a decade of musical revolution and innovation. Music genres and entertainment ranged from strict tempo ballroom dancing featuring a big band, which had upwards of 15 musicians, to gradually being replaced by dance venues catering for a much younger age range and featuring a ‘Pop Group’ or ‘Beat Group’ which, in general had three, four, five, six or more members.

The big band usually had a percussion section, a brass section including trumpets, saxophones and trombones, a bass instrument, a piano and a vocalist. The big band instruments needed very little amplification, apart from microphones for the vocalists.

How things changed with the advent of the ‘Pop Group’ where the instruments included drums, bass guitar, lead guitar, rhythm guitar and sometimes an electronic keyboard, with some groups having a lead vocalist. A few bands may have had a small brass section, but that was not in the common line-up.

All the band instruments except the drums were played through some form of amplification and this gave the advantage that you could alter the sound level to suit the size of the venue. Latterly, some venues installed sound level meters that would switch power off to the band if the volume level was too high. The big band played swing music for strict tempo ballroom dancing and due to their size they performed in large venues such as ballrooms, theatres and large halls. The advantage of the ‘pop group’ was that, as well as playing in those larger venues they could also play in much smaller venues such as clubs and church halls.

The ‘pop group’ played the music that was in the pop charts at the time or popular tracks from major artists' albums. Generally big band musicians could read sheet music and play in accordance with the notation and tempo identified on the sheet music, and woe betide any dancers who did not adhere to the ‘strict tempo rule’ who would be asked to leave the floor or even the venue!

Most local ‘Pop group’ musicians did not read sheet music. You very rarely saw a music stand in a ‘pop group’ line up. The reason was that pop music was much simpler than big band music. If you were starting from basics and could master three chords on a guitar you could strum along to Hang on Sloop, Pretty Flamingo, Get off of my Cloud and lots of others. At its very basic level it was a combination of just three major chords with perhaps the occasional minor thrown in. This was the blues scale and it’s very name can give you an idea of the origins of pop music. As the sixties progressed the songs became more melodic, resulting in more chord shapes being introduced into pop music. It was a long way from jazz, or even big band music, but teenagers liked it.

For many ‘pop groups’ the songs and instrumentals were learned by ear by listening to the original recording, or taping the song from a radio station such as Radio Luxembourg, working out the chords and practicing it till you got it right. Occasionally, for someone who had difficulty in identifying the chords, they might buy the sheet music (probably from Hay’s Music Store in Friars Street), but you never saw the sheet music on a music stand during a dance.

Performing Rights was not something that was generally considered at this time. Some venues did ask the band to fill in a Performing Rights form identifying the music they were going to play during the dance, so that the original artists/writers could receive payment for the performance of their songs, but that was very rare in the early years.

Some groups made it to the top and had a very successful recording and touring career, but most only had their moment in the sun for a short period of time playing at venues all over Scotland, then the group members reverted to a normal existence with their full time occupation and, for

some, married life. Some of the 'pop group' musicians who had enjoyed the buzz of playing so much kept it going for many years, performing in bands that played at weddings, dinner-dances and more and more in social clubs of all kinds.

Eventually, in the 70's the mobile disco that played the recordings of the original artists became the means of providing music for many dances. The inevitable consequence was that the number of 'pop groups' performing reduced in number, with many re-inventing themselves as Cabaret or Club Bands.

You can see from this progression that for the large venue promoters the cost of providing music at a function dramatically reduced over the years, from having to pay for up to a 15-member big band, then a 5-piece 'pop group' down to a single-person disco. The outlay for the music would have been much reduced in real terms.

Most local 'pop groups' probably never made much money during their time in the limelight. They might get from £15 to £25 a night, depending on the venue. From this fee they had to cover the expense of travel to the gig, perhaps food en-route and sometimes agents' commission. Whatever money was left was usually invested in new equipment and instruments.

Many of the 'pop groups' played for the sense of adventure and the love of performing the music. During those heady years many couples met at the dancing and went on to get married. One ex band member related that many years later, when in a pub, a guy had approached him and said that he had met his wife at a dance where his band had played the slow song 'Please Stay'. The ex band member didn't know whether the guy was pleased or was blaming him!

However it's a good feeling knowing that people remembered such moments created by a band. I'm sure many ex-band members could relate a similar story. A simple example of this appreciation was when my band, the Fortune Tellers, played their last gig in 1971 at St Andrews Church Youth Club in Callander. We were presented with a certificate of appreciation. A simple act but something that made all that effort over the years worthwhile.

Another example of this appreciation was this article (*right*) in the Stirling Journal -



**FORTUNE TELLERS**  
The Fortune Tellers have been on the local scene for quite some time now and for my money they are a very consistent group—one you never get tired listening to.  
In fact, in many halls in which they appear in and around Stirling, promoters have to put up the "Full House" notice.  
Talking to manager Glen Stevenson a few days ago, he told me the lads were at the stage where he had to virtually make them take a holiday.  
There is so much energy and vibrancy in the "Tellers" work I feel inclined to say that the fans will only be too happy to keep their "repertoire" of powerful music in the halls of Stirlingshire for as long as London permits. As far as I am concerned, any group that can fill a hall on the strength of its own name certainly cannot be overlooked much longer.

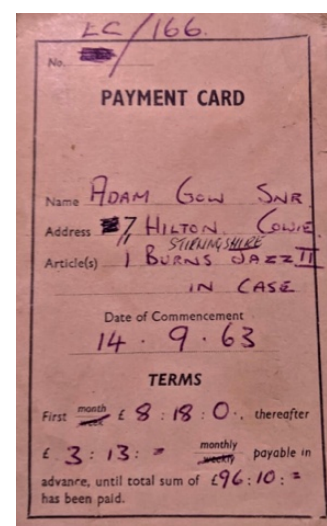
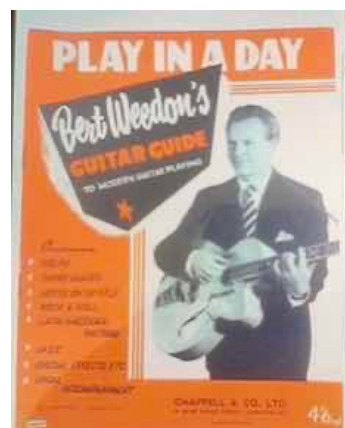
We were offered gigs in the Hamburg clubs (like many other bands) and a summer season in Greece, but we turned them down for various reasons. We never went to London, either because we were not ambitious enough, or not good enough. Still, like all the other local 'beat groups', we had a ball!

## CHAPTER 2

### “How did the bands start”

Most bands in the 60's started with a group of teenage pals or members of a youth club deciding they wanted to be part of the growing 60's music scene. They would first have to learn to play an instrument. The budding guitar player would probably buy Bert Weedon's 'Play in a Day' book, learn some simple chords, possibly listen to the Shadows and try to play the lead melody like Hank Marvin, no doubt some of them standing in front of a mirror!

They might not 'Play in a Day', but after a few weeks or months they would manage to get a tune out of the guitar. They would then practice some of the current music alone in their bedroom with an acoustic guitar their father owned or a cheap electric guitar and amplifier bought from Woolworths. I am aware of one guy who made his own electric bass guitar out of a slab of wood, a drummer who practised on a convector heater and suitcase, and a vocalist who had a bird cage stand as a mike stand holding a basic microphone which had been 'borrowed' from the driver's cab of a tour bus. Nothing got in the way of their ambition to succeed. Eventually the budding 'pop group' would get together to make some music, maybe still in a bedroom to see what they sounded like. As can be imagined at the start it would be pretty hard on the ears. However, as time went on they would buy better equipment, find a proper place to practice and eventually they would have enough songs to perform to a willing audience. To be able to buy better equipment may have resorted to a band member buying it on credit, usually 'hire purchase', so long as you had a parent who was willing to sign as a guarantor. Once fully paid you became the proud owner of a quality instrument. Here's an example (*right*) of a payment card for a guitar bought by a member of a well known local 'pop group' the Trespassers.



Although Stirling had Hay's Music Shop on Friars Street the range of instruments you could buy was limited. The 'go to' shop for bands big and small was McCormacks Music on Bath Street, Glasgow. It was opened by members of the Rolling Stones in 1963, and was an 'Aladdins Cave' of musical instruments where many up and coming local bands purchased their guitars, amplifiers, drums and PA systems. On a Saturday the shop would be packed with budding musicians viewing or trying out instruments in the various sound booths, and there was every likelihood you might bump into a member of a well known band. During the 'Swinging Sixties' many well known band members visited the shop and it is believed the amplifiers for the Beatles 1964 Odeon Concert came from there. Unfortunately, due to the advent of electronic music and on-line shopping, the shop closed in 2011. The building subsequently became the home of the Glasgow Tron Church.

Once they were 'on the road', organising gigs and travel had to become a bit more formal, whereby they required someone to manage them, to get bookings, do the administration and, where appropriate, get involved with an entertainment agency. All this could result in bands not only playing around their own area but travelling to places far and wide, with gigs spanning from the North of Scotland to the Scottish Borders. As a result many local 'pop groups' had the opportunity to share the stage with some of the best known pop bands and artists of the 60's.

Being a member of a band, like any collective, meant you all had to play your part for a satisfactory end result. However, this sometimes created tension and disagreements, but like best mates most got through it, consensus was agreed and friendships then endured for many years. Some individuals moved from one band to another during their playing days, whether because they were well thought of or because they weren't very good, who knows! However, many of the bands retained close to the same line up until they ceased playing. A credit to their resilience. Due to other pressures some just gave it up and pursued other avenues to satisfy their musical obsession.



Shown above is a collection of Gibson Les Paul guitars that a friend (an ex band member in the USA) started collecting when he finished playing. The market for vintage guitars is huge with many changing hands for thousands of pounds. Inevitably, as time passes this will get even more lucrative.

## CHAPTER 3

### “Where did we all hang out”

There were three places in Stirling where teenagers and band members used to hang out, two were on Barnton Street and both were owned by people of Italian descent. The first was the Cafe Royal at No 50 which was owned by the Togneri family. It was located close to the corner just before the sheriff court. It was a compact cafe with only 5 or 6 tables, but it had a small jukebox on the back wall where you could play the latest hits - one record (45”rpm) for around a sixpence (2.5 decimal pence) or three records for a shilling (5 decimal pence). This cafe was typical Italian and the smell of percolating coffee was fantastic. It also had the best tomato roll and hot chocolate combo I have ever tasted! However, once you were finished, Mr Togneri ushered you out, there was no hanging about in this cafe. The second cafe was Janetta’s, on Barnton Street opposite the bottom of Princes Street.



This was a much larger cafe that didn't have the atmosphere of the much smaller Cafe Royal, but there was less pressure on you to drink up and leave. When you were evicted from the Cafe Royal by Mr Togneri it was a short walk to Janetta's to meet up with others. Those cafes, like many of the venues, no longer exist but the buildings still stand. The third cafe which was popular with walkers, cyclists and motor cyclists was out of town at Causewayhead roundabout and was Corrieri's. It was a fairly large cafe that had a large jukebox and good selection of records, it was also a fish and chip shop and sold pretty decent ice cream. The cafe and chip shop still exist today but alas with no juke box! Whilst there are now few Italian style cafe's of the 60's, Stirling today has many places to eat and drink but hardly any provide live music.





## CHAPTER 4

### “The instruments we played to make the music”

The lead guitar was a 6 string electric guitar played through an amplifier. Popular but expensive guitars included the Fender Stratocaster, the Gibson Les Paul, or a Gretsch, while some less well-known brands like Burns, Guild and Hofner were also available.



Fender Stratocaster



Vox AC30 Amplifier

The guitar was usually played through an amplifier and speaker unit called a ‘combo’, typical combo’s were the Vox AC30 or AC50 with a power output of 30 watts and 50 watts respectively. Some guitarists used effects pedals such as a ‘Delay’, ‘Reverb’ or ‘Wah’ which enhanced the sound from the amplifier. Today, modern concert bands will have an array of equipment on stage, hence the need for lorries to transport their equipment. The rhythm guitar would be a very similar set up to the lead guitar. It was used to play the chords of the song while the lead guitar would play the melody or lead-riff’s.

The typical bass guitar was a 4-string electric played through an amplifier. Popular bass guitars were the Burns Black Bison or Fender Precision. It was generally played through an amplifier and speaker arrangement called a ‘stack’. The stack was a separate amplifier unit mounted on top of a large speaker cabinet. This arrangement allowed for a larger speaker for clear bass sounds. Typical bass amplifiers were manufactured by Fender, Selmer or Vox and usually had an output of 100+ watts. The lead vocalist had a microphone amplified through a ‘PA’ (public address) system, consisting of a PA amplifier and two or more larger speaker cabinets sometimes augmented by floor-mounted speakers. The most common microphone was made by Shure, the PA amplifier by Selmer and speaker cabinets by Vox, a typical amplifier output was 100/150 watt. There would have been 1 or 2 additional microphones for backing vocals.

The organ was either a single or double keyboard played through an amplifier. The keyboard might have been made by Farfisa or Vox. A few lucky bands could have had a Hammond or Lowry organ with a Leslie speaker cabinet. These were great organs, but not very portable, sometimes requiring a four-man lift.

The drums were the engine room of any ‘pop group’ and along with the bass guitar provided the beat and tempo of the music. A typical early drum kit consisted of a snare drum, bass drum with pedal, side tenor drum and a single mounted tom tom, although double-mounted toms (or more)

soon became the norm. The 'kit' also had a variety of cymbals usually consisting of a foot operated hi-hat, a ride cymbal and a couple of crash cymbals, one of which may have had loose rivets to enhance the sound, called a sizzle cymbal. The most common drum kits were by Premier, Pearl and Ludwig.

Some bands used a sound mixer to balance the sound of the combined instruments/vocals, but generally before the start of the dance you had someone stand at the back of the hall and you would adjust the volume of each component based on what they were hearing. A bit "Heath Robinson", but it seemed to work so long as you had someone with a good ear, or two preferably!



Premier Drum Kit. (David Lowe)

## CHAPTER 5

### "Where was the music played"

'Pop groups' played in many different dance venues. In many cases, promoting dance events was a way of an organisation raising funds. Groups would play in youth clubs, church halls, Scout and Boys Brigade halls, town halls, public halls, pubs, community centres, working men's clubs, ballrooms and various kinds of lounges. It was also known for groups to play in ice rinks during skating sessions and at outdoor galas and festivals. As a result from week to week a band could be playing in different size venues with different acoustics, some with a stage, others without and with many other unknowns.

Some venues had electrical systems that left a lot to be desired. On rare occasions a band member could get a tingle (small shock) from his instrument or microphone due to the venue's poor or non-existing earthing system. There were no Residual Current Detection (RCD) devices in those days so it's only now in hindsight you begin to appreciate some of the unseen risks that were around, but band-members were young and carefree then and nothing could stop the music.

Another potential bugbear in those days was that, due to the lack of Electro-Magnetic Compatibility (EMC), occasionally a band's equipment would pick up a local taxi firm's radio messages or other radio signal through one of the amplifiers. If this happened during the performance of a song it could be quite disconcerting.

Dressing rooms were always something you could never plan for. They could range from a room the size of a cupboard to a storeroom filled with various pieces of discarded furniture or cleaning equipment such as brushes and buckets. Others were not the most hygienic of places you have ever been in, but you just had to grin and bear it. Only superstars got the star treatment. I have been told that sometimes these places offered little 'perks' to band-members. One such story relates that the dressing room was full of boxes of spirits (whisky, vodka etc.) which were for the Members' Xmas Treats and, every so often, a Committee member would pop in and take a few bottles. So at the end of the evening some band-members did the same on the way out!

However, occasionally when you played a larger venue you did get a proper dressing room, with the luxury of a peg to hang your clothes and a mirror to check you were looking good, but generally, good changing facilities were few and far between.

Local dances and events were usually advertised in local newspapers, whilst some National's had a 'Whats On' section listing venues throughout Scotland where bands were playing that weekend. If you look in the Stirling local paper today, you'll find very few, if any, dance events advertised.



'What's On' extract from Daily Record

In many cases the dance scene in the 60's catered for teenagers who were under 18 years of age, therefore no alcohol only soft drinks were made available in many of the church or public halls. In other venues such as ballrooms and clubs where the dancers were older, alcohol may have been sold. In that case either under eighteens were not allowed entry or they were not served alcohol at the bar. However some of the more adventurous under 18's still found access to alcohol before coming to the dance, nothing seems to have changed!

I was told the following story about a group of woman who went to the dancing at the Stirling Plaza on a Friday night in the mid 60s. Those women worked the back-shift at a factory/s in the area. After their Friday back-shift they would make their way to the Plaza in their work gear, knotted headscarf and curlers. After paying their entry they would go to the ladies toilet where they would change out of their work clothes, clean themselves up, apply their make up, remove the curlers, brush then spray their hair with a liberal application of hairspray and make their way to the dance floor. The other dancers referred to them as 'the mill girls'.

In all the venues there were either Bouncers or Stewards to control the crowd and break up any disputes that could erupt without warning. If there was no stage and the band was set up at floor level, they had to protect their equipment as best they could as the melee ensued. Not for the first time has a guitar or microphone stand been used to ward off potential aggressors. One band related that at one venue when they announced over the microphone they were going to take a break, the event organiser shouted to them, "keep playing, if you stop they'll start fighting". At some venues the band used to joke that you don't need coloured stage lights - the blue flashing lights of the police car was enough.

At some of the bigger venues or lounges a buffet might have been provided and buses put on to transport the revellers home. The latter, was an attempt by the organisers to get dancers to go to some of the more out of the way venues or where dances went on till 2.00 a.m.

Cost of entry in the 60's varied dependant on the size of the venue, organisation running it, day of the week, the duration of the dance and whatever additional extras were provided. Friday night was what was termed 'a late night' and was usually between 9.00 p.m. and 1.00 a.m. It generally could cost around 6/6 (six shillings and sixpence), or 7/6 where a buffet or late transport were provided. On Saturday nights, dancing never went past midnight into the 'Sabbath'. The dances were held between 7.30 and 11.30 p.m. and would generally cost 4/- or 5/- (shillings). Some smaller venues were even cheaper at 3/-. Sunday nights saw fewer dances and they were usually in the larger venues. They were not as popular as people had work to go to on the Monday morning. The ones that were available were normally between 7.45 and 11.00 p.m. and cost around 4/-. Some larger venues held a mid-week dance with cost and time similar to the Sunday.

To put prices in to some context, 1/- (shilling) = 5 decimal pence, therefore to go to a dance on a Friday night in the 60's the equivalent to 6/6 in decimal would be 32.5 decimal pence. The average weekly wage of a male in 1964 was £17 12shillings and for a female £8 17shillings. This in decimal would equate to £17.60p and £8.85p respectively. Over the last 50-years wages and inflation have increased such that the average weekly wage of a male in 2022 was £640 and a female £584. So, based on the 60's ratio of wages to prices the equivalent cost today for entry to a dance on a Friday night would be around £12.

Unfortunately due to the location of some venues there was always the potential of upsetting local residents if the music was too loud. One band recalled a gig at the Scout Hall (Stirling) where an irate local ran in to the hall, jumped up on to the stage and blew a trumpet in to the drummers ear to make his point. Far from a 'flea in your ear' a 'trumpet in your ear' was a new strategy!

In 1964 a 'beat group' competition was held by a national newspaper called the Daily Record, the aim was to discover Scotlands best 'Pop Group' with regards to their originality and presentation. The competition was called MacBeat and around 250 bands from all over Scotland took part. Regional and Area heats were held in April and May that year at a number of locations throughout the country. The final was held in September at the Kelvin Hall in Glasgow. Stirling based group the Moonbeats got to the national final via their regional heat at Doaks Ballroom, Falkirk, where six bands had competed and from the area final at Falkirk Ice Rink where seven bands had competed. The other bands that got through to the national final from other area heats were, The G.K. Senators from Broxburn, The Seven Sinners from Ayrshire, The Blue Stars from Fort William, The Diamonds from Hawick, The Maverix from Paisley, The Red Hawks from Dunfermline, Johnny Law and the M.I.5 from Wishaw, The Black Diamonds from Dundee and Tommy and the Apaches from Balloch.

The winner of the final was Tommy and the Apaches with The Black Diamonds coming second. The winner received the princely sum of £150 and the opportunity to go to EMI studios to make a demonstration (demo) recording with producer George Martin and second place received £75. However the winner of the competition never took their opportunity for fame and fortune. They disbanded in 1966.

The following are extracts from the Daily Record and Stirling Observer on this national competition.

Daily Record:



“Seven swinging groups had the keen teens stamping and cheering during a MacBeat contest heat. The fans thought EVERY group was fab. Top three in last night's Stirlingshire heat at Falkirk were Tony and the Traders from Alloa, The Dragons from Kilsyth and The Hawkes from Falkirk. They join the previous winners The Fourth Dimensional Sounds from Polmont, The Alley Cats from Grangemouth, The Staccatos from Camelon, The Moonbeats from Stirling, The Forth Beats from Airth and The Rebels from Falkirk in the smash hit county final at Falkirk Ice Rink on May 27. Last night's judges in this 'Record' contest were Scots dance band promoter Peter de Vance and Bill Johnston manager of Doaks Ballroom, Falkirk, where the competition was held. The grand final of this official Scottish Beat Group Championship will be held in the Kelvin Hall, Glasgow, in

September. The winners will receive £150 and will win a recording test. “Beatles boss Brian Epstein plans to attend the final”.

Stirling Observer:



“One hundred members of the Sunday Special of Stirling Boys Club travelled to Doaks Ballroom Falkirk, on Friday night to cheer and scream ‘The Moonbeats’ on their way to victory in the ‘Daily Record’ sponsored Macbeat competition. Six Stirlingshire beat groups competed for originality in music and presentation. ‘The Moonbeats’ was one of three groups chosen to go forward to the area final to be held in the Town Hall Falkirk at a later date. ‘The Moonbeats’ presented two original numbers written by members of the group which seemed to go down well with the 900 teenagers who crammed the hall. This week the band will travel to Doune, the bus leaving the Boys Club St John Street at 7.30pm”.

## CHAPTER 6

### “How did the band get there”

At the start of a ‘pop groups’ journey they would usually be playing in local venues and would travel to the venue with their equipment either in their own cars or in some cases using a local taxi firms mini bus. The taxi route, however, could be fraught with uncertainty, whereby, either the taxi didn’t turn up on time to take you and your equipment to the venue, possibly resulting in a late start and irate promoter and punters, or they were late turning up at the end of the night, resulting in the band members standing freezing outside a closed up venue with their equipment around them on the pavement.

As their horizons expanded and the venues got further away most groups purchased a second hand ex-commercial vehicle and repurposed it to take all the band members and their equipment. The most popular vans were the Ford Thames 15cwt (hundredweight), the Commer 1500, the Morris J2 and, later, the Ford Transit. The van usually had the group’s name painted on the side panels and, as was the tradition of the day ‘fans’ left messages in lipstick along the side panels



The 60’s were the days before the introduction of seat belts, so the van could be transporting more than the seating capacity allowed. The back area behind the driver and in front of the equipment storage might have had an old car bench seat for the band members. A journey in the back could be full of fun. You might practice vocal harmonies, have a sing-song, tell stories or just fall asleep.

Following their original commercial use those vehicles subsequently travelled many miles throughout the country. They had to be reliable and roadworthy so it was useful if the band had a car mechanic pal to maintain the van to a suitable level. In the early days of the 60’s you only required an MOT test (introduced in 1960) on vehicles of 10 years or older, so it can be assumed that after a hard commercial life there were some real ‘pop group’ bangers travelling the roads of Scotland. The fee for a test at this time was 15/- (75p). Then in 1967, the test frequency changed and an MOT had to be carried out on vehicles 3 years or older. Fewer ‘pop group’ bangers now on the road!

Being in a band was not the easy and glamorous life some thought. After a hard days work, band members had to prepare themselves for the night ahead. They would load the van with the equipment, one of them would drive to the gig, they would unload the van at the venue, set up the equipment, perform for 3 or 4 hours, reload the van and one of them would drive home while the others were flaked out in the back.

As you became more popular you would suddenly acquire ‘roadies’, they would help carry your equipment in to the venue, set it up and then reload it at the end. Generally they were not paid much, but their incentive was that they got into the dancing for free and could impress on the gals that they were ‘roadies’ for the band.

Incidents inevitably happened when travelling throughout the country. One local band, heading to a gig in Perth, saw a wheel passing them only to realise, as the van dropped to the road seconds later, that it was theirs.

Another local band heading to Edinburgh had to operate the windscreen wipers manually when they failed during heavy rain. This was achieved by attaching a string to each wiper arm, a band member sat on the rocker cover and alternately pulled the strings through the open front windows. Another incident involved a Ford Thames 15cwt van owned by a Stirling band who, in error had put water into the petrol tank. Although they managed to get the majority of it out, for many weeks after this, on the way to gigs, the 'rocker cover' was raised and the bowl on the carburettor had to be watched as it filled with water. When the water reached a critical level, the van was stopped, the bowl emptied of water and replaced, only to start the process all over again!

Another Stirling band told of a time when travelling in the early hours of the morning from a gig at Fort William they were stopped by the police in Glencoe. Turned out they were checking to see if the band were poachers and hiding a deer carcass in the van.

Another more serious incident occurred at Blair Drummond corner when a Stirling group van had a front tyre blow out on the way to a gig in Callander. The van was fully loaded with the band members and their equipment, but fortunately it was brought to a stop before a serious situation arose, but it was a real scary moment.

I'm sure every band in the country would have been able to relate some incident they experienced with the 'group van'.

However, despite all those problems, travelling the roads of Scotland was a great experience.

Driving through Glencoe (the weeping glen) in the early hours of a starlit morning with the deer congregating beside the roadway was magical. Of course most of the guys missed it as they were flaked out in the back of the van!



Glencoe

## CHAPTER 7

### “The Venues and their location in Stirling and it's surrounds” -

Below is a list of the many venues that 'pop groups' played in the Stirling area, not all held a dance every week but there was always a dance to go to somewhere in Stirling or it's surrounds.

If you compare the choices available today, there is nothing like the number of venues for young adults to go dancing.

Unfortunately, there are no youth club, church, Boys Brigade or Scout Hall dances or any ballroom venue for general dancing any more. There are just a couple of night clubs playing disco music that, according to some, “require you to take little white pills” or another substance to get the buzz.

There are some pubs and lounges still providing live music and some hotels that hold dinner-dances. This sad picture shows just how fortunate we were in the 60's with the choice of venues available.

The following list does not necessarily cover all venues in the area but it gives a flavour of just how many and varied they were:

VENUE	THE HISTORY
Plaza Ballroom	<p>This venue was in Lower Craig's next to the old fire station. The rear entrance on Goosecroft road was the access for bands to enter with their equipment. It had originally been built in 1915 as the 'Kinema Picture House' and was then converted in to a ballroom in 1946.</p> <p>The venue had a proper stage and dressing room and an iconic balcony with cafe. The Plaza ceased being a dance venue in September 1966 and became a Bingo Hall. It was eventually demolished following a serious fire in the early 70's. This whole area has been re-developed so the Plaza has disappeared into the realms of folklore.</p>
Little Theatre	<p>This venue was at the bottom of the Upper Craig's next to the Stirling Miners Welfare. It was originally a cinema called the 'Richmond' before being turned in to a theatre in the early 1950's. It had a lesser hall which had a busy spell in 1963 promoting dances with 'pop groups', but it didn't last and faded out of the dance scene very quickly. The venue no longer exists</p>
Albert Hall	<p>This venue was on Dumbarton Road at the junction of Corn Exchange Road. It was Stirlings town hall and had a proper stage and dressing rooms and a smaller hall where refreshments were served. Over the years it hosted many different events and famous pop bands and is still there today hosting such events and concerts.</p>
Museum Hall	<p>This venue was in Bridge of Allan on Henderson Street across from the Pullar Memorial park. It had full stage and dressing room facilities and is well known for hosting the Beatles on the 5th of January 1963, just before they became famous. A ticket for the event was 5/-. This was a listed building so when it ceased to be a venue and was due for demolition the front facade was retained and it was developed into the luxury flats seen today.</p>
Hothouse	<p>This venue was part of the Gateway Restaurant and Bar complex which was at the top of Maxwell Place at the junction of Murray Place, next to the Paper Rack and old Post Office. It was a very popular Friday night venue with a great atmosphere. The complex is still there and is now the Fubar disco and night club.</p>



Hawaiian Eye	This venue was on Friars Street on the first floor of a building diagonally across from Hay's Music Shop. It was originally a Chinese restaurant. It started life in April 1966 as the first disco in Stirling, then in December 1966 it began to host 'pop groups'. Some of the revellers nicknamed it 'The Blink'. The decor included bamboo, exotic murals, coloured lighting and a parrot! In a smaller room it had ultra-violet strip lights which showed up every spec of dandruff and fluff on any dark clothing. Today the building still exists but is no longer a venue.
Lobster Pot	This venue was within Stirling Boating Club located in the Riverside. It was quite a small venue and did not last long. The Boating Club had held dances from the early sixties but not under the Lobster Pot banner. The white Boating Club building still exists.
University (Pathfoot)	This venue was in the building on the hill to the left as you enter the front entrance to the university campus. It was generally used for student union functions and as a result they were never advertised in the local paper. The building still exists.
Stirling Boys Club	This venue was on St John Street across from the Tolbooth. It was a popular Stirling venue in the early 60's. The building is still in use today.
Scout Hall	This venue was at the top of Queen Street across from the now defunct Queens Cinema. It had a very awkward set of stairs at the side of the building that the bands had to negotiate to get their equipment in to the hall. The building is still in use today.
Riverways Restaurant	This was a restaurant/lounge bar at the bottom of Drip Road near where the former livestock market was. It no longer exists, there is still a restaurant at the new Kildean Market named the Riverways.
British Legion Hall	This was a small venue near the top of Princess Street. The building still exists.
St Andrews Church Hall	This venue was on Cowane Street next to the Territorial School (now the Cowane Centre). It was mainly used in the early 60s. The church was demolished in 1968.
St Marys Church Hall	This venue was half way up Irvine Place. The building still exists.

Holy Trinity Church Hall	This venue was on Dumbarton Road just past the Albert Hall. As well as hosting dances it was used by some local 'Pop Groups' for practice sessions. The building still exists.
Ivanhoe Community Centre	This venue was on Ivanhoe Crescent in the Raploch. The original building no longer exists
Co-operative Hall	This venue was above the Co-op shop in Cowane Street diagonally across from the bottom of the Tannery Lane. It was a very short lived venue probably due to complaints from the neighbours. It was occasionally used by bands to practice. The building still exists.
Bannockburn Town Hall	This venue was at Bannockburn Cross. It had a reputation for being a rowdy venue, with one such event in the 1960s being named the "Battle of Bannockburn". The building no longer exists.
Bannockburn Boys Brigade Hall	This venue was across from the town hall and was a popular venue. It is not clear if the building still exists in its original form.
Victoria Hall	This venue was a large public hall in Dunblane. It was used by the promoters "Stardust" in the mid 60s, who booked many well-known bands to perform there. The building is still used for functions today.
Cochrane Hall Alva	This venue was next to the Cochrane Park in Alva and was used by promoters in the early 60's. One of those promoters was 'Lothian' who held dances there on a regular basis. It is still used for functions today.
Devonvale Hall Tillicoultry	This venue was near the Sterling store and is still used for functions today.
Dobbie Hall Larbert	This venue was on Main Street, Larbert near the railway station. It was famous for the in-house dance step called the 'Dobbie Run'. It is still used for functions today.
Alloa Town Hall	This was a large venue in Mars Hill close to the bus station. It was used by promoters 'Stardust' who booked many well known bands to perform there. The Silver Beetles (Beatles) appeared here in 1960. It is still used for functions today.

Sauchie Public Hall	This venue was in the village of Sauchie. It was used by the promoters 'Jaguar' till the late 60s. They booked many well-known bands to perform there. It is still used for functions today.
Grangemouth Town Hall	This venue was in the town centre of Grangemouth and still hosts tribute bands today.
Falkirk New Town Hall	This venue was on the left as you entered the town centre from Camelon. It had a large theatre and was built in the 60's. It hosted many well known stars. It closed its doors in February 2023.
Silver Dollar	This was a Beat Club in the Castle Campbell Hotel in the village of Dollar. It held late night dances and was very popular. Buses were provided at the end of the night to take revellers back to civilisation. It is no longer a venue.
Golden Lion Hotel	This hotel in Kings Street started hosting dances with 'pop groups' in 1967. It eventually became one of the only venues that hosted 'pop groups' right through to the end of the sixties and in to the seventies. The hotel still exists.
Club Tomay	This was a venue in Brightons near Falkirk, it had a good atmosphere and was very popular, it had originally been a billiard hall and the stage had been built on the top of the old billiard tables. It no longer exists.
Alpha Youth Club	This was a venue in Fallin that held Saturday night dances in the late sixties for youth club members. It became one of a very few places where the younger teen could dance to a live band. It no longer exists.

The above list of venues is only a small selection of places in the Central Region where live music was played. Young adults were spoilt for choice in where to go dancing at the weekend.

The following pages show the Plaza and a selection of adverts for venues in the 60's, showing some of the well known bands that played in the area -



Plaza balcony

Phone 4897 **PLAZA** Phone 4897  
STIRLING

**THE PLAZA DANCE BAND**  
(Leader: SYD KERR)  
Plays Every Friday & Saturday

*This is the Band for the past two years selected to play in St. Andrew's Hall, Glasgow, for the World's Greatest Professional and Amateur Dancers*

— A Really Good Dance Band! —

Friday (Late) 9 p.m.—1 a.m. 5/-

**SATURDAY DANCING**  
O.E.S. (STIRLING BRIG)  
Ticket only 5/-

*Tickets from Hay's Music Shop, Preston's Travel Service, Princes Street, or Stewart's Thistle Restaurant (opposite bus station)*

Wednesday 7.45—10.45 p.m. 2/6

**THE FOUR JAYS**  
CAFE AT ALL DANCES



Plaza stage

Phone 4897 **PLAZA** Phone 4897  
STIRLING  
(Under New Management)

**FRIDAY, 25th JUNE** 8 P.M. - 1 A.M.  
*Voted the Greatest Band in Britain The Dynamic*  
**CLIFF BENNETT and the REBEL ROUSERS**  
plus DAVE and the ARROWS  
Admission 6/6 Late Transport

**SATURDAY, 26th JUNE** From 8 p.m. - 11.30 p.m.  
*The return visit of the sensational*  
**REIGNING MONARCHS**  
PLUS SUPPORTING GROUP  
Admission: 8 till 8.15—8/-, 8.15 till 8.30—4/-, 8.30 till 9—5/-, AFTER 9—6/-

**SATURDAY, 26th JUNE**  
Usual Saturday Afternoon Session for the Kids

**MONDAY, 28th JUNE** 8-11 P.M. 2/6  
**THE KIMBOS**

**FRIDAY, 2nd JULY**  
LOOK OUT For another big attraction  
SEE THIS SPACE NEXT WEEK FOR FULL DETAILS  
IT'S ALL HAPPENING AT THE PLAZA  
The management reserves the right of admission.

Phone 4897 **PLAZA** Phone 4897  
STIRLING  
(Under New Management)

**FRIDAY, 21st MAY** 8 P.M. - 1 A.M.  
*FAB TWO-BAND SHOW WITH*  
**LULU and the LUVVERS**  
plus THE KIMBOS  
Admission 6/6 Late Transport

**SATURDAY, 22nd MAY** From 8 p.m. - 11.30 p.m.  
**THE SENATORS**  
plus THE DELTONES  
ADMISSION: 8 till 8.15 - 2/-, 8.15 till 8.30 - 4/-, 8.30 till 9 - 5/-, AFTER 9 - 8/-

**SATURDAY, 22nd MAY**  
Usual Saturday Afternoon Session for the Kids

**MONDAY, 24th MAY**  
SENSATIONAL TWO-BAND ATTRACTION  
**THE BOSTON DEXTERS**  
PLUS THE KIMBOS  
8-11 P.M. 2/6 - Everyone in the Hall for 9 p.m. Admitted 1/6

**FRIDAY, 25th MAY**  
LOOK OUT For another big attraction  
SEE THIS SPACE NEXT WEEK FOR FULL DETAILS  
IT'S ALL HAPPENING AT THE PLAZA  
The management reserves the right of admission.

Phone 4897 **PLAZA** Phone 4897  
STIRLING  
(Under New Management)

**FRIDAY, 30th APRIL** 8 P.M. - 1 A.M.  
*The Greatest Attraction Ever*  
**THE FABULOUS BILLY J. KRAMER and the DAKOTAS**  
Plus THE DYNAMIC  
**J. K. SENATORS**  
Admission 7/6 Late Transport

**SATURDAY, 1st MAY** From 8 p.m. till Midnight  
*Every Lady in the Hall WILL RECEIVE a PAIR of NYLONS*  
**THE SENSATIONAL PREMIERS**  
FROM EDINBURGH  
ADMISSION: 8 till 8.15 - 2/-, 8.15 till 8.30 - 4/-, 8.30 till 9 - 5/-, AFTER 9 - 8/-

Late Transport on Friday Nights

**SATURDAY, 1st MAY**  
Usual Saturday Afternoon Session for the Kids

**FRIDAY, 7th MAY**  
LOOK OUT For another big attraction  
SEE THIS SPACE NEXT WEEK FOR FULL DETAILS  
IT'S ALL HAPPENING AT THE PLAZA  
The management reserves the right of admission.

Phone 4897 **PLAZA** Phone 4897  
STIRLING  
(Under New Management)

**FRIDAY, 19th AUGUST** 8 P.M. - 1 A.M.  
**THE FANTASTIC SWINGING BLUE JEANS**  
PLUS SUPPORTING GROUP  
Admission 6/6 Late Transport

**SATURDAY, 20th AUGUST** From 8 p.m. - 11.30 p.m.  
*THE BOYS WHO HAVE BEEN CAJOLING ALL THE BUMPS*  
**GLASGOW'S FABULOUS BEATSTALKERS**  
ADMISSION: 2/-

**MONDAY, 16th AUGUST** 8-11 P.M. 2/6  
*ANOTHER TERRIFIC NIGHT WITH*  
**THE KIMBOS**

**FRIDAY, 26th AUGUST**  
LOOK OUT FOR ANOTHER BIG ATTRACTION  
SEE THIS SPACE NEXT WEEK FOR FULL DETAILS  
IT'S ALL HAPPENING AT THE PLAZA  
The management reserves the right of admission.

Phone 4887 **PLAZA STIRLING** (Under New Management) Phone 4887

**FRIDAY, 5th NOV. 9 p.m. - 1 a.m.**  
 SENSATIONAL DOUBLE STAR ATTRACTION  
 WITH THE DYNAMIC  
**20th CENTURY SOUNDS**  
 PLUS **THE DELTONES**  
 Admission 6/6 Late Transport

**SATURDAY, 6th NOV. From 8 p.m. - 11.30 p.m.**  
 Tremendous Spectacular Attraction—THE DYNAMIC  
**BRIAN POOLE**  
 and **THE TREMOLES**  
 plus THE SENSATIONAL  
**J. K. SENATORS**  
 Admission 6/-

**MONDAY, 8th NOV. 8-11 p.m. 1/6**  
 ANOTHER TERRIFIC NIGHT WITH  
**THE KIMBOS**

**FINAL OF TALENT SORTEST** Pages 85, 87, 83  
 Come along and give your support to the Realities

**FRIDAY, 12th NOV.**  
**LOOK OUT FOR OUTSTANDING ATTRACTION**

IT'S ALL HAPPENING AT THE PLAZA  
 The management reserves the right of admission.

**THE MUSEUM HALL : : BRIDGE OF ALLAN**  
**SATURDAY, 5th JANUARY**

THE "LOVE ME DO" BOYS  
**THE BEATLES**  
 also **ROY PURDON and the TELSTARS**  
 8.30 to 11.45 Admission 5/-  
**LATE TRANSPORT TICKETS FROM PRESTON TRAVEL SERVICE**

Phone 4887 **PLAZA STIRLING** (Under New Management) Phone 4887

**FRIDAY, 23rd JULY 9 P.M. - 1 A.M.**  
**THE BIGGEST ATTRACTION EVER**  
**THE FANTASTIC THEM**  
 PLUS SUPPORTING GROUP

Admission 7/6 Late Transport

**SATURDAY, 24th JULY From 8 p.m. - 11.30 p.m.**  
**BIG THREE BAND SHOW**  
 Admission: 8 till 8.15—3/-, 8.15 till 8.30—4/-, 8.30 till 9—5/-, AFTER 9—6/-

**SATURDAY**  
 AFTERNOON SESSION DISCONTINUED  
 UNTIL AFTER HOLIDAY PERIOD

**MONDAY, 26th JULY 8-11 P.M. 2/6**  
**THE KIMBOS**

**FRIDAY, 30th JULY**  
 IT'S TRUE THEY'RE COMING—THE IN CROWD  
 SEE THIS SPACE NEXT WEEK FOR FULL DETAILS  
 IT'S ALL HAPPENING AT THE PLAZA  
 The management reserves the right of admission.

**THE STARDUST** MUSEUM HALL BRIDGE OF ALLAN

**FRIDAY, 11th MARCH (10 p.m. to 2.30 a.m.)**  
**BIG BEAT SPECTACULAR**  
 "A NIGHT WITH THE STARS"  
 Hit Recorder of "Girls, Girls, Girls" and many others—  
**THE FOURMOST**  
 And the Fabulous  
**MERSEBEATS**  
 (A group frequently in the Hit Parade)  
 And supported by the fabulous **BO-WEAVLES**  
**DON'T MISS THIS SURPRISE PACKAGE SHOW**  
 Admission 7/6 **BUFFET**  
 Late transport to Alloa, Tullibody and the Hillfoots, Doune, Dunblane, Braço, Crieff, Auchterarder, Stirling, Bannockburn, Cowie and Fallin  
**FOLLOW THE CROWD - FOLLOW THE STARDUST**

**ALLOA TOWN HALL**  
**FRIDAY, 16th JUNE 10 p.m. - 2 a.m.**

WE'VE DONE IT AGAIN—DIRECT FROM THE CHARTS—  
 HIT RECORDERS OF "NEW YORK MINING DISASTER"  
**THE BEE GEES**  
**HERALDIC DECORATION — SOLE GENERATION**  
**DON'T MISS THIS GREAT ATTRACTION**

Admission 8/6. Late transport to Stirling, Bannockburn, Cowie, Fallin, Bridge of Allan, Dunblane, Alloa, Tullibody and Hillfoots.

**JAGUAR DANCE PROMOTIONS**  
 FRIDAY **LATE NIGHT DANCING**  
 Splendid is the only word for  
**THE KIMBOS**  
**FRIDAY, 12th MARCH SAUCHIE PUBLIC HALL**  
 10 till 2 **BUFFET** Admission 5/-  
 Late Transport to Stirling, Bannockburn and Cowie

**SUNDAY — COOL NIGHT**  
 Roll out the Red Carpet it's the  
**REIGNING MONARCHS**  
**SUNDAY, 14th MARCH ALLOA TOWN HALL**  
**BUFFET** Admission 5/6 before 8.15 3/6 after 8.15  
 Late Transport to Stirling, Bannockburn and Cowie

**ALBERT HALL, Stirling**  
**THURS., 25th MARCH 6.30 & 8.45**

ALBERT A. BONDIE PRESENTS  
**THE KINKS**  
 MARIANNE FAITHFUL  
 JOHNNY MIKE and the SHADES JULIE GRANT  
 ERIC BURNS THE JACOBEATS

18th TELEVISION RESIDENT GROUP  
**THE MONTROSE SHOWBAND**  
 Seats 12K, 16K, 18K, 24K, 30K, available at Preston Travel Agents, Stirling  
 Phone and P.O. and S.A.E.

Phone 4887 **PLAZA STIRLING** (Under New Management) Phone 4887

**FRIDAY, 28th MAY 9 P.M. - 1 A.M.**  
 Direct from the LONDON PALAEDIUM  
**THE FABULOUS FOURMOST**  
 Plus Supporting Group Late Transport  
 Admission 5/6

**SATURDAY, 29th MAY From 8 p.m. - 11.30 p.m.**  
**THE EDINBURGH CRUSADERS**  
 plus **THE DELTONES**  
 Admission: 8 till 8.15 - 3/-, 8.15 till 8.30 - 4/-, 8.30 till 9 - 5/-, AFTER 9 - 6/-

**SATURDAY, 29th MAY**  
 Usual Saturday Afternoon Session for the Kids

**MONDAY, 31st MAY**  
**THE KIMBOS**  
 8-11 P.M. 2/6 — Everyone in the Hall for 9 p.m. Admitted 1/6

**FRIDAY, 4th JUNE**  
 LOOK OUT For another big attraction  
**SEE THIS SPACE NEXT WEEK FOR FULL DETAILS**  
 IT'S ALL HAPPENING AT THE PLAZA  
 The management reserves the right of admission.

**DUNBLANE, VICTORIA HALL**  
**FRIDAY, 25th August 10-2 a.m. 7/6**

FANTASTIC "ALL-STAR" ATTRACTION  
 "GROOVY KIND OF LOVE," etc., etc.  
 ★ **THE MINDBENDERS** ★  
 Also one of Scotland's Top Groups—THE FABULOUS  
**POETS**  
 and THE VIPERS  
 Your Compare Scotland's No. 1 Disc Jockey—BEN HEALEY

Late Buses to Bridge of Allan, Stirling, Bannockburn, Cowie, Fallin, Alloa and Hillfoots

**ALLOA TOWN HALL FRIDAY, 2nd JUNE 10 p.m.—2 a.m.**

\*\*\* **CAT STEVENS** \*\*\*  
 "MATTHEW AND SON" "GONNA GET ME A GUN"  
 and From LONDON the Fantastic  
**GEORGE BEAN and the RUNNERS**  
 DECCA RECORDING ARTISTES

Scotland's Top Soul Group **THE RITE TYME** From Perth **THE FOUNDATION**

Admission 8/6 Late Buses to Tullibody, Hillfoots, Stirling, Bannockburn, Cowie, Fallin, Dunblane, Bridge of Allan

**PLEASE COME EARLY—DON'T MISS THIS FANTASTIC EVENT**

**SUNDAY BEAT CLUB**  
**TOWN HALL, ALLOA**  
**SUNDAY, 24th APRIL (7.30 till 11 p.m.)**  
 (On Stage at 9 p.m.) **THE FABULOUS! FABULOUS!**

**KINKS**  
 Supporting Group—THE SOLE GENERATION  
 Admission 7/6. Free Membership Available  
 Transport to Stirling, Bannockburn, Cowie, Fallin, Tullibody, Hillfoots, Falkirk. Special buses leave Dunblane Station at 6.50 p.m., stopping at Bridge of Allan at 7 p.m. Returning after dance.

**STARDUST! STARDUST! STARDUST! STARDUST!**

Phone 4887 **PLAZA STIRLING** Phone 4887  
(Under New Management)

FRIDAY, 21st JAN. From 9 P.M. to 1 A.M.  
THE FABULOUS **BEATSTALKERS**  
Plus THE VIPERS  
Admission 6/6 Great Late Transport

SATURDAY, 22nd JAN. From 8 p.m. - 11.30 p.m.  
GIRLS! GIRLS! GIRLS!  
THE SENSATIONAL **FOUR-MOST**  
Plus Supporting Group  
ADMISSION 6/-

MONDAY, 24th JAN. 8 p.m. to 11 p.m.  
ANOTHER TERRIFIC NIGHT  
WITH THE **KIMBOS**  
ADMISSION 2/6

IT'S ALL HAPPENING AT THE PLAZA  
The management reserves the right of admission.

Phone 4887 **PLAZA STIRLING** Phone 4887  
(Under New Management)

FRIDAY, 16th APRIL 9 p.m. - 1 a.m.  
IT'S TRUE!!! THEY'RE COMING  
THE FANTASTIC **FOUR PENNIES**  
Plus DAVE and the ARROWS  
Admission 4/6 Late Transport

SATURDAY, 17th APRIL ANOTHER LATE NIGHT GALA  
Plus Supporting Groups  
Includes TWO BAND SHOW  
With Scotland's Top Pop Group  
**THE BOYFRIENDS**  
Plus THE TRESPASSERS  
LATE TRANSPORT on FRIDAY NIGHTS Admission 4/11 5/-  
8.15-8.30 4/- 8.30-9 5/- 9.00-9.30 5/-

SATURDAY, 17th APRIL  
Great Saturday Afternoon Session for the Kids  
FRIDAY, 21st APRIL  
LOOK OUT for another big attraction  
SEE THIS SPACE NEXT WEEK FOR FULL DETAILS  
IT'S ALL HAPPENING AT THE PLAZA  
The management reserves the right of admission.

Phone 4887 **PLAZA STIRLING** Phone 4887  
(UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT)

We intend to make THE PLAZA THE BEST DANCE BALLROOM in the country, bringing to you the BIGGEST ATTRACTIONS for the weekend, starting off with—  
TO-MORROW (Friday), 19th March  
The Fantastic Top of the Hit Parade Stars  
**THE HONEYCOMBS**  
Plus The Vocal Supporting Group 4/6 Late Transport

SATURDAY, 19th MARCH  
Vocal Stirling's Number One Group  
**THE ATHENIANS**  
Plus Supporting Group Admission 4/- (Before 8.45)

SATURDAY, 19th MARCH  
For the Young Teenagers at  
**AFTERNOON BEAT SESSION**  
With all your favourite records, plus THE TRESPASSERS  
2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Admission 2/-  
Get your SATURDAY AFTERNOON COKE at the PLAZA

WEDNESDAY 17th MARCH  
We proudly present the Greatest Band in Britain Today  
The Fabulous  
**20th CENTURY SOUNDS**  
EVERY WEDNESDAY Admission 2/6  
2 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Everybody who is with it meets at the place—and the place is the PLAZA  
THE MANAGEMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT OF ADMISSION

Phone 4887 **PLAZA STIRLING** Phone 4887  
(Under New Management)

FRIDAY, 3rd JUNE From 9 P.M. to 1 A.M.  
DANCE TO THE FANTASTIC  
**FOUR JUST MEN**  
plus THE FORTUNE TELLERS  
Admission 5/6 Great Late Transport

MONDAY, 6th JUNE 7.45 - 11 p.m.  
Dancing to the Fabulous  
**FORTUNE TELLERS**  
Admission 1/6

IT'S ALL HAPPENING AT THE PLAZA  
The management reserves the right of admission.

 **DODO'S DISCO CLUB**  
ORCHARD PLACE STIRLING

Dodo's fantastic London-style Discotheque Club for TEENS and TWENTIES OPENS on  
**FRIDAY, 17th JULY**  
at 9 p.m. with the Fabulous Radio One Club Group  
**HOUSE OF LORDS!**

**SATURDAY, 18th JULY**  
at 8.30 p.m. onwards join the crowd at  
THE SATURDAY HOP!

**SUNDAY, 19th JULY**  
at 8 p.m. onwards with Our Top Disc Jockey its  
**TOP OF THE POPS!**  
WITH DISC PRIZES FOR THE GROOVYEST DANCERS  
AND GIRL IN THE SMARTEST MINI, MIDI OR MAXI

**BUT NOTE IT'S MEMBERS ONLY**

JOIN NOW! (SEE APPLICATION FORM BELOW) JOIN NOW!  
Membership Forms also available at Thomas Stirling, Travel Agency, Murray Place, Stirling, G.J. M. Hay, Music Shop, Friars Street, Stirling

DODO'S DISCOTHEQUE CLUB,  
ORCHARD PLACE, STIRLING.

**PLAZA**  
BALLROOM  
STIRLING  
Stirling's  
Entertainment Centre!

**DANCING**  
Every  
FRIDAY 9.00 p.m.—1.00 a.m.  
and  
SUNDAY 7.45 p.m.—11.00 p.m.

**PLAZA · STIRLING**

Tel. 4887 **PLAZA STIRLING**

Presents Something New  
**"GO MAN GO"**  
Commencing MONDAY, 20th MARCH  
Music in the Easy Beat Style  
including ROCK, DIXIELAND and the BIG BEAT!!!  
also a PRIZE OF TWO L.P. RECORDS of your own choice  
Drawn by FREE Lucky Numbers  
(Numbers will be issued until 9.15 p.m. only)

plus  
a LATIN AMERICAN Invitation Dance Contest  
(Six Star Amateur Couples)  
Dancing 7.45 p.m. - 10.45 p.m. ADMISSION ONLY

Friday **LATE DANCE** 9 p.m.—1 a.m.  
Saturday **PLAZA NIGHT** 8—11 p.m.  
Ladies 4/- Gentlemen 5/- Late Transport on Friday  
Music by the Stirling Plaza Orchestra Cafeteria at all Dances

4th/6th STIRLINGSHIRE SCOUT GROUP

**BEAT NIGHT**  
(In aid of East Ward Old Folk's Fund)  
with  
**THE FORTUNE TELLERS**  
HOLY TRINITY CHURCH HALL,  
DUMBARTON ROAD  
SATURDAY, 30th NOVEMBER, 1968  
7.30 p.m. — 11 p.m.  
Tickets, 5/- available at door  
LIMITED NUMBER

WAID ACADEMY F.P. RUGBY CLUB

KEEP THIS DATE FREE  
**FRIDAY, 22nd SEPT.**  
FROM 9 P.M. TO 1 A.M.  
IT'S THE RETURN OF THE  
**"FORTUNE TELLERS"**  
TO  
ANSTRUTHER TOWN HALL

**THE PLAZA, STIRLING**  
Friday, 20th Nov.  
**PLAZA DANCE BAND**  
Late Dance 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. 5/-  
LATE TRANSPORT

Saturday, 21st Nov.  
BIG BEAT BIG BEAT  
**TOMMY AND THE APACHES**  
And  
**THE MOONBEATS**  
TOP OF THE POPS  
Admission 7.30 to 11 p.m. 6/-  
Cafeteria at all Dances

Phone 4887 **PLAZA STIRLING** Phone 4887  
(Under New Management)

WEDNESDAY, 17th MARCH 8 p.m.—11 p.m.  
— BARGAIN BEAT NIGHT —  
FIRST 50 PEOPLE BEFORE 9 P.M. ADMITTED FOR 1/-  
DANCING TO THE  
**EDINBURGH CRUSADERS**  
ADMISSION 2/-

FRIDAY, 19th MARCH 9 p.m.—1 a.m.  
— TOP OF THE POPS NIGHT —  
WITH THE SENSATIONAL CHART TOPPERS  
**THE APPLEJACKS**  
ADMISSION 4/- Plus Supporting Group Late Transport


SATURDAY, 20th MARCH 8 p.m.—11.30 p.m.  
— THE FABULOUS —  
YOU'VE ASKED FOR THEM... THEY'RE HERE  
**J. K. SENATORS**  
ADMISSION 4/- Plus Supporting Group (Before 8.45) Late Transport

SATURDAY, 20th MARCH 2 p.m.—5 p.m.  
For the Young Teenagers at  
**AFTERNOON BEAT SESSION**  
With all your favourite records, plus The Trespasers  
ADMISSION 2/-  
Get your SATURDAY AFTERNOON COKE at the PLAZA

— ATTENTION BEAT BANDS —  
BE OFFERED: In the Beat Band held in the Country, Conditions concerning Wednesday, 21st March, if you need it through Competition — Telephone, Write or send your name to: Thomas, Peter Buchanan.

Everybody who is with it meets at the place,  
and the place is the PLAZA  
The management reserves the right of admission.

**DOBBIE HALL**  
Friday, 19th May  
9 p.m. to 1 a.m.  
BY PUBLIC REQUEST—  
**THE FORTUNE TELLERS**  
From Stirling.  
AND  
The Top Group in Central Scotland—  
**THE ZIG-ZAGS**  
of West Calder.  
LATE TRANSPORT

 **THE HAWAIIAN EYE**  
discotheque

STIRLING  
FRIDAY 9-1 5/-  
SATURDAY 9-1 5/-  
SUNDAY 8.30-12 2/-  
WEDNESDAY 8.30-12 2/-  
LATE TRANSPORT ALWAYS AVAILABLE

Annual Membership  
Guys 10/6 Gals 7/6

**It's "GO-GO" Night**  
at the **GOLDEN LION HOTEL**

SATURDAY, 14th JANUARY 8 till 11.30 p.m.

Come and Dance to the Fantastic  
**'BLUE SABRES'**  
and Stirling's own **'TYME'**

Come and see 10 of Scotland's smoothest moving  
**GO - GO GIRLS**

ADMISSION TICKETS 7/6 From Hay's Music Shop, Station Hotel, Crown Inn, Arcade  
No admission after 10 p.m.

**THE STARDUST** DUNBLANE VICTORIA HALL

The Most Attractive Dance Hall in the Area—  
**FRIDAY, 7th MAY (10 p.m. - 2 a.m.)**

SPECIAL STAR ATTRACTION  
**THE HOODS**  
SPECIAL GUEST ATTRACTION  
**THE KARNADES**

DANCE IN THE FABULOUS NEW ATMOSPHERE  
FOLLOW THE CROWDS — FOLLOW THE STARDUST  
ADMISSION 6/- Transport to Auchincroft, Criaf, Muckill, Brae, Deane, Calder, Bridge of Allan, Stirling, Bannockburn, Cowie, Fallis & Glasgow Hotel  
Dance this week in aid of DUNBLANE HIGHLAND SOCIETY

**HOT HOUSE BEAT CLUB**  
Announces this week's no. 1 THE KINGS OF THE ROAD  
**THE REIGNING MONARCHS**  
No. 2 A TICKET TO RIDE with  
**THE MOONBEATS**

TO THE OLD TOLBOOTH on FRIDAY, 7th MAY  
9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Usual Late Transport

Phone 4897 **PLAZA STIRLING** Phone 4897  
(Under New Management)

FRIDAY, 7th JAN. From 9 P.M. to 1 A.M.  
DIRECT FROM STRAMASH SENSATIONAL  
**SOL BYRON AND THE SENATE**  
Plus the New Local Discovery  
**THE SLAVES**

Admission 6/6 Usual Late Transport

SATURDAY, 8th JAN. From 8 p.m. - 11.30 p.m.  
GIRLS LOOK OUT — THE FABULOUS  
**FOUR PENNIES**  
plus supporting group

ADMISSION 6/-

FRIDAY, 10th JAN. 8 p.m. to 11 p.m.  
ANOTHER TERRIFIC NIGHT  
WITH THE **KIMBOS**

ADMISSION 2/6

IT'S ALL HAPPENING AT THE PLAZA  
The management reserves the right of admission.

THIS WEEK'S CATCH AT  
**THE LOBSTER POT**  
THE MOONBEATS and THE FORTUNE TELLERS  
CLUBHOUSE - RIVERSIDE  
**SATURDAY, 9th APRIL, 8-11.30**  
— BUFFET — 8 - 11.30 p.m. —  
New Members accepted between 7.30 and 8 p.m.

**LATINA ENTERPRISES**  
AT THE IVANHOE COMMUNITY CENTRE, Drip Road Area  
Friday, 25th November  
**THE BO-WEAVELS — THE FORTUNE TELLERS**  
8/- MEMBERS - 6/- GUESTS - 7.30 till 11.0  
Saturday, 26th November For THE TWEEN TEENS 2.30 till 5.0  
Sunday, 27th November, present  
**A FOLK NIGHT 7.30 till 10.0**

**STIRLING ROTUNDA CLUB**  
BRITISH LEGION HALL — PRINCES STREET  
FORTUNE TELLERS and VOODOO FRACTIONS  
7.30 to 10 p.m.  
**2/- EVERY WEDNESDAY. Membership 2/6**

**THE STARDUST** COCHRANE HALL ALVA

FRIDAY, 24th FEBRUARY 10 p.m. till 2 a.m.  
POLYDOR RECORDING STARS  
**The HI-FI COMBO**  
and the SQUAD

Admission 6/6 — Transport to Alloa, Tullibody, Menstrie, Sauchie, Tillicoultry, Dunblane, Bridge of Allan, Stirling, Bannockburn, Cowie and Fallis.

Follow the Crowds — Follow THE STARDUST

**HAWAIIAN EYE DISCOTHEQUE CLUB**  
— STIRLING —

FRIDAY, 12th JANUARY 9 - 1 a.m.  
**THE FORTUNE TELLERS !!**  
Dance to the talented Fortune Tellers tonight

SATURDAY, 13th JANUARY 8.30 p.m. till 12.15 a.m.  
★ **MOTOWN RAVE** ★  
Rave at Stirling's most popular Saturday Dance

MONDAY, 15th JANUARY 8 p.m. till 11.30 p.m.  
**BO-WEAVILS !!**  
Don't miss the fantastic Bo-Weavils this Monday

**ATEWAY JAZZ CLUB**  
FRIDAY, 19th OCTOBER, 8 p.m. - 11 p.m.  
**GEORGE PENMAN and his JAZZMEN**  
Featuring MARGARET MERCER  
— KENNY BALL TICKETS ON SALE —

**THE HOT HOUSE BEAT CLUB**  
FRIDAY, 16th OCTOBER 9 p.m. - 1 a.m.  
presents  
**THE SHONDELLS and the STATESMEN**  
MEMBERS ONLY — Membership does not guarantee admission.  
No admittance after 10 p.m. LATE TRANSPORT

**STIRLING ALBERT HALL**  
JAZZ CONCERT Presenting—  
**KENNY BALL and his JAZZMEN**  
MEMBERLAND THREE—Famous Folk T  
INFERLINE CITY JAZZ BA  
**25th OCTOBER**  
— One House Only —  
Club Gates

**ROB ROY MOTEL, Aberfoyle**  
FRIDAY, 4th MARCH, 1966 9 p.m. - 1.30 a.m.  
Double Star Attraction  
**The Dynamic EXECUTIONERS**  
plus  
**The Fantastic FORTUNE TELLERS**

Fully Licensed Late Transport to Stirling Admission 6/-  
REMEMBER IT'S THE MOTEL WHERE EVERYTHING GOES WELL

**SILVER DOLLAR CLUB**  
SATURDAY, 5th MARCH 10 p.m. to 1.45 a.m.  
THIS WEEK SOMETHING "SPECIAL"  
From Edinburgh's International Club  
**THE HIPPLE PEOPLE**  
and Stirling's MOONBEATS  
Usual Late Transport

**GLASGOW DANCE PROMOTIONS**

present  
THE BAND YOU HAVE BEEN WAITING FOR

THE FABULOUS  
**20th CENTURY SOUNDS**

Little Theatre, Stirling  
**Friday, 31st May, 1963**  
10 p.m. to 2 a.m. Admission 5/-; before 10.30 p.m. 4/6

Phone 4897 **PLAZA STIRLING** Phone 4897  
(UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT)

We intend to make THE PLAZA THE BEATIFUL BALLROOM in the country, bringing in some of the BIGGEST ATTRACTIONS in the business, starting off with—  
**TO-MORROW (Friday), 5th MARCH**  
THE BRILLIANT  
**POETS**  
9 p.m. - 1 a.m. Admission 6/6 Late Transport

SATURDAY, 6th MARCH  
JUST RETURNED FROM GERMANY... THE FABULOUS  
**HONOURS**  
8 p.m. - 11.30 p.m. Admission 5/- (Before 8.5-)

The new management of the Plaza Ballroom wish it to be known that dancing will be run under very strict rules as follows—  
NO ONE will be admitted after 10 p.m.  
POSITIVELY NO ONE will be admitted in possession of, or under the influence of alcohol.  
NO ONE will be admitted wearing Jeans, Leather Jackets or improperly dressed.  
ANYONE causing a disturbance shall be banned and prosecuted.  
The management reserve the right of admission.

Coming Attractions  
FRIDAY, 13th—HONEYCOMBS  
FRIDAY, 19th—APPLEJACKS

**The STARDUST** ALBERT HALL  
STIRLING

FRIDAY, 19th AUGUST 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.

presenting the fabulous  
**SEARCHERS**  
Supporting group THE BARONS

Admission 2/6 TRANSPORT to Bridge of Allan, Dunblane, Alloa & Hillfoots, Bannockburn, Plean, Cowie and Fallin.  
PLEASE COME EARLY

Coming soon to THE NEW TOWN HALL, FALKIRK  
No. 1 attraction, CHRIS FARLOWE Wednesday, 31st August  
Tickets on sale now from J. H. Hay, Murray Place, Stirling. Transport available to Stirling

**The STARDUST** MUSEUM HALL  
BRIDGE of ALLAN

FRIDAY, 13th MAY (10 p.m. till 2 a.m.)

SPENCER DAVIS SPENCER DAVIS SPENCER DAVIS SPENCER DAVIS  
(No. 1) The SPENCER DAVIS GROUP (No. 1)  
SPENCER DAVIS SPENCER DAVIS SPENCER DAVIS SPENCER DAVIS

Supporting Group - THE SATAN CHANGE

Admission 2/6. Transport to Doune, Dunblane, Stirling, Bannockburn, Cowie, Fallin, Alloa, Tullibody, Hillfoots, Auchterarder, Crieff, and Gleneagles. Please Come Early!

**STARDUST SUNDAY Beat Club**  
TOWN HALL, ALLOA  
SUNDAY, 15th May, 7.30-11 p.m. Adm. 3/-, Membership Free

**CLIFF BENNETT and the REBELROUSERS**  
Supporting Group - THE JOMOS

STARDUST! STARDUST! STARDUST! STARDUST!

**STARDUST** VICTORIA HALL  
DUNBLANE

FRIDAY, 3rd JUNE 10 - 2 a.m.

THE UNDERMIND,  
THE BO-WEAVLES  
and THE CITROENS

Admission 4/6. Transport to Doune, Dunblane, Stirling, Bannockburn, Cowie, Fallin, Alloa, Tullibody, Hillfoots, Auchterarder, Crieff, and Gleneagles.

TOWN HALL :: FALKIRK  
WEDNESDAY, 1st JUNE 8 p.m. till 12 midnight

'Sha-la-la-la-lee,' the  
**SMALL FACES**  
their new record is out now  
supporting group the  
**SOLE GENERATION**  
and THE SQUAD Admission 7/6  
transport to Stirling, Cowie, Bannockburn, etc., please  
come early to ensure admittance

**The STARDUST** ALBERT HALL  
STIRLING

DANCING COMES TO THE 'ALBERT HALL'  
FOR THE FIRST TIME IN 8 YEARS

FRIDAY, 12th AUGUST 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.

presenting  
**THE IVY LEAGUE**  
and from LONDON  
**THE SECOND DIVISION**  
Supporting group THE UNDERMIND

Admission 7/6 TRANSPORT to Bridge of Allan, Dunblane, Alloa & Hillfoots, Bannockburn, Plean, Cowie and Fallin.

COMING ATTRACTION :- THE SEARCHERS  
PLEASE COME EARLY

**The STARDUST** VICTORIA HALL  
DUNBLANE

FRIDAY, 17th JUNE 10 - 2 a.m.

present a Fantastic Double Attraction

**THE MINDBENDERS**  
("Groovy Kind of Love")

Also the latest sensation  
**FRITZ'S FASHION**  
and supporting group  
**THE FOUR JUST MEN**

ADMISSION 7/6. Transport to Doune, Stirling, Bannockburn, Cowie, Fallin, Tullibody, Hillfoots, Bridge of Allan and Alloa.

**The STARDUST** TOWN HALL  
ALLOA

FRIDAY, 29th JULY 10-2 a.m.

'HOLD TIGHT' 'HIDEAWAY'

**Dave, Dee, Dozy,  
Beaky, Mick & Tich**

SUPPORTING GROUP  
Perth's Fabulous "VIKINGS"

ADMISSION 2/6 Transport to Dollar, Hillfoots, Tullibody, Stirling, Bannockburn, Cowie, Fallin, Dunblane, and Bridge of Allan  
PLEASE COME EARLY



At late night dances between 9pm and 1am a band could be playing for a few hours with just a short break. Given that the average length of a song was around 3 minutes, you needed a reasonable repertoire to prevent repeats. If there was a support band it made life a little easier!

After the dance the vocalist in particular could find it was difficult to get to sleep. Their ears were buzzing and the adrenaline was still high after an evening standing in front of the instrument amplifiers which were usually behind him. I used to put a Nat King Cole album on the record player beside my bed to chill-out enough to fall asleep. Of course when I woke in the morning the turntable was still turning much to the chagrin of my mother. I eventually rigged up a 30 minute mechanical timer to the electrical cable. When I went to bed I pressed the plunger, put on the music then 30 minutes later the power would shut of, the record player would stop, one happy mother!

## CHAPTER 8

### A “bevy afore yeh go”

As you required to be 18 years of age to purchase alcohol many of the venues did not have a drinks license, so it was necessary to go to a local hostelry for a “wee swally” before going to the dancing. The venues that had a drinks licence were usually those that required you to take out a membership and as a result the age profile of those attending was older than those attending church hall dances.

Common drinks of this time were ‘Cider and Babycham’ for the gals, ‘Lager and Lime’ for the guys or ‘Rum and Coke’ for both. With regards to the band you maybe went to the local hostelry nearest the venue before the gig, but it was folly to drink too much as it could affect your performance, some might even believe it enhanced it on occasion!

One band admitted they were not averse to smuggling a few cans of Tennents lager in to a venue inside the drummers equipment case. The justification was to keep the vocal chords lubricated (aye right!). A band member related an incident that happened at a Pony Club dance at the Riverways. It was the bass players 21st birthday and as the evening progressed he consumed a few more beverages than was sensible. Eventually it became too much and he decided to sit down on top of his speaker cabinet, only to slip off the end on to the floor still clutching his guitar. I don’t think anyone noticed!

## CHAPTER 9

### “Here comes the band”

This section identifies many of the bands that performed at some of the listed venues throughout the years 1961 to '70. It is done in date order and has been extracted from adverts in the local Stirling newspaper of that particular year. There were two local papers in the Sixties, the Stirling Observer which came out on a Tuesday and the Stirling Journal which came out on a Thursday. It should be noted that the Observer had the majority of the adverts for beat music venues whilst the Journal had very few. Some of the venues shown below are not mentioned in the list above but were halls and lounges in towns and villages in and around Stirling. Other venues may have advertised in different local papers such as the Falkirk Herald or Callander or Alloa Advertiser. In 1960 there were no beat group dances advertised in the local papers. However the Alloa Advertiser advertised that an unknown 'pop group' from Liverpool called the Silver Beetles would be performing on May 20th at Alloa Town Hall, not long after that they changed their name to the Beatles. The main venue that advertised in 1960 for dancing was the Plaza ballroom, it held dances on a Wednesday, Friday and Saturday. The music was provided by the 'Stirling Plaza Orchestra', a big band led by local musical icon Syd Kerr. The first reference to a venue hosting live beat music was in 1961. The Plaza advertised that starting from Monday the 20th of March from 7.45 to 10.45 pm they would be providing 'Music in the Modern Manner'. Entry was 2/-, by June it was 2/6. It headlined the evening as 'Go Man Go'. There was no reference as to who was playing the music but this seems to have been the start of the beat scene in the Stirling area. From July the Plaza introduced a 'teenage night' every Wednesday. I have shown a selection of cost/duration in the table to give an insight in to a venues pricing.

### 1961

<b>Date</b>	<b>The Venue</b>	<b>The Bands</b>	<b>Cost / Duration</b>
20/3 (Mo)	Plaza (Music in the Modern Manner), this was held every Monday for the rest of this year (40 days).	'No Band Named', this was the case for the rest of the year.	7.45 to 10.45pm, 2/- . From June 2/6.
7/4 (Fr)	Boys Club	'No Band Named'	
28/4 (Fr)	Cochrane Hall	Eric Liston and the Saints	
1/5 (Sa)	Sauchie Public Hall	'No Band Named'	Midnight to 4am.
5/5 (We)	Cochrane Hall	Alex Harvey Group	
19/7 (We)	Plaza	Five Jays	7.45 to 10.45 pm, 2/6.
26/7 (We)	Plaza	Five Jays	

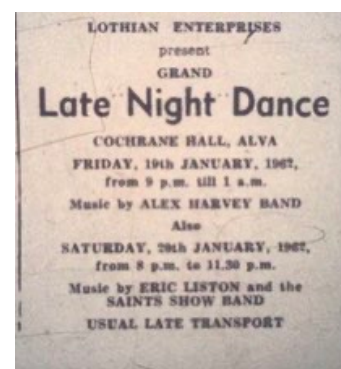
<b>Date</b>	<b>The Venue</b>	<b>The Bands</b>	<b>Cost / Duration</b>
2/8 (We)	Plaza	Five Jays	
9/8 (We)	Plaza	Five Jays	
16/8 (We)	Plaza	Five Jays	
23/8 (We)	Plaza	Five Jays	
30/8 (We)	Plaza	Five Jays	
6/9 (We)	Plaza	Five Jays	
13/9 (We)	Plaza	Five Jays	
16/9 (Sa)	Museum Hall	Clint and the Tornadoes	8 to 11.30pm, 3/6
20/9 (We)	Plaza	Five Jays	
27/9 (We)	Plaza	Five Jays	
4/10 (We)	Plaza	Five Jays	
6/10 (Fr)	Victoria Hall	Sonny Brummell and his Playboys	8.30pm to 1am, 4/-
11/10 (We)	Plaza	Five Jays	
18/10 (We)	Plaza	Five Jays	
25/10 (We)	Plaza	Five Jays	
1/11 (We)	Plaza	Five Jays	
8/11 (We)	Plaza	Five Jays	
10/11 (Fr)	Cochrane Hall	Alex Harvey Group	
11/11 (Sa)	Cochrane Hall	Saints	
15/11 (We)	Plaza	Five Jays	
17/11 (Fr)	Cambusbarron Community Centre	Rock - A - Beats	
22/11 (We)	Plaza	Five Jays	
24/11 (Fr)	Cochrane Hall (Lothian)	John Barry Seven — Erle Blue Stars	
29/11 (We)	Plaza	Five Jays	
1/12 (Fr)	Cochrane Hall (Lothian)	Alex Harvey Group	
1/12	Victoria Hall	Rock - A - Beats	
2/12 (Sa)	Cochrane Hall (Lothian)	Strangers	

Date	The Venue	The Bands	Cost / Duration
6/12 (We)	Plaza	Five Jays	
13/12 (We)	Plaza	Five Jays	
15/12 (Fr)	Cochrane Hall (Lothian)	George Barr and the Strangers	
16/12 (Sa)	Cochrane Hall (Lothian)	Eric Liston and "his New Band"	
20/12 (We)	Plaza	Five Jays	
22/12 (Fr)	Cochrane Hall (Lothian)	'No Band Named'	
23/12 (Sa)	Cochrane Hall (Lothian)	'No Band Named'	
25/12 (Mo)	Alloa Town Hall	'No Band Named'	
26/12 (Tu)	Plaza	Ramrods	
27/12 (We)	Plaza	Five Jays	
29/12 (Fr)	Albert Hall	Ramrods	
29/12	Cochrane Hall (Lothian)	Erle Blue Stars	
30/12 (Sa)	Cochrane Hall (Lothian)	Eric Liston and the Saints Show Band	

This year promoter Lothian Enterprises started organising beat dances in local public halls. This was the start of various organisations taking an interest in the money making potential of the 'pop group'. The main dance venues that advertised this year were the Plaza and the Cochrane Hall. The adverts in the local paper for the Cochrane Hall were small compared to those they placed in later years. A sure sign of progress. Adverts for dances at smaller venues were still very rare.

There were quite a few occasions this year when no band was named on the advert for the dance. Whether it was due to a difficulty in hiring a 'pop group' in those early days or for some other reason, the dancers would be pleasantly surprised or otherwise when they arrived at the venue.

Alex Harvey, who performed a number of times during the year at the Cochrane Hall, became a rock icon with his band 'The Sensational Alex Harvey Band'.



## 1962

<b>Date</b>	<b>The Venue</b>	<b>The Bands</b>	<b>Cost / Duration</b>
1/1 (Mo)	Alloa Town Hall	Saints Show Band	
2/1 (Tu)	Plaza	Ramrods	
3/1 (We)	Plaza	Five Jays	
6/1 (Sa)	Boat Club	Ramrods	
10/1 (We)	Plaza	Ramrods	
12/1 (Fr)	Fallin Miners Welfare	Deltones	
14/1 (Su)	St Margaret's Hall	Sinners	2/6
17/1 (We)	Plaza	Ramrods	
19/1 (Fr)	Cochrane Hall (Lothian)	Alex Harvey Band	9pm to 1am
20/1 (Sa)	Cochrane Hall (Lothian)	Eric Liston and the Saints Show Band	8 to 11.30pm
21/1 (Su)	St Margaret's Hall	Sinners	
24/1 (We)	Plaza	Ramrods	
26/1 (Fr)	Boys Club	Deltones	
27/1 (Sa)	Cochrane Hall (Lothian)	'No Band Named'	
28/1 (Su)	Cochrane Hall (Lothian)	Eric Liston and the Saints Show Band	
31/1 (We)	Plaza	Ramrods	
2/2	Cochrane Hall (Lothian)	Alex Harvey Band	
3/2 (Sa)	Cochrane Hall (Lothian)	Eric Liston and the Saints Show Band	
4/2 (Su)	St Margaret's Hall	Sinners	
7/2 (We)	Plaza	Ramrods	
9/2 (Fr)	Cochrane Hall (Lothian)	'No Band Named'	
10/2 (Sa)	Cochrane Hall (Lothian)	Eric Liston and the Saints Show Band	
14/2 (We)	Plaza	Ramrods	

<b>Date</b>	<b>The Venue</b>	<b>The Bands</b>	<b>Cost / Duration</b>
16/2 (Fr)	Cochrane Hall (Lothian)	'No Band Named'	
17/2 (Sa)	Cochrane Hall (Lothian)	Eric Liston and the Saints Show Band	
21/2 (We)	Plaza	Ramrods	
23/2 (Fr)	Cochrane Hall (Lothian)	Alex Harvey Band	
23/2	Boys Club	Deltones	
24/2 (Sa)	Cochrane Hall (Lothian)	Eric Liston and the Saints Show Band	
24/2	Plaza	Ramrods	
24/2	Boating Club	Dave Ferrier's Old Time Jazz Band — Moonbeats	
28/2 (We)	Plaza	Four Jays	
2/3 (Fr)	Cochrane Hall (Lothian)	Alex Harvey Band	
3/3 (Sa)	Cochrane Hall (Lothian)	Eric Liston and the Saints Show Band	
7/3 (We)	Plaza	Four Jays	
9/3 (Fr)	Sauchie Public Hall (Lothian)	Eric Liston and the Saints Show Band	
10/3 Sa)	Cochrane Hall (Lothian)	Eric Liston and the Saints Show Band	
14/3 (We)	Plaza	Four Jays	
21/3 (We)	Plaza	Four Jays	
23/3 (Fr)	Cochrane Hall (Lothian)	Eric Liston and the Saints Show Band	
24/3 (Sa)	Cochrane Hall (Lothian)	Eric Liston and the Saints Show Band	
26/3 (Mo)	St Ninians Church Hall (Teen Dance)	No Band Named'	
28/3 (We)	Plaza	Four Jays	
30/3 (Fr)	Cochrane Hall (Lothian)	Eric Liston and the Saints Show Band	
31/3 (Sa)	Cochrane Hall (Lothian)	Eric Liston and the Saints Show Band	

<b>Date</b>	<b>The Venue</b>	<b>The Bands</b>	<b>Cost / Duration</b>
4/4 (We)	Plaza	Four Jays	
6/4 (Fr)	Cochrane Hall (Lothian)	Alex Harvey Band	
7/4 (Sa)	Cochrane Hall (Lothian)	Eric Liston and the Saints Show Band	
11/4 (We)	Plaza	Four Jays	
13/4 (Fr)	St Marks Church	G Clefs Dance Band	
13/4	Cochrane Hall (Lothian)	Red Hawks	
14/4 (Sa)	Cochrane Hall (Lothian)	Eric Liston and the Saints Show Band	
18/4 (We)	Plaza	Four Jays	
20/4 (Fr)	Cochrane Hall (Lothian)	Eric Liston and the Saints Show Band	
21/4 (Sa)	Cochrane Hall (Lothian)	Eric Liston and the Saints Show Band	
25/4 (We)	Plaza	Four Jays	
27/4 (Fr)	Cochrane Hall (Lothian)	Eric Liston and the Saints Show Band	
28/4 (Sa)	Cochrane Hall (Lothian)	Eric Liston and the Saints Show Band	
2/5 (We)	Plaza	Four Jays	
4/5 (Fr)	Cochrane Hall (Lothian)	Alex Harvey Band	
5/5 (Sa)	Cochrane Hall (Lothian)	Eric Liston and the Saints Show Band	
7/5	Sauchie Public Hall (Lothian)	Eric Liston and the Saints Show Band	Midnight to 3.30am.
8/5	Sauchie Public Hall (Lothian)	Eric Liston and the Saints Show Band	Midnight to 3.30am.
9/5	Plaza	Four Jays	
11/5 (Fr)	Cochrane Hall (Lothian)	Eric Liston and the Saints Show Band	
12/5 (Sa)	Cochrane Hall (Lothian)	Eric Liston and the Saints Show Band	
16/5 (We)	Plaza	Four Jays	

<b>Date</b>	<b>The Venue</b>	<b>The Bands</b>	<b>Cost / Duration</b>
18/5 (Fr)	Raploch Community Centre	Ricky and the Ramrods	
23/5 (We)	Plaza	Four Jays	
25/5 (Fr)	Raploch Community Centre	Ricky and the Ramrods	
27/5 (Su)	Cowie Miners Welfare	20th Century Sound (formerly Saints)	
30/5 (We)	Plaza	Four Jays	
6/6 (We)	Plaza	Four Jays	
13/6 (We)	Plaza	Four Jays	
20/6 (We)	Plaza	Four Jays	
22/6 (Fr)	Fallin Miners Welfare	'No Band Named'	10pm to 2am.
27/6 (We)	Plaza	Four Jays	
4/7 (We)	Plaza	Deltones	
11/7 (We)	Plaza	Deltones	
18/7 (We)	Plaza	Deltones	
25/7 (We)	Plaza	Deltones	
27/7 (Fr)	Cowie Miners Welfare	20th Century Sounds	
1/8 (We)	Plaza	'No Band Named'	
8/8 (We)	Plaza	Four Jays	
15/8 (We)	Plaza	Four Jays	
17/8 (Fr)	Cowie Miners Welfare	20th Century Sounds — McKinley Sisters	
22/8 (We)	Plaza	Four Jays	
24/8 (Fr)	Burghmuir Pavilion	Centaurs	8 to 11pm, 2/-
29/8 (We)	Plaza	Four Jays	
5/9 (We)	Plaza	Four Jays	
12/9 (We)	Plaza	Four Jays	
19/9 (We)	Plaza	Four Jays	
23/9 (Su)	St Margaret's Church Hall	Rock-A-Beats	



<b>Date</b>	<b>The Venue</b>	<b>The Bands</b>	<b>Cost / Duration</b>
19/10 (Fr)	Cochrane Hall (Lothian)	Ronnie Carroll	
20/10 (Sa)	Cochrane Hall (Lothian)	Sapphires	
9/11 (Fr)	Bannockburn Town Hall	Moonbeats	
23/11 (Sa)	Bannockburn Town Hall	20th Century Sounds	
14/12 (Fr)	Bannockburn Miners Welfare	20th Century Sounds	
15/12 (Sa)	Museum Hall	Shane Fenton and the Fentones — Clint and the Tornados	
22/12 (Sa)	Museum Hall	Alex Harvey Band — Patti Lynn — Jim Gallacher Jazz Band	
29/12 (Sa)	Museum Hall	Roll Daniel's — Falcons	
31/12 (Mo)	Dobbie Hall	Red Hawks	

This year Syd Kerr and the Plaza Dance Band were the resident big band at the Plaza performing on Friday and Saturday nights. The Plaza also held a 'beat group' dance session on a Wednesday, but on the 10th of October the 'beat group' was replaced by the Syd Kerr Plaza Big Band. Then at the end of November it stopped altogether. 'Beat groups' had still not made their big breakthrough. The Plaza had also introduced Latin American dance nights. The first of those was on the 8th of January, but they were short lived and only lasted until the end of February.

It was advertised in August that a dance would be held every Friday in the Burghmuir Pavilion. Whether that happened we will never know as that was the only advert ever placed.

## 1963

<b>Date</b>	<b>The Venue</b>	<b>The Bands</b>	<b>Cost / Duration</b>
1/1 (Tu)	Dobbie Hall	20th Century Sounds	
2/1 (We)	Plaza	20th Century Sounds	
5/1 (Sa)	Museum Hall	Beatles — Ray Purdon and the Telstars	8.30 to 11.45pm, 5/-
9/1 (We)	Plaza	20th Century Sounds	
11/1 (Fr)	Bannockburn Welfare Hall	20th Century Sounds	10pm to 2am, 5/-

<b>Date</b>	<b>The Venue</b>	<b>The Bands</b>	<b>Cost / Duration</b>
12/1 (Sa)	Museum Hall	Eden Kane — Rhet Stoller and the Dynamos — Tony Vincent and the Men of Mystery	8.30 to 11.45pm, 6/-
19/1 (Sa)	Museum Hall	Mike Sagar and the Cresters — Malcolm and Vivienne.	
21/1 (Mo)	Plaza	20th Century Sounds	
26/1 (Sa)	Museum Hall	Fane and the Cresendos	
2/2 (Sa)	Museum Hall	Screaming Lord Sutch and his Hoard of Savages — Fane and the Cresendos	
9/2 (Sa)	Museum Hall	Colin Day — Shane and the Sabres	
16/2 (Sa)	Museum Hall	Diamonds	
16/2	Plean Church Hall	Moonbeats — Squares	7 to 11pm, 2/6
23/2 (Sa)	Museum Hall	Duke D'monde and the Barron Knights — Support Band	
2/3 (Sa)	Museum Hall	Fane and the Cresendos	
22/3 (Sa)	Cochrane Hall (Lothian)	20th Century Sounds	
23 3 (Su)	Cochrane Hall (Lothian)	Sapphires	
29/3 (Sa)	Kippen Hall	Ramrods	
31/5 (Fr)	Little Theatre	20th Century Sounds	10pm to 2am, 5/-
7/6 (Fr)	Little Theatre	Starlighters	
21/6 (Fr)	Little Theatre	Sapphires	
28/6 (Fr)	Little Theatre	Gaylords	
5/7 (Fr)	Little Theatre	Alley Cats	
5/7	Kippen Hall	Deltones	
12/7 (Fr)	Little Theatre	Gaylords	
14/7 (Su)	Raploch Community Centre	Stiletto	
19/7 (Fr)	Little Theatre	'No Band Named'	
26/7 (Fr)	Little Theatre	Gaylords	
27/7 (Sa)	Little Theatre	20th Century Sounds	8 to 11.30pm, 4/-
2/8 (Fr)	Little Theatre	Gaylords	

<b>Date</b>	<b>The Venue</b>	<b>The Bands</b>	<b>Cost / Duration</b>
3/8 (Sa)	Little Theatre	20th Century Sounds	
9/8 (Fr)	Little Theatre	20th Century Sounds	
16/8 (Fr)	Little Theatre	Cossacks	
17/8 (Sa)	Little Theatre	20th Century Sounds	
21/8 (We)	Burghmuir Hall	Tony and the Traders	8 to 11pm, 2/-
23/8 (Fr)	Little Theatre	Gaylords	
30/8 (Fr)	Little Theatre	Gaylords	
6/9 (Fr)	Little Theatre	Tony and the Traders	
13/9 (Fr)	Little Theatre	'No Band Named'	
20/9 (Fr)	Little Theatre	20th Century Sounds	
20/9	Cowie Miners Welfare	Arrows	
27/9 (Fr)	Little Theatre	Gaylords	
16/10 (We)	Bannockburn Town Hall (Jaguar)	20th Century Sounds	
18/10 (Fr)	Bannockburn Town Hall (Jaguar)	Sol Byron and the Impacts	
20/10 (Su)	Bannockburn Town Hall (Jaguar)	Chessmen	
23/10 (We)	Bannockburn Town Hall (Jaguar)	20th Century Sounds	
25/10 (Fr)	Bannockburn Town Hall (Jaguar)	'No Band Named'	
30/10 (We)	Bannockburn Town Hall (Jaguar)	Tony and the Traders	
1/11 (Fr)	Bannockburn Town Hall (Jaguar)	Mark V Show Band	
3/11 (Su)	Bannockburn Town Hall (Jaguar)	Chessmen	

Date	The Venue	The Bands	Cost / Duration
8/11 (Fr)	Albert Hall	Gerry and the Pacemakers — Cilla Black — Support Band	
18/11 (Mo)	Plaza	Lulu and the Lovers — Sol Byron's Rockets — Talismen	7.45 to 10.45 pm, 3/6
25/11 (Mo)	Plaza	Lulu and the Lovers	
29/11 (Fr)	Ivanhoe Community Centre	Revells	
2/12 (Mo)	Plaza	Lulu and the Lovers — Two Support Bands	
9/12 (Mo)	Plaza	Lulu and the Lovers — Support Band	7.45 to 10.45pm, 3/6
16/12 (Mo)	Plaza	Lulu and the Lovers — Support Band	
23/12 (Mo)	Plaza	Lulu and the Lovers — Joe Cullen and the Hi-Fives	
30/12 (Mo)	Plaza	Lulu and the Luvvers — Chaperones	

This year between May and September the Little Theatre played its part in the local beat scene. The promoter was Glasgow Dance Promotions, but it was a short lived venture and never featured again.

In October/November, Bannockburn Town Hall was the place to go and was holding dances several nights a week.

Except for a short time in January, the Plaza featured no 'beat groups' until Lulu and the Lovers appeared every Monday night in December. All other nights at the Plaza throughout this year featured the Plaza Orchestra. The 'beat group' had still not made its mark on the Plaza dance scene. At the end of the year Lulu's backing group changed the spelling of their name from 'Lovers' to 'Luvvers'.

The Plaza advertised on the 21st January that on a Monday night between 7.45 and 10.45pm at the cost of 2/6 they would hold a 'Teen Time'. How successful this was is not known as, later in the year, Monday became the night in the week when Lulu made a regular appearance.

The Museum Hall held the occasional event. The most talked about was in January when the Beatles appeared. They had just released their first single 'Love Me Do'. Some people have claimed the crowd threw coins at them and that the band gathered them up, allegedly to help pay for repairs to their Commer van. Others claim it's an urban myth. However coins or not I wonder if anyone at that event could have imagined the superstar status the Beatles would eventually achieve.

On the 26th of January and the 16th of February the Museum Hall held a 'twisting' demonstration featuring World marathon twist champion Bob Cannon's Twisting Fireballs (see next page).





In April and May there were no beat dances advertised in the local paper, the dances advertised were either with a Scottish country dance band or with a Big Band providing the music.

In an effort to provide music for young teenagers, the Burghmuir Hall advertised a 'teenage record club' every Wednesday. Like last year's advert we will never know how many events were held as it was only advertised once.

In the local paper an advert was placed for the Caird Hall in Dundee where on the 7th October the Beatles were appearing with the Caravelles and a Support Band, this is probably the one and only advert placed in the local paper for an event in Dundee.

Jaguar Promotions came to the fore this year holding a number of dances in local public halls.

## 1964

Date	The Venue	The Bands	Cost / Duration
1/1 (We)	Plaza	Lulu and the Luvvers	
1/1	Museum Hall	Keynotes — Sundowners	
3/1 (Fr)	Victoria Hall	Tommy and the Delmonts	
4/1 (Sa)	Museum Hall (Lothian)	Sapphires	
11/1 (Sa)	Plaza	Lulu and the Luvvers — Support Band	8.30 to 11pm, 5/-
18/1 (Sa)	Plaza	Falcons — Manhattan Five	
19/1 (Su)	Bannockburn Town Hall (Jaguar)	Dean Ford and the Gaylords	
20/1 (Mo)	Plaza	Chaperones — Lulu and the Luvvers	7.45 to 10.45pm, 3/6
24/1 (Fr)	Kippen Hall	Deltones	9.30pm to 2am, 3/-
25/1 (Sa)	Plaza	Themes — Manhattan Five	
27/1 (Mo)	Plaza	Lulu and the Luvvers	
1/2 (Sa)	Plaza	Themes — Night Hawks	
3/2 (Mo)	Plaza	Lulu and the Luvvers	
7/2 (Fr)	Albert Hall	Hollies — Support Bands	

<b>Date</b>	<b>The Venue</b>	<b>The Bands</b>	<b>Cost / Duration</b>
7/2	Fallin Miners Welfare	Tommy and the Delmonts	
7/2	Doune Muir Hall	Ramrods	
8/2 (Sa)	Plaza	Themes — Toledos	
8/2	Cochrane Hall (Jaguar)	Sapphires	
10/2 (Mo)	Plaza	Lulu and the Luvvers	
14/2 (Fr)	Museum Hall (Scouts)	Sundowners — Jimmy Galloways Jazzmen	8pm to 2am, 6/-
14/2	Victoria Hall	Tommy and the Delmonts	7.30 to 11.30pm, 7/6
15/2 (Sa)	Plaza	Voodoos — Toledos	
17/2 (Mo)	Plaza	Lulu and the Luvvers	
18/2 (Tu)	Plaza	Tony and the Traders	
21/2 (Fr)	Victoria Hall	Tommy and the Delmonts	
22/2 (Sa)	Plaza	Echolettes — Jimmy James	
29/2 (Sa)	Plaza	Manhattan Five — Fireflies	
6/3 (Fr)	Station Hotel (Arcadians FC)	Tommy and the Delmonts	
6/3	Victoria Hall	Deltones	
7/3 (Sa)	Plaza	Echolettes	
9/3 (Mo)	Plaza	Ravens	
13/3 (Fr)	Museum Hall (Scouts)	Sundowners — Southside Jazz Band	
13/3	Alloa Town Hall (Jaguar)	Seven Sinners Show Band	
14/3 (Sa)	Plaza	Echolettes	
14/3	St Mary's Church Hall (SNP)	Moonbeats	
15/3 (Su)	Bannockburn Town Hall	Falcons	
16/3 (Mo)	Plaza	Count-Downs	
17/3 (Tu)	Alloa Town Hall (Jaguar)	Golden Crusaders	

<b>Date</b>	<b>The Venue</b>	<b>The Bands</b>	<b>Cost / Duration</b>
20/3 (Fr)	Alloa Town Hall (Jaguar)	Beat Unlimited (Resurrection of Dracula)	
21/3 (Sa)	Plaza	Count-Downs	
22/3 (Su)	Bannockburn Town Hall (Jaguar)	Sapphires	
24/3 (Tu)	Alloa Town Hall (Jaguar)	Golden Crusaders	
27/3 (Fr)	Sauchie Public Hall (Jaguar)	Dean Ford and the Gaylords	
28/3 (Sa)	Plaza	Carfairs	
28/3	Alloa Town Hall (Jaguar)	Sapphires	
29/3 (Su)	Bannockburn Town Hall (Jaguar)	Sapphires	
31/3 (Tu)	Cochrane Hall (Jaguar)	Golden Crusaders	
3/4 (Fr)	Sauchie Public Hall (Jaguar)	Dean Ford and the Gaylords	
4/4 (Sa)	Plaza	Toledos	
5/4 (Su)	Bannockburn Town Hall (Jaguar)	“No Band Named”	
10/4 Fr)	Bannockburn Town Hall (Jaguar)	Sundowners	
11/4 (Sa)	Plaza	Staccato Five	
17/4 (Fr)	Alloa Town Hall (Jaguar)	Vince Newman and the Veltones	
17/4	Museum Hall (Scouts)	Roadrunners — RJ Dance Band	
17/4	Victoria Hall	Deltones	
18/4 (Sa)	Plaza	G.Squad	
18/4	Alloa Town Hall (Jaguar)	Sapphires	
19/4 (Su)	Bannockburn Town Hall (Jaguar)	Royal Crests	
24/4 (Fr)	Alloa Town Hall (Jaguar)	Seven Sinners	

<b>Date</b>	<b>The Venue</b>	<b>The Bands</b>	<b>Cost / Duration</b>
25/4 (Sa)	Plaza	Count-Downs	
25/4	Alloa Town Hall (Jaguar)	Sapphires	
26/4 (Su)	Bannockburn Town Hall (Jaguar)	No Band Named'	
2/5 (Sa)	Plaza	Toledos	
9/5 (Sa)	Plaza	Bern Elliot and the Fenmen — Moonbeats	
15/5 (Fr)	Alloa Town Hall (Jaguar)	Monarchs	
16/5 (Sa)	Plaza	Crusaders — Moonbeats	
16/5	Alloa Town Hall (Jaguar)	Linda Lane and the Sinners — Sapphires	
17/5 (Su)	Bannockburn Town Hall (Jaguar)	No Band Named'	
22/5 (Fr)	Sauchie Public Hall (Jaguar)	Sol Byron and the Impacts	
22/5	Victoria Hall	Hellcats — Vikings	
22/5	Doune Muir Hall (Doune Castle FC)	Concords — Tracy and the Tyrants — Forthbeats	9pm to 2am, 5/-
23/5 (Sa)	Plaza	Staccato Five — Moonbeats	
23/5	Alloa Town Hall (Jaguar)	Sapphires	
30/5 (Sa)	Plaza	McKinley Sisters — Johnny Hudson Hi Fi Four	
5/6 (Fr)	Alloa Town Hall (Jaguar)	Seven Sinners	
5/6	Victoria Hall (Youth Club)	Hurricanes	
6/6 (Sa)	Plaza	Delmont Four — Moonbeats	8 to 11.30pm, 5/-
6/6	Alloa Town Hall	Swinging Sapphires	
6/6	Cowie Welfare (Youth Club)	Sundowners	
7/6 (Su)	Allan Grange Hotel	Fourth Dimensional Sounds — McLaren Trio	4/-
12/6 (Fr)	Alloa Town Hall (Jaguar)	Red Hawks	



<b>Date</b>	<b>The Venue</b>	<b>The Bands</b>	<b>Cost / Duration</b>
12/6	Victoria Hall	Hellcats Show Band	
13/6 (Sa)	Plaza	Big Three — Moonbeats	
13/6	Alloa Town Hall (Jaguar)	Swinging Sapphires	
19/6 (Fr)	Museum Hall (Scouts)	Ramrods — Moonbeats	
19/6	Alloa Town Hall (Jaguar)	Flintstones	
20/6 (Sa)	Plaza	Delmont Four — Moonbeats	
20/6	Alloa Town Hall (Jaguar)	Swinging Sapphires	
20/6	Burghmuir Pavilion	Moonbeats	
26/6 (Fr)	Tolbooth (No 7 Owls Club)	Moonbeats	
26/6	Victoria Hall	Falcons	
26/6	Museum Hall	20th Century Sounds	10pm to 2am, 5/-
27/6 (Sa)	Plaza	No Band Named' — Moonbeats	9pm to 1am, 6/-
27/6	Museum Hall	20th Century Sounds	
28/6 (Su)	Bannockburn Town Hall	No Band Named'	
3/7 (Fr)	Hothouse	Moonbeats	
3/7	Alloa Town Hall (Jaguar)	Dean Ford and the Gaylords	
4/7 (Sa)	Plaza	Tony and the Traders — Moonbeats	
4/7	Alloa Town Hall (Jaguar)	Swinging Sapphires	
4/7	Museum Hall	'No Band Named'	
4/7	Cowie Welfare (Youth Club)	Sundowners	
5/7 (Su)	Bannockburn Town Hall	'No Band Named'	
10/7 (Fr)	Alloa Town Hall (Jaguar)	Red Hawks	
10/7	Hothouse	Monarchs Show Band	

<b>Date</b>	<b>The Venue</b>	<b>The Bands</b>	<b>Cost / Duration</b>
10/7	Victoria Hall	Tommy and the Apaches — Hellcats Show Band	
10/7	Boys Club	Moonbeats — Fourth Dimensional Sounds	9pm to 1am, 3/6
11/7 (Sa)	Plaza	Dean Ford and the Gaylords — Moonbeats	
11/7	Alloa Town Hall (Jaguar)	Swinging Sapphires	
11/7	Museum Hall (Tennis Club)	'No Band Named'	
12/7 (Su)	Raploch Community Centre	Ramrods	
17/7 (Fr)	Museum Hall	Liberators	
17/7	Victoria Hall (Dunblane Show)	20th Century Sounds	
18/7 (Sa)	Plaza	Johnny Law and the M.I.5 — Moonbeats	
18/7	Museum Hall (Boating Club)	Trespassers Modern Band (Originally the Ramrods)	
18/7	Allan Grange Hotel	Alleycats	
24/7 (Fr)	Hothouse	Toledo Combo	
24/7	Victoria Hall	Ambassadors	
25/7 (Sa)	Plaza	Golden Crusaders — Moonbeats	
25/7	Allan Grange Hotel	Alleycats	
25/7	Boating Club	Sundowners	
25/7	Museum Hall (Tennis Club)	'No Band Named'	
26/7 (Su)	Fallin Welfare	Forthbeats	
31/7 (Fr)	Hothouse	Beatstalkers	
31/7	Victoria Hall (Stardust)	Mark Jensen and the Jaguars	
1/8 (Sa)	Plaza	Chaperones — Moonbeats	
1/8	Allan Grange Hotel	Alleycats	

<b>Date</b>	<b>The Venue</b>	<b>The Bands</b>	<b>Cost / Duration</b>
7/8 (Fr)	Hothouse	Sol Byron and the Impacts — Support Band	
8/8 (Sa)	Plaza	V.I.P's — Moonbeats	
8/8	Allan Grange Hotel	Alleycats	
8/8	Museum Hall (Boating Club)	Trespassers	
8/8	Cowie Welfare (Youth Club)	Sundowners	
12/8 (We)	Plaza	Federals — Tommy and the Delmonts	8 to 11pm, 3/-
14/8 (Fr)	Victoria Hall (Stardust)	Hellcats Show Band	
14/8	Hothouse	Chariots — Support Band	
15/8 (Sa)	Plaza	Johnny Law and the M.I.5 — Moonbeats	
19/8 (We)	Plaza	Tony and the Traders	
21/8 (Fr)	Victoria Hall	Sapphires	
21/8	Hothouse	Royal Crests — Support Band	
22/8 (Sa)	Plaza	Golden Crusaders	
22/8	Cochrane Hall	Sounds of the Echo	
22/8	Museum Hall (Boating Club)	Trespassers	
26/8 (We)	Plaza	Beat Unlimited	
29/8 (Sa)	Plaza	Senators — Moonbeats	
2/9 (We)	Plaza	Fourth Dimensional Sounds	
4/9 (Fr)	Bannockburn Town Hall	Moonbeats	
5/9 (Sa)	Plaza	Kay and the Invaders — Moonbeats	
6/9 (Su)	Boys Club	Moonbeats — Sundowners — Pack	
9/9 (We)	Plaza	Royal Crests	
11/9 (Fr)	Boating Club	Moonbeats	
11/9	Hothouse	Poets — Soul Sect	
11/9	Holy Trinity	Ramrods	
12/9 (Sa)	Plaza	Royal Crests — Moonbeats	

<b>Date</b>	<b>The Venue</b>	<b>The Bands</b>	<b>Cost / Duration</b>
12/9	Victoria Hall (Dunblane Show)	Hellcats Show Band	
16/9 (We)	Plaza	Moonbeats	
18/9 (Fr)	Hothouse	Pack — Sapphires	
18/9	Boat Club	Sundowners	9pm to 1.30am, 4/6
19/9 (Sa)	Museum Hall	Alex Harvey's Big Soul Band — Hellcats Show Band	
19/9	Plaza	Dean Ford and the Gaylords — Moonbeats	
25/9 (Fr)	Hothouse	Beatstalkers — Support Band	
26/9 (Sa)	Plaza	Beat Unlimited — Moonbeats	
2/10 (Fr)	Victoria Hall (Stardust)	Bobby Dean and the Dynamos	
2/10	Hothouse	Moonbeats — Sundowners	
3/10 (Sa)	Plaza	Tony and the Traders — Moonbeats	
9/10 (Fr)	Victoria Hall (Stardust)	Abstracts — Hellcats Show Band	
9/10	Hothouse	Corsairs — Soul Sect	
10/10 (Sa)	Plaza	Tony Rivers and the Castaways — Moonbeats	
16/10 (Fr)	Museum Hall (Scouts)	Roadrunners — Alley Cats	
16/10	Hothouse	Shondells — Statesmen	
16/10	Victoria Hall	20th Century Sounds	
16/10	Boys Club	Moonbeats — Support Band	
17/10 (Sa)	Plaza	Senators — Moonbeats	
23/10 (Fr)	Victoria Hall (Stardust)	Monarchs Show Band	
23/10	Hothouse	Sol Byron and the Impacts	
24/10 (Sa)	Plaza	Mark Anthony and the Chariots — Moonbeats	
24/10	Museum Hall (Rugby Club)	'No Band Named'	

<b>Date</b>	<b>The Venue</b>	<b>The Bands</b>	<b>Cost / Duration</b>
30/10 (Fr)	Hothouse	Pathfinders — Karnades	
30/10	Victoria Hall	Chessmen	
31/10 (Sa)	Plaza	Dean Ford and the Gaylords — Moonbeats	
6/11 (Fr)	Victoria Hall	Bobby Dean and the Dynamos	
6/11	Hothouse	Athenians — Ravens	
13/11 (Fr)	Hothouse	Staccato Five — Sapphires	
14/11 (Sa)	Plaza	Kimbos — Moonbeats	
14/11	Museum Hall (Rugby Club)	'No Band Named'	
20/11 (Fr)	Victoria Hall (Stardust)	Reigning Monarchs	
20/11	Hothouse	Tony and the Traders — Statesmen	
21/11 (Sa)	Plaza	Tommy and the Apaches Moonbeats	
27/11 (Fr)	Victoria Hall (Stardust)	Chessmen	
27/11	Hothouse	Haydn and the Liberators	
28/11 (Sa)	Alloa Town Hall	Tony Jackson and the Vibrations — Liberators	
28/11	Plaza	Jay Anders and the Chevlon — Moonbeats	
4/12 (Fr)	Victoria Hall	Mike Fontaine and the Fireflies	
4/12	Hothouse	Panthers — Barons	
4/12	Silver Dollar	Studio Six	
5/12 (Sa)	Plaza	Senate — Moonbeats	
5/12	Rob Roy Motel	Chancellors	
6/12 (Su)	Silver Dollar	Soul Sect	
11/12 (Fr)	Victoria Hall (Stardust)	Fireflies	
12/12 (Sa)	Plaza	Johnny Carr and the Cadillacs	
18/12 (Fr)	Victoria Hall (Stardust)	Reigning Monarchs	
18/12	Hothouse	Premiers Show Band — Trespassers	

Date	The Venue	The Bands	Cost / Duration
19/12 (Sa)	Plaza	Royal Crests — Trespassers	
21/12 (Mo)	Hothouse	Tony and the Traders	
24/12 (Th)	Victoria Hall (Stardust)	Syndicate	
24/12	Museum Hall (Scouts)	Moonbeats — Tommy Kettles Band	
25/12 (Fr)	Victoria Hall (Stardust)	New Ambassadors — Support Band	
25/12	Hothouse	Alex Harveys Soul Band — Pack	
26/12 (Sa)	Plaza	Johnny Law and the M.I.5 — Trespassers	
26/12	Silver Dollar	Panthers — Trespassers	
28/12 (Mo)	Hothouse	Kinsmen	
31/12 (Th)	Boating Club	Moonbeats	
31/12	Silver Dollar	Squires — Barons	
31/12	Hothouse	Beau Brummell	

In April 1964, Lulu and the Luvvers had signed for Decca Records and brought out the single “Shout” which got in to the UK top ten. It was originally an Isley Brothers USA hit from 1959. In March 1966 after a couple of years touring with her band, Lulu parted company with the Luvvers and started her rise to stardom. Since November 1963, Lulu and her band had appeared regularly at the Plaza on a Monday night, but due to her pending recording contract her last regular appearance was on the 17th of February 1964.

The Plaza advertised Friday dancing but no bands were named. It is likely this was the night for ballroom dancing with the music played by Syd Kerr and the Plaza Seven.

On the 19th of January we saw the first mention of Dean Ford fronting the Gaylords, later to become Marmalade.

On the 6th of January this year the Gateway Jazz Club opened, it was held on Monday nights with the George Penman Jazzmen regularly performing. Then on the 1st April the Gateway folk song club opened every Wednesday night with various artists performing each week. The Hothouse Beat Club in the Pantry area of the Gateway Complex opened for the first time on the 3rd of July and became one of the prime places to go.

In March an agent placed an advert in the local paper looking to sign up ‘pop groups’ for dances and events, the start of the heady days of pop bands playing at the local dance halls.



The Boys Club held dances every fortnight but only occasionally advertised them in the events page in the local paper. The Youth Club notes column in the paper was where you looked to see what band was playing. The Moonbeats played there on a regular basis.

The local paper had an advert for a dance on Thursday the 24th of November at the Kinema Ballroom in Dunfermline. The bands playing were the Ambassadors and the Kinema Ballroom Band. It was unusual for such an advert to be placed in the local paper for a venue so far away.

December saw the opening of the Silver Dollar beat club within the Castle Campbell Hotel in Dollar.

## 1965

<b>Date</b>	<b>The Venue</b>	<b>The Bands</b>	<b>Cost / Duration</b>
1/1 (Fr)	Plaza	'No Band Named'	
1/1	Silver Dollar	Pack — Support Band	
1/1	Museum Hall (Scouts)	Glenallan Dance Band — Alley Cats	
2/1 (Sa)	Plaza	Quintones — Trespassers	
4/1 (Mo)	Hothouse	Embers	
8/1 (Fri)	Victoria Hall (Stardust)	Reigning Monarchs	
8/1	Hothouse	Tommy Trousdale and the Sundowners — Jomo V	
9/1 (Sa)	Plaza	Invaders — Trespassers	7.30 to 11.30pm, 6/-
15/1 (Fr)	Plaza	'No Band Named'	
15/1	Hothouse	Mark Jensen and his Jaguars — Kleeverz	
16/1 (Sa)	Plaza	Senate — Trespassers	
22/1 (Fr)	Plaza	'No Band Named'	
22/1	Victoria Hall (Jaguar)	20th Century Sounds	
22/1	Hothouse	Pathfinders — Statesmen	
22/1	Silver Dollar	Beau Brambles — Statesmen	
23/1	Silver Dollar	Dunfermline City Jazz Band	
23/1 (Sa)	Plaza	Crusaders — Trespassers	
24/1 (Su)	Silver Dollar	Athenians	

<b>Date</b>	<b>The Venue</b>	<b>The Bands</b>	<b>Cost / Duration</b>
29/1 (Fr)	Plaza	'No Band Named'	8pm to 1am, 5/-
29/1	Victoria Hall (Jaguar)	New Ambassadors	10pm to 2am, 6/-
29/1	Hothouse (Tolbooth)	Reigning Monarchs — Barons	9pm to 1am
29/1	Silver Dollar	Climax Jazz Band — Barons	9pm to 1am
30/1 (Sa)	Silver Dollar	Pack — Resistance	
30/1	Plaza	Quintones — Trespassers	
30/1	St Hilda's Hotel	Two Jays	
31/1 (Su)	Silver Dollar	Johnny Law and the MI5	
5/2 (Fr)	Plaza	'No Band Named'	
5/2	Victoria Hall (Stardust)	Chessmen	
5/2	Hothouse (Tolbooth)	Beatstalkers — Ambassadors	
6/2 (Sa)	Plaza	Boyfriends — Trespassers	
12/2 (Fr)	Plaza	'No Band Named'	
12/2	Victoria Hall (Jaguar)	Reigning Monarchs — 20th Century Sounds	
12/2	Hothouse (Tolbooth)	Lee Evans and the Leaways — Ravens	
13/2 (Sa)	Plaza	Hi-Fi Combo — Trespassers	
19/2 (Fr)	Plaza	'No Band Named'	
19/2	Museum Hall (Stardust)	Hurricanes — Ambassadors	
19/2	Hothouse (Tolbooth)	Dean Ford and the Gaylords — Squires	
20/2 (Sa)	Plaza	Five Interns — Trespassers	
24/2 (We)	Plaza	Poets	
26/2 (Fr)	Plaza	'No Band Named'	
26/2	Victoria Hall (Jaguar)	Dean Ford and the Gaylords — Reigning Monarchs	
26/2	Hothouse (Tolbooth)	Flintstones — Panthers	
27/2 (Sa)	Plaza	Mad Hatters — Trespassers	
5/3 (Fr)	Plaza	Poets	9am to 1pm, 6/6
5/3	Museum Hall	20th Century Sounds — Soul Sect	



<b>Date</b>	<b>The Venue</b>	<b>The Bands</b>	<b>Cost / Duration</b>
5/3	Sauchie Public Hall (Jaguar)	Beatstalkers	
5/3	Hothouse (Tolbooth)	Tony and the Traders — Deltaks Beat Combo	
6/3 (Sa)	Plaza	Honours	
7/3 (Su)	Alloa Town Hall (Jaguar)	Dean Ford and the Gaylords	
10/3 (We)	Plaza	20th Century Sound	8 to 11pm, 2/6
12/3 (Fr)	Albert Hall	The Corrie Folk Trio and Paddie Bell (concert)	
12/3	Plaza	Honeycombs — Support Band	
12/3	Victoria Hall (Alexander Ent.)	Chessmen	
12/3	Sauchie Public Hall (Jaguar)	Kimbos	10pm to 2am, 5/-
12/3	Hothouse (Tolbooth)	Berrys — Cicados	
13/3 (Sa)	Plaza	Athenians — Support Band	
14/3	Alloa Town Hall (Jaguar)	Reigning Monarchs	
17/3 (We)	Plaza	20th Century Sounds	8 to 11pm, 2/6
17/3	British Legion	Resistance Combo	2/6
19/3 (Fr)	Plaza	Applejacks — Support Band	
19/3	Sauchie Public Hall (Jaguar)	Red Hawks	
19/3	Victoria Hall (Stardust)	20th Century Sounds — Chessmen	
19/3	Hothouse	Golden Crusaders — Dave and the Arrows	
20/3 (Sa)	Plaza	J.K. Senators — Support Band	
21/3 (Su)	Alloa Town Hall (Jaguar)	Edinburgh Crusaders	
23/3 (Tu)	B of A Rifle Club Hall	Resistance	7.30 to 10.45pm, 2/6
25/3 (Th)	Albert Hall	Kinks — Marianne Faithful — “5 other acts” (Concert)	6.30pm and 8.45 pm, differing prices.

<b>Date</b>	<b>The Venue</b>	<b>The Bands</b>	<b>Cost / Duration</b>
26/3 (Fr)	Hothouse (Tolbooth)	Dean Ford and the Gaylords — Support Band	
26/3	Plaza	Poets — Support Band	
27/3 (Sa)	Plaza	Mad Hatters	
2/4 (Fr)	Plaza	Tony Rivers and the Castaways — Mark Val and the Valients	
3/4 (Sa)	Plaza	VIP's — Trespassers	
3/4	Victoria Hall (Stardust)	20th Century Sounds — Bobby Dean and the Dynamos — Ambassadors	
3/4	Hothouse (Tolbooth)	Reigning Monarchs	
8/4 (Th)	Hothouse (Tolbooth)	Jay Anders and the Chevlon's — Axents	
9/4 (Fr)	Plaza	Fenmen — Kimbos	
9/4	Victoria Hall (Stardust)	Tommy Trousdale and the Sundowners — Ambassadors	
10/4 (Sa)	Plaza	Rue and the Rockets — Trespassers	
16/4 (Fr)	Plaza	Moonbeats — Squires	
16/4	Plaza	Four Pennies — Dave and the Arrows	
16/4	Victoria Hall (Stardust)	20th Century Sounds — Trevor Foster and the Falcons	
16/4	Hothouse (Tolbooth)	Athenians — R + B Checkers	
17/4 (Sa)	Plaza	Boyfriends — Trespassers	
23/4 (Fr)	Plaza	Golden Crusaders — J.K. Senators — Kimbos — Trespassers	9pm to 1am, 6/6
23/4	Victoria Hall (Stardust)	Mike Satan — 20th Century Sounds — Cossacks	
23/4	Hothouse (Tolbooth)	Boston Dexters	
24/4 (Sa)	Plaza	Poets — Support Band	
26/4 (Mo)	Plaza	Peter Belli et les Rivals — Support Band	
30/4 (Fr)	Plaza	Billy J Kramer — J.K. Senators	
30/4	Victoria Hall (Stardust)	Reigning Monarchs — Support Band	
30/4	Hothouse	Jokers — Cherokees	
1/5 (Sa)	Hothouse (Tolbooth)	Premiers	

<b>Date</b>	<b>The Venue</b>	<b>The Bands</b>	<b>Cost / Duration</b>
2/5 (Su)	Silver Dollar	Peter Belli et les Rivals — Abstracts	
7/5 (Fr)	Plaza	Tommy Quickly and the Remo 4 — Support Band	
7/5	Caledonian Restaurant	Barons	
7/5	Victoria Hall (Stardust)	Hoods — Karnades	10pm to 2am, 6/-
7/5	Hothouse (Tolbooth)	Reigning Monarchs — Moonbeats	9pm to 1am,
8/5 (Sa)	Plaza	Premiers	
8/5	Caledonian Restaurant	Barons	
10/5 (Mo)	Plaza	Boston Dexters — Kimbos	
14/5 (Fr)	Plaza	Poets — Dean Ford and the Gaylords	
14/5	Victoria Hall (Stardust)	20th Century Sounds — Ambassadors	
14/5	Hothouse	Terry Dean and the Mersey Four	
15/5 (Sa)	Plaza	Peasants	
17/5 (Mo)	Plaza	Dean Ford and the Gaylords — Kimbos	
21/5 (Fr)	Plaza	Lulu and the Luvvers — Kimbos	9pm to 1am, 6/6
21/5	Victoria Hall (Stardust)	Chessmen — Ambassadors	
21/5	Hothouse	Sir Percy and the Riot Squad	
22/5 (Sa)	Plaza	Senators — Deltones	
22/5	Hothouse	Roadrunners — Sounds Good	
23/5 (Su)	Hothouse	Ravens	
24/5 (Mo)	Plaza	Boston Dexters — Kimbos	
28/5 (Fr)	Plaza	Fourmost — Support Band	9pm to 1am, 6/6
28/5	Victoria Hall (Stardust)	Bobby Dean and the Dynamos	
29/5 (Sa)	Plaza	Edinburgh Crusaders — Deltones	8 to 11.30pm, 8 to 8.15pm - 3/-, 8.15 to 8.30pm - 4/-, 8.30 to 9pm -5/-, After 9pm - 6/-.

<b>Date</b>	<b>The Venue</b>	<b>The Bands</b>	<b>Cost / Duration</b>
31/5 (Mo)	Plaza	Kimbos	8 to 11am, 2/6, 1/6 before 9pm.
4/6 (Fr)	Plaza	Naturals — Poets	
4/6	Victoria Hall (Stardust)	Dean Ford and the Gaylords — Ambassadors	
4/6	Silver Dollar	Panthers	
5/6 (Sa)	Plaza	Athenians — Support Band	
5/6	Silver Dollar	Kinsmen — Resistance	
6/6 (Su)	Silver Dollar	Ravens	
7/6 (Mo)	Plaza	Kimbos	
11/6 (Fr)	Plaza	Sounds Incorporated — Tony and the Traders	
11/6	Victoria Hall (Stardust)	Athenians — 20th Century Sounds	
12/6 (Sa)	Plaza	Bobby Dean and the Dynamos — Trespassers	
14/6 (Mo)	Plaza	Kimbos	
18/6 (Fr)	Plaza	Stu James and the Mojos — Support Band	
18/6	Victoria Hall (Stardust)	Ambassadors	
19/6 (Sa)	Plaza	Mark Jensen and the Jaguars — Support Band	
19/6	Silver Dollar	Reigning Monarchs — Mustangs	
20/6	Silver Dollar	Abstracts	
21/6 (Mo)	Plaza	Kimbos	
25/6 (Fr)	Plaza	Cliff Bennett and the Rebel Rousers — Dave and the Arrows	9pm to 1am, 6/6
25/6	Victoria Hall (Stardust)	Les Sounds — ‘Guest Artist’	
26/6 (Sa)	Plaza	Reigning Monarchs — Mustangs	
28/6 (Mo)	Plaza	Kimbos	
2/7 (Fr)	Plaza	Tony Rivers and the Castaways — Support Band	
2/7	Victoria Hall (Stardust)	20th Century Sounds	

<b>Date</b>	<b>The Venue</b>	<b>The Bands</b>	<b>Cost / Duration</b>
2/7	Silver Dollar	Axents	
3/7 (Sa)	Plaza	Reigning Monarchs — Support Band	
3/7	Silver Dollar	Peter, Jan and John — Barons	
4/7 (Su)	Silver Dollar	Abstracts	
5/7 (Mo)	Plaza	Kimbos	
9/7 (Fr)	Plaza	Paramounts — Kimbos — Berry's	
9/7	Victoria Hall (Stardust)	Bobby Dean and the Dynamos — Executioners	
10/7 (Sa)	Plaza	Reigning Monarchs — Support Band	
12/7 (Mo)	Plaza	Kimbos	
16/7 (Fr)	Plaza	Gamblers — Support Band	
16/7	Victoria Hall (Stardust)	Reigning Monarchs	
16/7	Silver Dollar	Sounds Good	
17/7 (Sa)	Plaza	'Three Band Show - none named'	
17/7	Silver Dollar	Mark Jensen and the Jaguars — Committee	
18/7 (Su)	Plaza	'Midnight Carnival - no bands named'	
18/7	Silver Dollar	Phil and the Flintstones	
19/7 (Mo)	Plaza	Kimbos	
23/7 (Fr)	Plaza	Them — Support Band	9pm to 1am, 7/6
23/7	Victoria Hall (Stardust)	Kleeverz	
24/7 (Sa)	Plaza	'Three Band Show - none named'	8 to 11.30pm, 8 to 8.15pm - 3/-, 8.15 to 8.30pm - 4/-, 8.30 to 9pm -5/-, After 9pm - 6/-.
24/7	Sauchie Public Hall	McKinley Sisters — Tremors	
26/7 (Mo)	Plaza	Kimbos	
30/7 (Fr)	Plaza	In Crowd — Support Band	
30/7	Silver Dollar	Abstracts	
30/7	Victoria Hall (Stardust)	Reigning Monarchs	

<b>Date</b>	<b>The Venue</b>	<b>The Bands</b>	<b>Cost / Duration</b>
31/7 (Sa)	Plaza	'Three Band Show - none named'	
31/7	Silver Dollar	Kinsmen — Keys	
2/8 (Mo)	Plaza	Kimbos	
4/8 (We)	Plaza	Mike Berry and the Innocents — Resistance	
6/8 (Fr)	Victoria Hall (Stardust)	Kimbos	
7/8 (Sa)	Plaza	Edinburgh Crusaders	
9/8 (Mo)	Plaza	Kimbos	
13/8 (Fr)	Plaza	Swinging Blue Jeans — Support Band	9pm to 1am, 6/6
13/8	Victoria Hall (Stardust)	Dean Ford and the Gaylords — Southerners	
14/8 (Sa)	Sauchie Public Hall	Poets	
14/8	Plaza	Beatstalkers	8 to 11.30pm, 6/-
16/8	Plaza	Kimbos	
20/8 (Fr)	Plaza	In Crowd — Kimbos	
20/8	Victoria Hall (Stardust)	Ambassadors	
20/8	Silver Dollar	Sir Percy and the Riot Squad	
21/8 (Sa)	Plaza	Poets	
21/8	Silver Dollar	Them Grimble — Ravens	
23/8 (Mo)	Plaza	Kimbos	
27/8 (Fr)	Plaza	Four Pennies	
28/8 (Sa)	Plaza	Kimbos	
30/8 (Mo)	Plaza	Kimbos	
3/9 (Fr)	Plaza	Prowlers — Kimbos	
3/9	Victoria Hall (Stardust)	20th Century Sounds	
3/9	Silver Dollar	Sabres	
4/9 (Sa)	Plaza	Kimbos	
4/9	Silver Dollar	Castle Rings — Deltones	
6/9 (Mo)	Plaza	Kimbos	

<b>Date</b>	<b>The Venue</b>	<b>The Bands</b>	<b>Cost / Duration</b>
10/9 (Fr)	Plaza	Dee-Ell Tops — Support Band	
10/9	Victoria Hall (Stardust)	Bobby Dean and the Dynamos	
11/9 (Sa)	Plaza	Deltones	
13/9 (Mo)	Plaza	Kimbos	
17/9 (Fr)	Plaza	20th Century Sounds — Tony and the Traders	
17/9	Victoria Hall (Stardust)	Southerners	
17/9	Silver Doller	Bobby Dean and the Dynamos	
18/9 (Sa)	Plaza	Deltones	
18/9	Silver Dollar	Escorts — Bo-Weavels	
20/9 (Mo)	Plaza	Kimbos	
24/9 (Fr)	Plaza	Boston Dexters	
24/9	Victoria Hall (Stardust)	Ambassadors	
25/9 ( Sa)	Plaza	Deltones	
27/9 (Mo)	Plaza	Kimbos	
1/10 (Fr)	Plaza	Golden Eagles — Support Band	
1/10	Victoria Hall (Stardust)	‘Two band attraction - none named’	
2/10 (Sa)	Plaza	Beatstalkers — Support Band	
3/10 (Su)	Drill Hall	Resistance	
4/10 (Mo)	Plaza	Kimbos	
8/10 (Fr)	Plaza	Berry’s — Support Band	
8/10	Museum Hall (Stardust)	Kleeverz — Bo-Weavels — 20th Century Sounds	10pm to 4am,
8/10	Victoria Hall	Beatstalkers — Support Band	
9/10 (Sa)	Plaza	Golden Eagles	
11/10 (Mo)	Plaza	Kimbos	
15/10 (Fr)	Plaza	Clelland Five — Barons	

<b>Date</b>	<b>The Venue</b>	<b>The Bands</b>	<b>Cost / Duration</b>
16/10 (Sa)	Plaza	Mike Berry and the Innocents — Support Bands	
16/10	Drill Hall	Berry's — Barons	
18/10 (Mo)	Plaza	Kimbos	
22/10 (Fr)	Plaza	20th Century Sounds — Support Band	
22/10	Victoria Hall (Stardust)	Southerners — Images	
23/10 (Sa)	Plaza	Resistance — Support Band	
25/10 (Mo)	Plaza	Kimbos	
29/10 (Fr)	Plaza	Sol Byron and the Senate — Support Band	
29/10	Victoria Hall (Stardust)	Kleeverz	
30/10 (Sa)	Plaza	J.K. Senators	
30/10	Sauchie Public Hall (Jaguar)	Sol Byron and the Senate — Support Band	
1/11 (Mo)	Plaza	Kimbos	
5/11 (Fr)	Plaza	20th Century Sounds — Deltones	9pm to 1am, 6/6
5/11	Victoria Hall (Highland Society)	Black Hawks	
5/11	Silver Dollar	Dean Ford and the Gaylords	
6/11 (Sa)	Plaza	Brian Poole and the Tremelos — J.K. Senators	8 to 11.30 pm, 6/-
6/11	Sauchie Public Hall (Jaguar)	Hi-Fi Showband — Ravens	
6/11	Silver Dollar	Bobby Dean and the Dynamos — Support Band	
8/11 (Mo)	Plaza	Kimbos	
12/11 (Fr)	Plaza	New Statesman Showband — Les Sounds	
12/11	Victoria Hall (Stardust)	Jomos — Bobby Dean and the Dynamos	
12/11	Silver Dollar	Pack	
13/11 (Sa)	Plaza	Kimbos — J.K. Senators	



<b>Date</b>	<b>The Venue</b>	<b>The Bands</b>	<b>Cost / Duration</b>
13/11	Boating Club	Moonbeats — Slaves	7.30 to 11.30pm, 4/6
13/11	Silver Dollar	Dave and the Arrows — Barons	
15/11 (Mo)	Plaza	Kimbos	
18/11 (Th)	Pavilion Hotel	Dean Ford and the Gaylords — Barons	
19/11 (Fr)	Plaza	UZ Group — J.K. Senators	
19/11	Alloa Town Hall (Jaguar)	Swinging Blue Jeans — Deltones Showband	
19/11	Victoria Hall (Highland Society)	Honours	
19/11	Silver Dollar	Pack	
20/11 (Sa)	Plaza	J.K. Senators — Support Band	
20/11	Sauchie Public Hall (Jaguar)	Honours	
20/11	Silver Dollar	Soul Seekers	
21/11 (Su)	Alloa Town Hall (Jaguar)	Ravens	
21/11	Rob Roy Motel	Druids	7 to 11pm, Admission Free
22/11 (Mo)	Plaza	Kimbos	
25/11 (Th)	Pavilion Hotel	Reigning Monarchs	8 to 11.30pm, Admission Free
26/11 (Fr)	Plaza	Infinit Sounds — Barons	
26/11	Pavilion Hotel	Private	8 to 11.30pm, Admission Free
26/11	Silver Dollar	Peter Belli and the Scandinavian Rolling Stones — Ravens	
26/11	Alloa Town Hall (Jaguar)	Screaming Lord Sutch	
26/11	Boating Club	Cherokees	
26/11	Victoria Hall (Stardust)	Kleeverz — Druids	
27/11 (Sa)	Plaza	J.K. Senators — Support Band	

<b>Date</b>	<b>The Venue</b>	<b>The Bands</b>	<b>Cost / Duration</b>
27/11	Pavilion Hotel	Flamingo Five	8 to 11.30pm, Admission Free
27/11	Silver Dollar	Reigning Monarchs —- Citreons	
27/11	Sauchie Public Hall (Jaguar)	Powerhouse Six — Support Band	
27/11	Episcopal Church Hall	Barons	
28/11 (Su)	Pavilion Hotel	'No Band Named'	8 to 11.30pm, Admission Free
28/11	Rob Roy Motel	Druids	7 to 11pm, Admission Free
29/11 (Mo)	Plaza	Kimbos	
2/12 (Th)	Pavilion Hotel	Danish Rolling Stones	8 to 11.30pm, Admission Free
2/12	Pavilion Hotel	Peter Belli and Le Rivals — Barons	
3/12 (Fr)	Pavilion Hotel	Sundowners	8 to 11.30pm, Admission Free
3/12	Plaza	Sol Byron and the Senate — Beatstalkers	9pm to 1am, 7/6
3/12	Victoria Hall (Stardust)	20th Century Sounds	
3/12	Silver Dollar	Blue Sabres	
4/12 (Sa)	Plaza	J.K. Senators — Fortune Tellers	8 to 11.30pm
4/12	Silver Dollar	Mark Jensen and the Jaguars — Mustangs	
6/12 (Mo)	Plaza	Kimbos	
9/12 (Th)	Pavilion Hotel	Four Just Men	
10/12 (Fr)	Plaza	Dean Ford and the Gaylords — 20th Century Sounds — Resistance	9pm to 1am, 6/6
10/12	Pavilion Hotel	Swinging Hawaiians with Tia	
10/12	Victoria Hall (Stardust)	Bo-Weavels	
10/12	Drill Hall	Moonbeats	8.30pm to 12.30am, 4/6
11/12 (Sa)	Plaza	J.K. Senators — Fortune Tellers	8 to 11.30pm
11/12	Silver Dollar	Golden Eagles — Barons	

<b>Date</b>	<b>The Venue</b>	<b>The Bands</b>	<b>Cost / Duration</b>
13/12 (Mo)	Plaza	Kimbos	
17/12 (Fri)	Plaza	D.L. Toppers — UZ	
17/12	Victoria Hall	Mark V — Jomos	
18/12 (Sa)	Plaza	Tony Jackson and the Vibrations — J.K. Senators	
18/12	Boating Club	Cherokees	
18/12	Silver Dollar	Jasons — Sudden	
20/12 (Mo)	Plaza	Kimbos	
24/12 (Fr)	Plaza	Reigning Monarchs— Support Band	
24/12	Victoria Hotel (Highland Society)	Dean Ford and the Gaylords — Ravens	
24/12	Museum Hall (Scouts)	Willie Simpson Band — Moonbeats	
25/12 (Sa)	Plaza	J.K. Senators	
25/12	Silver Dollar	Soul Generation — Young Ones	
27/12 (Mo)	Plaza	Kimbos	
27/12	Rob Roy Motel	Druids	
30/12 (Th)	Pavilion Hotel	Sundowners	
31/12 (Fr)	Plaza	Vipers — Support Band	
31/12	Victoria Hall (Highland Society)	Deltones Showband — Executioners	
31/12	Pavilion Hotel	Soul Generation	

At the beginning of March this year the Plaza came under new management and, as can be seen from the advert below, they had very clear rules on the conduct of the dancers.

There was a plethora of weird and wonderful names for the bands this year. It would be interesting to know how a band chose its name. Maybe it was from a record track, a character in a book, by opening the dictionary at a particular page or closing your eyes and picking a random word. Who knows, the 60's truly was a great time for band names.

The ones that stick out this year were, Kleeverz, Dee-Ell Tops, Castle Rings, UZ, but the winner surely is Them Grimbles.

This year saw some well known chart bands performing at local venues, the Honeycombs, Applejacks, Four Pennies, Billy J Kramer, Lulu, Fourmost, Sounds Incorporated, Cliff Bennett and

the Rebel Rousers, Them (with Van Morrison), Mike Berry, Swinging Blue Jeans and Tony Jackson performed at the Plaza. The Kinks were at the Albert Hall and Screaming Lord Sutch and the Swinging Blue Jeans were at Alloa Town Hall.

For the first two months of this year the Plaza advertised dances on a Friday night, but did not identify the band that was playing. On three Saturdays in July they advertised multi-band dances, but again did not identify any of the bands playing. So you 'paid your money and took a chance'.

They also tried variable pricing on a Saturday night. The earlier you came the cheaper it was.

A unique marketing ploy was adopted by the Plaza on Saturday nights in December. They advertised 'A pair of nylons given to every girl in the hall'.

On the 13th of March, at the cost of 2/-, the Plaza started Saturday afternoon sessions between 2 to 5pm for the 'younger teen'. The music was provided by a resident 'beat group' the Trespassers. In August those sessions stopped.

In October Stardust held a Krazy Karnival Bawl with plenty of party events. The event was never repeated in the following years.

Bands with a regular booking this year were, the Kimbos, who played from May at the Plaza on a Monday night and the Trespassers who played at the Plaza on either a Friday or Saturday in the early part of the year.

The Tommy Kettles Band played at Dinner Dances in many of the local hotels.

For a few months the Hothouse moved from the Gateway to the Tolbooth. It then returned to the Gateway but at the end of May it advertised it was closed for the Summer. However, it never re-opened. On the 7th of September, Stirling Folk and Jazz Club opened in the Crown Hotel in the Arcade.

A Jazz and Folk Club opened in the Pantry (part of the Gateway complex) on the 11th of October.



## 1966

Date	The Venue	The Bands	Cost / Duration
1/1 (Sa)	Plaza	J.K. Senators	
1/1	Silver Dollar	Mustangs — Young Ones	
1/1	Pavilion Hotel	Barons	
2/1 (Su)	Plaza	Kimbos — Barons	Midnight to 4am

<b>Date</b>	<b>The Venue</b>	<b>The Bands</b>	<b>Cost / Duration</b>
2/1	Pavilion Hotel Aberfoyle	Citreons	
3/1 (Mo)	Plaza	Beatstalkers — Kimbos	
3/1	Museum Hall (Scouts)	Poets — Moonbeats	9pm to 2am, 6/6
3/1	Pavilion Hotel	New Veltones with Brenda	
3/1	Silver Dollar	Veltones — Satan Change	
7/1 (Fr)	Plaza	Sol Byron and the Senate — The Slaves	9pm to 1am, 6/6
8/1 (Sa)	Plaza	Four Pennies — Support band	8 to 11.30pm, 6/-
8/1	Silver Dollar	The T Set — Support band	10pm to 1.45am
10/1 (Mo)	Plaza	Kimbos	8 to 11pm, 2/6
13/1 (Th)	Pavilion Hotel	Mustangs — Chevrons	7 to 11.30pm
14/1 (Fr)	Plaza	J.K. Senators — Moonbeats	9pm to 1am, 6/6,
14/1	Victoria Hall	Images — Cindy and the Slaves	10pm to 2am
14/1	Museum Hall (Cabaret Night)	Soul Generation	
15/1 (Sa)	Plaza	Tommy Quickly and the Remo Four — Barons	
15/1	Silver Dollar	Bo-Weavels	10pm to 1.45am
17/1 (Mo)	Plaza	Kimbos	
20/1 (Th)	Pavilion Hotel	Bo-Weavels — Barons	8.30 to 11.30pm, *
21/1 (Fri)	Plaza	Beatstalkers — Vipers	9pm to 1am, 6/6
21/1	Pavilion Hotel	Brenda and the Deltones	9pm to 1am, 6/6
21/1	Museum Hall (Cabaret Night)	The Jomos	
21/1	Victoria Hall	Bo-Weavels — Soul Generation — Aliens	10pm to 2am, 6/-
22/1 (Sa)	Plaza	Fourmost — Support band	8 to 11.30 pm, 6/-
23/1 (Su)	Rob Roy Motel, Aberfoyle	Big Sound Band — Citreons — Squad	

<b>Date</b>	<b>The Venue</b>	<b>The Bands</b>	<b>Cost / Duration</b>
23/1	Pavilion Hotel	Bo-Weavels — Barons	*
23/1	Rob Roy Motel, Aberfoyle	Squad	7 - 11pm, Free
24/1 (Mo)	Plaza	Kimbos	8 to 11pm, 2/6
27/1 (Th)	Pavilion Hotel	Four Just Men	
28/1 (Fr)	Plaza	Sabres — Berry's	
28/1	Museum Hall	Fortunes — Images — Slaves	10pm to 3am, 7/6
28/1	Pavilion Hotel	Honours	
28/1	Victoria Hall	Ravens — Soul Pakk	10pm —- 2am, 6/-
29/1 (Sa)	Plaza	David and Jonathon — Support Band	
29/1	Silver Dollar	Axents — Constellations	
30/1 (Su)	Boys Club	Squad	
30/1	Pavilion Hotel	Ravens	8 to 11.30pm, 4/-
31/1 (Mo)	Plaza	Kimbos	
2/2 (We)	Pavilion Hotel	Tramps— Barons	
4/2 (Fr)	Museum Hall	Heinz — Bo-Weavels — Jongs — Soul Generation	
4/2	Pavilion Hotel	Bobby Dean and the Dynamos	
4/2	Plaza	Golden Crusaders — Kingpins	
5/2 (Sa)	Sauchie Hall	Crusaders	6/-
5/2	Silver Dollar	Bobby Dean and the Dynamos — Images	10pm to 1.45am
5/2	Boating Club	Moonbeats — Support Band	4/-
6/2 (Su)	Plaza	Zombies — Support Band	
7/2 (Mo)	Plaza	Kimbos	
9/2 (We)	Pavilion Hotel	The Squad of Just Men	
11/2 (Fr)	Plaza	Chris McLure Section — Tony and the Traders	
11/2	Museum Hall	Kleevers — 20th Century Sounds — Kingpins. — Support Band	
11/2	Pavilion Hotel	Tornadoes — V.5	

<b>Date</b>	<b>The Venue</b>	<b>The Bands</b>	<b>Cost / Duration</b>
12/2 (Sa)	Silver Dollar	Brenda and the Veltones — Jokers	
13/2 (Su)	Plaza	Sol Byron and the Senate	
13/2	Pavilion Hotel	Mustangs	
14/2 (Mo)	Plaza	Kimbos	
18/2 (Fr)	Plaza	Tommy Quickly and the Take Five — Tony and the Traders	
18/2	Pavilion Hotel	Reigning Monarchs	9.30pm to 1.30am
18/2	Museum Hall	Blues Brotherhood — Executioners	10pm to 2am, 6/-
19/2 (Sa)	Sauchie Public Hall	Undermind	10pm to 2am, 6/-
19/2	Silver Dollar	Escorts	10pm to 1.45am
20/2 (Su)	Plaza	Tommy Quickly and the Take Five — Slaves	
20/2	Rob Roy Motel	Druids	3/-
20/2	Pavilion Hotel	Chevlon	8pm to midnight
21/2 (Mo)	Plaza	Kimbos	
24/2 (Th)	Pavilion Hotel	Swinging Sabres	9.30pm to 1.30am
25/2 (Fr)	Plaza	Them — The In Crowd	9pm to 1am, 6/6,
25/2	Victoria Hall	Erle Blue Stars — Support Band	10pm to 2am, 6/6
26/2 (Sa)	Lobster Pot	Moonbeats — Slaves	8 to 11.30pm, 5/-
26/2	Silver Dollar	Mighty Premiers — Constellations	10pm to 1.45am
27/2 (Su)	Plaza	Dave and the Arrows — Fives Company	7.45 to 11pm, 4/-
4/3 (Fri)	Plaza	Sabres — Vikings	
4/3	Pavilion Hotel	Brenda and the Veltones	
4/3	Museum Hall	Undermind — Deltones	
4/3	Rob Roy Motel	Executioners — Fortune Tellers	9pm to 1.30am, 6/-

<b>Date</b>	<b>The Venue</b>	<b>The Bands</b>	<b>Cost / Duration</b>
5/3 (Sa)	Silver Dollar	Hipple People — Moonbeats	
6/3 (Su)	Plaza	Boy Friends — Fives Company	
6/3	Pavilion Hotel	Exhibit A	
11/3 (Fr)	Plaza	Sol Byron and the Senate — Fireflies — Spectres	9pm to 1am, 6/6
11/3	Museum Hall (Stardust)	Fourmost — Merseybeat — Bo Weavels	10pm to 2.30am, 7/6
11/3	Victoria Hall	Four Pennies — Ravens	10pm to 2am, 7/6
11/3	Pavilion Hotel	Drumbeats Showband	8/6 (6/6 if member)
12/3 (Sa)	Silver Dollar	Ravens — Satan Change	
12/3	Lobster Pot	Pack	
13/3 (Su)	Plaza	Moonbeats — Barons	
13/3	Pavilion Hotel	Chevrons	
18/3 (Fri)	Plaza	Heinz and the Young Ones — Fives Company	
18/3	Museum Hall	Brenda and the New Veltones — Soul Generation	
19/3 (Sa)	Silver Dollar	Abstracts — Bobby Dean and the Dynamos	
20/3 (Su)	Plaza	Barons — Nomads	
20/3	Pavilion Hotel	Chevrons	
25/3 (Fr)	Pavilion Hotel	Drumbeats	
25/3	Museum Hall	Truth — 20th Century Sounds	
25/3	Plaza	Beltones — Brotherhood	
26/3 (Sa)	Lobster Pot	Cherokees — Support Band	
26/3	Silver Dollar	Teaset — X-rays	
27/3 (Su)	Plaza	Moonbeats	
27/3	Pavilion Hotel	Chevrons	
1/4 (Fr)	Plaza	Edinburgh Jokers — 20th Century Sound	
1/4	Pavilion Hotel	Chessmen	
2/4 (Sa)	Lobster Pot	Sundowners	



<b>Date</b>	<b>The Venue</b>	<b>The Bands</b>	<b>Cost / Duration</b>
2/4	Plaza	Barons	
3/4 (Su)	Pavilion Hotel	Chevrons	
8/4 (Fr)	Plaza	Dean Ford and the Gaylords — J.K. Senators	
9/4 (Sa)	Lobster Pot	Moonbeats — Fortune Tellers	8 to 11.30pm
10/4 (Su)	Plaza	Barons	
15/4 (Fr)	Plaza	Bow Street Runners — Support Band	
15/4	Museum Hall	City Stompers — Moonbeats	
16/4 (Sa)	Sauchie Public Hall	Poets — Support Band	
17/4 (Su)	Plaza	Fortune Tellers	
20/4 (We)	British Legion (Rotunda)	Fortune Tellers — Voodoo Fraction	7.30 to 10pm, 2/-
22/4 (Fr)	Plaza	Dean Ford and the Gaylords — Support Band	
23/4 (Sa)	Lobster Pot	Sundowners — Fortune Tellers	
24/4 (Su)	Plaza	Fortune Tellers	
24/4	Alloa Town Hall	Kinks — Sole Generation	7.30 to 11pm, 7/6
29/4 (Fr)	Plaza	In Crowd — Squad	
29/4	Museum Hall (Stardust)	Meridians — New Dynamos	
1/5 (Su)	Alloa Town Hall (Stardust)	Heinz and the Wild Ones — 20th Century Sounds	
2/5 (Mo)	Plaza	Fortune Tellers	
4/5 (We)	British Legion (Rotunda)	Squad — KCR Folk Trio	2/6
6/5 (Fr)	Plaza	Tony and the Traders — Support Group	
6/5	Pavilion Hotel	Old Bailey and the Jazz Advocates	
6/5	Victoria Hall (Stardust)	Images — Sole Generation	
7/5 (Sa)	Silver Dollar	The Dynamic Heart and Soul	
9/5 (Mo)	Plaza	Fortune Tellers	

<b>Date</b>	<b>The Venue</b>	<b>The Bands</b>	<b>Cost / Duration</b>
11/5 (We)	British Legion (Rotunda)	Citroens — X-Trax	
13/5 (Fri)	Museum Hall (Stardust)	Spencer Davis Group — Satan Change	10pm to 2am, 8/6
13/5	Plaza	20th Century Sounds — Support Band	
14/5 (Sa)	Silver Dollar	Ronnie Clark Showband — Jeannie Moir	
15/5 (Su)	Alloa Town Hall (Stardust)	Cliff Bennett and the Rebel Rousers — Jonos	7.30 to 11pm, 3/-
16/5 (Mo)	Plaza	Fortune Tellers	
18/5 (We)	British Legion (Rotunda)	Citroens — Fortune Tellers	
20/5 (Fr)	Buchlyvie Hall	Ronnie Jones and the Blue Jays — Support Group	9.15pm to 1.30am
20/5	Plaza	Tony and the Traders — Fortune Tellers	
21/5 (Sa)	Museum Hall (Young Farmers)	Locarno Band	
21/5	Silver Dollar	Black Hawks and Tommy Dean	
22/5 (Su)	Boys Club	Squad	
22/5	Alloa Town Hall (Stardust)	Reigning Monarchs — Soul Generation	
23/5 (Mo)	Victoria Hall	Tony River and the Castaways — Squad — Absolute	
23/5	Plaza	Fortune Tellers	
25/5 (We)	British Legion (Rotunda)	Barons — Squad — X-Trax	2/-
27/5 (Fr)	Plaza	Four Just Men	
27/5	Buchlyvie Hall (Stramash)	Chris McClure — X-Trax	
27/5	Museum Hall (Stramash)	Chris McClure — Kleeverz	
27/5	Institute Hall Callander	Golden Crusaders — Executioners	
30/5 (Mo)	Plaza	Fortune Tellers	
1/6 (We)	Falkirk New Town Hall	Small Faces — Soul Generation — Squad	8pm to Midnight, 7/6

<b>Date</b>	<b>The Venue</b>	<b>The Bands</b>	<b>Cost / Duration</b>
3/6 (Fr)	Plaza	Four Just Men — Fortune Tellers	
3/6	Buchlyvie Hall	Kleeverz — X-Trax	
3/6	Victoria Hall (Stardust)	Undermind — Bo-Weavels — Citroens	10pm to 2am, 6/6
4/6 (Sa)	Museum Hall (Students)	Vipers — Barons	
6/6 (Mo)	Plaza	Fortune Tellers	
8/6 (We)	British Legion (Rotunda)	Citreons	
10/6 (Fr)	Victoria Hall (Stardust)	Soul Generation — 20th Century Sounds	
10/6	Killearn Village Hall (Stramash)	Judy Murphy and the Drumbeats — X- Trax	
10/6	Institute Hall Callander (Stramash)	Judy Murphy and the Drumbeats — Citreons	
10/6	Plaza	Tony and the Traders — Fortune Tellers	
11/6 (Sa)	St Mary's Church Hall (Rotunda)	Fortune Tellers	
13/6 (Mo)	Plaza	Fortune Tellers	
15/6 (We)	British Legion (Flamingo)	Citreons	
17/6 (Fr)	Plaza	20th Century Sounds — Citroens	
17/6	Victoria Hall (Stardust)	Mindbenders — Four Just Men	10pm to 2am, 7/6
20/6 (Mo)	Plaza	Fortune Tellers	
22/6 (We)	British Legion (Flamingo)	Barons	2/6
24/6 (Fr)	Plaza	Trends — Support Band	
24/6	Victoria Hall (Stardust)	Brenda and the Veltones — Images	
24/6	Institute Hall Callander	Executioners	
29/6 (We)	British Legion (Flamingo)	Inspirations	
1/7 (Fr)	Plaza	Four Just Men — Support Band	

<b>Date</b>	<b>The Venue</b>	<b>The Bands</b>	<b>Cost / Duration</b>
1/7	Victoria Hall (Stardust)	Kleeverz — Absolute	
2/7 (Sa)	Sauchie Public Hall	Chris McClure Section	
6/7 (We)	British Legion (Flamingo)	X-Trax	2/6
8/7 (Fr)	Plaza	Golden Crusaders — Support Band	
8/7	Victoria Hall (Stardust)	J.K. Senators — Soul Generation	
8/7	Institute Hall (Callander)	Executioners	
15/7 (Fr)	Plaza	Edinburgh Crusaders — Support Band	
15/7	Victoria Hall (Stardust)	Dean Ford and the Gaylords — Squad	
15/7	Institute Hall Callander	Legal Matter — Executioners	9pm to 1 am, 6/-
22/7 (Fr)	Plaza	Golden Crusaders — Fortune Tellers	
22/7	Victoria Hall (Stardust)	Moody Blues — The Mode	
22/7	Institute Hall Callander	Executioners	
29/7 (Fr)	Plaza	Abstracts — Support Band	
29/7	Alloa Town Hall	Dave Dee, Dozy, Beaky, Mick and Titch — Vikings	10pm to 2am, 8/6
29/7	Institute Hall Callander	Fortune Tellers	
5/8 (Fr)	Plaza	Odds and Ends — Support Band	
5/8	Albert Hall (Stardust)	Four Just Men — Absolute — Support Band	9pm to 1am
12/8 (Fr)	Plaza	Falcons — Support Band	
12/8	Albert Hall (Stardust)	Ivy League — Second Division — Undermind	9pm to 1am, 7/6
12/8	Institute Hall Callander	Citreons — Executioners	
12/8	Pavilion Hotel	The Hawaiian Showband	9.30pm to 1.30am

<b>Date</b>	<b>The Venue</b>	<b>The Bands</b>	<b>Cost / Duration</b>
19/8 (Fr)	Plaza	Golden Crusaders — Support Band	
19/8	Albert Hall (Stardust)	Searchers — Barons	9pm to 1am, 8/6
24/8 (We)	Co-op Hall (Rotunda)	Citreons — Support Band	
26/8 (Fr)	Plaza	Beatstalkers — 20th Century Sounds	
26/8	Albert Hall	Abstracts — Satan Change	
27/8 (Sa)	Maitland Hall Whins of Milton, (Boating Club)	Metronomes — Impact	
31/8 (We)	Falkirk New Town Hall	Fritz — Soul Generation — Undermind	
31/8	Co-op Hall (Rotunda)	Squad — Support Band	
2/9 (Fr)	Plaza	Golden Crusaders — Support Band	
2/9	Victoria Hall (Stardust)	Kleeverz — Wanted	
9/9 (Fr)	Alloa Town Hall	Beatstalkers — Vikings — Mode	
16/9 (Fr)	Victoria Hall (Stardust)	Bo-Weavels — Kleeverz	
23/9 (Fr)	Alloa Town Hall (Stardust)	Crispin St Peter's — Puppets — Frantic Fritz — Soul Generation	10pm to 2pm, 8/6
23/9	Pavilion Hotel	Blue Sabres Showband	
25/9 (Su)	Boys Club	Inspirations	
30/9 (Fr)	Alloa Town Hall (Stardust)	Merseys — Fruit Eating Teddies — Beatstalkers — 20th Century Sounds	
30/9	Pavilion Hotel	Modernaires	
2/10 (Su)	Ivanhoe Centre (Rotunda)	Fortune Tellers — Zound — Klan Mod	
7/10 (Fr)	Victoria Hall (Stardust)	Carnaby Set — Absolute	
7/10	Pavilion Hotel	Blue Sabres	
9/10 (Su)	Ivanhoe Centre (Rotunda)	Executioners — Zound	
9/10	Boys Club	Inspirations — Citreons	

<b>Date</b>	<b>The Venue</b>	<b>The Bands</b>	<b>Cost / Duration</b>
14/10 (Fr)	Alloa Town Hall	Poets — Senators	
15/10 (Sa)	Holy Trinity Church Hall (Scouts)	Tyme — Klan Mod	7.30 to 11pm, 3/6
16/10 (Su)	Ivanhoe Centre (Rotunda)	Fortune Tellers — Klan Mod	
21/10 (Fr)	Alloa Town Hall (Stardust)	Hi-Fi Combo — Kleeverz	
22/10 (Sa)	Golden Lion Hotel	Corries	8-11.30pm, 12/6
23/10 (Su)	Ivanhoe Centre (Rotunda)	Barons — Zound	
28/10 (Fr)	Victoria Hall (Stardust)	Bo-Weavels — Support Band	
29/10 (Sa)	Ivanhoe Centre (Latina Enterprise Halloween dance)	Fortune Tellers	7.30-11pm, 3/-
29/10	Lobster Pot	Midnight Sect	
30/10 (Su)	Ivanhoe Centre (Rotunda)	Unique — Young Ones	
4/11 (Fr)	Victoria Hall (Stardust)	Hedgehoppers Anonymous — Senators	
4/11	Ivanhoe Centre (Latina)	Fortune Tellers	
4/11	Pavilion Hotel	Treble Tones	
6/11 (Su)	Ivanhoe Centre (Latina)	Fortune Tellers — Oryx	
11/11 (Fr)	Victoria Hall (Stardust)	20th Century Sounds — Support Band	
11/11	Pavilion Hotel	Odd fellows	
12/11 (Sa)	Holy Trinity (Scouts)	Tyme	
13/11 (Su)	Ivanhoe Centre (Latina)	Citreons — Klan Mod	
18/11 (Fri)	Victoria Hall (Stardust)	Overlanders — Abstracts	

<b>Date</b>	<b>The Venue</b>	<b>The Bands</b>	<b>Cost / Duration</b>
18/11	Ivanhoe Centre (Latina)	Oryx	
19/11 (Sa)	Lobster Pot	Secrets	
20/11 (Su)	Ivanhoe Centre (Latina)	Squad — Support Band	
25/11 (Fri)	Pavilion Hotel	Blue Sabres	
25/11	Ivanhoe Centre (Latina)	Bo-Weavels — Fortune Tellers	
2/12 (Fr)	Hawaiian Eye	Barons	9pm to 1am, 6/-
2/12	Lobster Pot	Midnight Sect	8pm to midnight, Free to members, 2/6 to join.
2/12	Pavilion Hotel	Blue Sabres	
3/12 (Sa)	Sauchie Public Hall	Chris McClure Section	
9/12 (Fr)	Victoria Hall (Stardust)	Rocking Vickers — Four Just Men	
9/12	Pavilion Hotel	Blue Sabres	
9/12	Ivanhoe Centre (Latina)	Oryx	
9/12	Hawaiian Eye	Barons	
10/12 (Sa)	Holy Trinity (Scouts)	Tyme	
10/12	Lobster Pot	Absolute	
16/12 (Fr)	Hawaiian Eye	Pathfinders	
16/12	Pavilion Hotel	Blue Sabres	
17/12 (Sa)	Lobster Pot	Fortune Tellers	
18/12 (Su)	Ivanhoe Centre (Latina)	Oryx	
22/12 (Th)	Scout Hall	Tyme	3/-
23/12 (Fr)	Pavilion Hotel	Veltones	
23/12	Victoria Hall (Stardust)	Dum De Dum — Undermind	
23/12	Hawaiian Eye	Fortune Tellers	9pm to 1am, 6/-

<b>Date</b>	<b>The Venue</b>	<b>The Bands</b>	<b>Cost / Duration</b>
24/12 (Sa)	New Church Hall Fallin	Fortune Tellers	7.30 to 11pm, 3/6
24/12	Sauchie Public Hall	Chris McClure Section — Support Band	
24/12	Falkirk New Town Hall	Chris McClure Section — Blue Sabres	
30/12 (Fr)	Victoria Hall (Stardust)	Freddie Mack and the Macksound — Ninety Nine Percent — Soul Generation	
30/12	Pavilion Hotel	Chessmen's Showband	

This year the band names that stand out are, Dum De Dum, Fruit Eating Teddies, Bo-Weavels and the X-rays.

The well known chart bands that played at local venues this year were, the Four Pennies, Fourmost, Zombies and Them at the Plaza, the Fortunes and Spencer Davis at the Museum Hall, Cliff Bennett and the Rebel Rousers, Kinks, Dave Dee and the Merseybeats at Alloa Town Hall, the Small Faces at Falkirk Town Hall, the Ivy League and Searchers at the Albert Hall and the Moody Blues at the Victoria Hall. The dance at the Albert Hall on 12th of August featuring the Ivy League was the first dance to be held for 8 years in this venue.

Some of those chart bands played more than one venue on the same night, they would play at a venue earlier in the evening for a couple of hours, pack up and then move on to a venue with late night dancing. Good money!

This year dancing at the Plaza gradually reduced, then in September it stopped completely. After 20 years, 'Dancing at the Plaza' was no more. From July through to September it had held only a late night dance on a Friday. It then closed for a few months, the adverts during that time stating 'No Dancing Meantime'. A bit ingenuous, as it re-opened on the 22nd of November as a bingo hall. Obviously bingo was a better revenue earner than dancing!



The Silver Dollar stopped advertising in May of this year. It is assumed that it closed down. Having been opened since the 6th of April the Hawaiian Eye Disco had its first live band on the 2nd of December, so disco wasn't quite king yet!

On most weekends during this year there was a reasonable choice of dance venues for a young adult to go to. At certain times of the year there were fewer dances on a Saturday. An example was the Plaza, who had none after January. Their open nights were Friday and Sunday and eventually Friday and Monday until it closed completely for dancing later in the year. Saturday nights tended to be when the youth clubs and Boys Brigade or Scouts etc held dances in their own halls, church halls or other smaller venues.

Some of the venues required you to take out a membership. An example was the Pavilion Hotel in Aberfoyle, where if you were a member you would pay 6/6 entry, if not you would pay 7/6 or 8/6.



Other venues that required a membership were the Silver Dollar, Rotunda and Lobster Pot to name just a few.

For older adults there were dinner dances held in various local hotels such as the Golden Lion, King Robert, The Sword and Dunblane Hydro. The Sword held regular weekend dances with the Ramsey Scott Four providing the music. A couple of ex Moonbeats played with this band.

There were country music clubs and folk clubs for those who enjoyed that genre of music. One well known local country band that had a big following were The Rustics.

There was also a folk scene in the area where Stirling Folk Club played host to many well known folk artists. The Museum Hall for a short time held cabaret evenings where there was a selection of different bands playing different genres of music to suit all tastes.

Some promoters held dances in more than one location. One of them, 'Stardust', held dances at various large halls around the Stirling area and were able to book some well known UK bands. Those events could, however, affect attendance at the smaller venues holding dances on the same night.

Some of the local bands played regularly at particular venues. The Kimbos, The Barons and The Fortune Tellers were at The Plaza. The Chevrons and the Blue Sabres were at the Pavilion Hotel and The Executioners were at the Institute Hall Callander.

It's notable from the lists that there were fewer events during the summer months. However, a few of the bands got to play at outdoor gala's and festivals. It was a great experience, but due to the open air environment the sound produced could be different from that heard in an enclosed hall. It was all part of the learning experience.

At the end of '66 there were very few events with 'Beat Group' involvement. Earlier in the year the Plaza and Silver Dollar had still been open, but those dance venues had ceased operating by the end of the year leading to this reduction. Most of the adverts in the local paper at the end of '66 highlighted that this was the time of year for dinner dances and ceilidhs.

## 1967

<b>Date</b>	<b>The Venue</b>	<b>The Bands</b>	<b>Cost / Duration</b>
2/1 (Mo)	Pavilion Hotel	Blue Sabres	
6/1 (Fr)	Hawaiian Eye	Poets	
6/1	Pavilion Hotel	Power Set Showband	
7/1 (Sat)	Holy Trinity (Scouts)	Tyme — Critix	
13/1 (Fr)	Albert Hall (Stardust)	Peter and Gordon — Vipers — Kleeverz	
13/1	Hawaiian Eye	Studio 6111	
13/1	Pavilion Hotel	Blue Sabres	
14/1 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Blue Sabres — Tyme	8 to 11.30pm, 7/6

<b>Date</b>	<b>The Venue</b>	<b>The Bands</b>	<b>Cost / Duration</b>
20/1 (Fr)	Albert Hall (Stardust)	Absolute — Hi -Fi Combo — Oryx	
20/1	Pavilion Hotel	Ardennes Showband	
21/1 (Sa)	Lobster Pot	Sweet Thoughts	
21/1	Holy Trinity (Scouts)	Tyme — Critix	
27/1 (Fr)	Pavilion Hotel	Blue Sabres	
28/1 (Sa)	Museum Hall	Caribbeans	
28/1	Boating Club (Barn Dance)	Metronomes	
29/1 (Su)	Alloa Town Hall	Undermind — Soul Generation	
1/2 (We)	Albert Hall (Radio Scotland Clan Mod)	<u>1st advert</u> - Playmates — Beatstalkers — Bo-Weavels — V.I.P. — Motown Scene. <u>2nd advert</u> - Normy Rowe and the Playboys - Beatstalkers — Bo-Weavels — V.I.P. — Motown Scene. <u>3rd advert</u> - Beatstalkers — Bo-Weavels — Vipers — Sweet Thoughts — Gaels Blue — Motown Scene	
3/2 (Fr)	Victoria Hall (Stardust)	Billie Davies and the Quality — Ravens	
3/2	Hawaiian Eye	Hi-Fi Combo	
3/2	Pavilion Hotel	Power Set	
10/2 (Fr)	Victoria Hall (Stardust)	Gaels Blue — Sole Generation	
10/2	Hawaiian Eye	Poets	
10/2	Pavilion Hotel	Blue Sabres	
11/2 (Sa)	Boating Club (Barn Dance)	Metronomes	
17/2 (Fr)	Victoria Hall (Stardust)	Shadettes — Squad	
17/2	Raploch Community Centre	Executioners	
17/2	Pavilion Hotel	Blue Sabres	

<b>Date</b>	<b>The Venue</b>	<b>The Bands</b>	<b>Cost / Duration</b>
18/2 (Sa)	Holy Trinity (Scouts)	Tyme — Critix	
20/2 (Mo)	Dobbie Hall (Radio Scotland Clan Mod)	Cat Stevens — Tony Rivers and the Castaways — Pathfinders — Squad — Gaels Blue	
23/2 (Th)	Hawaiian Eye	Studio Six	
24/2 (Fr)	Cochrane Hall (Stardust)	Hi-Fi Combo — Squad	10pm to 2am, 6/6
24/2	Pavilion Hotel	Judy Murray and the Drumbeats	
25/2 (Sa)	Boating Club (Barn Dance)	Metronomes	
25/2	Youth House ( North Church Youth Club)	Klan Mod	
1/3 (We)	Albert Hall (Radio Scotland Clan Mod)	Studio Six — Vipers — Dum De Dum — Squad — Soul Generation — Stag Party	8pm to midnight, 6/-
3/3 (Fr)	Alloa Town Hall (Stardust)	Beatstalkers — Shadettes — Dum De Dum	
3/3	Pavilion Hotel	Mark Jensen and the Jaguars	
4/3 (Sa)	Holy Trinity (Scouts)	Tyme — Critix	
10/3 (Fr)	Victoria Hall (Stardust)	Poets — Shadettes — Stag Party	
11/3 (Sa)	Burghmuir Pavilion (Scouts)	Tyme — Support Band	
17/3 (Fri)	Victoria Hall	Shadettes — Dum De Dum — Soul Generation	
24/3 (Fr)	Victoria Hall	Blaze — Young Front	
25/3 (Sa)	T.A. Hall (Scouts)	Tyme — Support Band	
31/3 (Fr)	Victoria Hall	Pathfinders — Sweet Thoughts	
4/4 (Tu)	Falkirk New Town Hall (Ice Cream Alliance)	Soul Generation — Barons	

<b>Date</b>	<b>The Venue</b>	<b>The Bands</b>	<b>Cost / Duration</b>
7/4 (Fr)	Museum Hall (Edinburgh Students Charity)	Becket and Sons — L.S.D	
7/4	Victoria Hall	Billie Davis and the Quality — Side Two	
7/4	Hawaiian Eye	Studio Six	
14/4 (Fr)	Hawaiian Eye	Just George	
14/4	Victoria Hall	Vipers — Regent Five	
21/4 (Fr)	Hawaiian Eye	Memphis Soul Band	
21/4	Victoria Hall	Pat'r Four	
28/4 (Fr)	Hawaiian Eye	Barn Street Blues	
29/4 (Sa)	Sauchie Public Hall (Jaguar)	Cliff Bennet and the Rebel Rousers — X-Trax	
5/5 (Fr)	Hawaiian Eye	Pathfinders	
5/5	Victoria Hall	Pathfinders — Soul Generation	
6/5 (Sa)	Maitland Hall	Trap — Go Go Dancers	
6/5	Royal Hotel (Boating Club)	Metronomes	
12/5 (Fr)	Hawaiian Eye	Hi-Fi Combo	
12/5	Victoria Hall	Rite Tyme	
13/5 (Sa)	Maitland Hall	Tommy Irvine and the Generation	9pm to 1am
13/5	Holy Trinity (Scouts)	Tyme — Support Band	
19/5 (Fr)	Hawaiian Eye	Haze	
19/5	Cochrane Hall	Herd — Vipers — Pat'r Four	10pm to 2am
20/5 (Sa)	Holy Trinity (Scouts)	Tyme — Support Band	
20/5	Wheatsheaf	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
20/5	Royal Hotel (Boating Club)	Metronomes	
26/5 (Fr)	Hawaiian Eye	Gladiators	
26/5	Pavilion Hotel	Dolly Rocker Band	
26/5	Victoria Hall	Studio Six — Spellbinders — Support Band	

<b>Date</b>	<b>The Venue</b>	<b>The Bands</b>	<b>Cost / Duration</b>
28/5 (Su)	Rob Roy Motel	Tommy Maxwell and the Quartet	
2/6 (Fr)	Alloa Town Hall	Cat Stevens — George Bean and the Runners — Nite Time — Foundation	
2/6	Hawaiian Eye	Basin Street Blues	
9/6 (Fr)	Hawaiian Eye	Just George	
9/6	Alloa Town Hall	Move — Gaels Blue — Heraldic Decoration	
16/6 (Fr)	Pavilion Hotel	Falcons	
16/6	Hawaiian Eye	Bo-Weavels	
16/6	Alloa Town Hall	Bee Gees — Heraldic Decoration — Soul Generation	10pm to 2pm, 8/6
17/6	T.A. Hall (Scouts)	Tyme	
23/6 (Fr)	Victoria Hall	Rite Tyme	
23/6	Pavilion Hotel	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
23/6	Wheatsheaf (Forth Valley Journalists)	Devon Showband	
24/6 (Sa)	T.A. Hall (Scouts)	Tyme	
30/6 (Fr)	Hawaiian Eye	Gladiators	
30/6	Pavilion Hotel	Dum De Dum	
30/6	Alloa Town Hall (Radio Scotland Clan Mod)	Studio Six — Rite Time — Absolute — Soul Society	
7/7 (Fr)	Hawaiian Eye	Poets	
7/7	Wheatsheaf (Camera Club)	Astoria Dance Band	
7/7	Victoria Hall	Gaels Blue — Heraldic Decoration	
8/1 (Sa)	Museum Hall	Hawaiian Showband	8 to 11.30pm
14/7 (Fr)	Pavilion Hotel	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
14/7	Hawaiian Eye	Purple Haze	
14/7	Victoria Hall	Rite Tyme	
15/7 (Sa)	Museum Hall	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	

<b>Date</b>	<b>The Venue</b>	<b>The Bands</b>	<b>Cost / Duration</b>
21/7 (Fr)	Hawaiian Eye	Crumble	
21/7	Pavilion Hotel	Dum De Dum	
22/7 (Sa)	Museum Hall	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
28/7 (Fr)	Pavilion Hotel	Earl Blue Stars	
28/7	Hawaiian Eye	Bo-Weavels	
28/7	Victoria Hall	'Dance was advertised but no bands identified'	
29/7 (Sa)	Museum Hall	Hawaiian Showband	
4/8 (Fr)	Victoria Hall	Throb — Gaels Blue	
4/8	Pavilion Hotel	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
11/8 (Fr)	Victoria Hall	Robert Plant and his band of Joy — Rite Tyme	10pm to 2am, 6/6
11/8	Pavilion Hotel	Chessmen	
11/8	Hawaiian Eye	Secrets	
13/8 (Su)	Golden Lion	Dolly Rocker Band	
18/8 (Fr)	Hawaiian Eye	Heenan Froud Set	
18/8	Victoria Hall	Soul Society — Support Band	
18/8	Pavilion Hotel	Dolly Rocker Band	
25/8 (Fr)	Hawaiian Eye	Purple Haze	
25/8	Victoria Hall	Mindbenders — Poets — Vipers	10pm to 2am
25/8	Pavilion Hotel	Dum De Dum	Change of hours to 9.30pm to 12.30
26/8 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	8 to 11.30pm, 7/6
27/8 (Su)	Golden Lion	Ronnie Clark Big Sound	7.30 to 10.30pm, 3/6
1/9 (Fr)	Hawaiian Eye	Zzebady Zix	
1/9	Victoria Hall	Richard Kent Style — Absolute	
1/9	Pavilion Hotel	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
1/9	Golden Lion	Chessmen	9pm to 1am
3/9 (Su)	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
8/9 (Fr)	Hawaiian Eye	Verge	

<b>Date</b>	<b>The Venue</b>	<b>The Bands</b>	<b>Cost / Duration</b>
8/9	Victoria Hall	Gravediggers — Soul Society	
8/9	Pavilion Hotel	Chessmen	
10/9 (Su)	Golden Lion	Tommy Dean and the Black Hawks	
15/9 (Fr)	Museum Hall (Radio Scotland Road Show)	Poets — Zzebady Zix	9pm to 1am, 7/6
15/9	Pavilion Hotel	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
15/9	Victoria Hall	Gaels Blue — Haze	
16/9 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
16/9	Hawaiian Eye	Purple Haze	
22/9 (Fr)	Hawaiian Eye	Crumble	
22/9	Victoria Hall	Spectrum — Sleepy People	
22/9	Pavilion Hotel	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
23/9 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Dolly Rocker Band	
24/9 (Su)	Golden Lion	Eyes Are Blue	
29/9 (Fr)	Hawaiian Eye	Heenan Froud Set	
29/9	Alloa Town Hall	Gipsey Showband	
29/9	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
29/9	Pavilion Hotel	Dum De Dum	
1/10 (Su)	Golden Lion	Chessmen	
6/10 (Fr)	Hawaiian Eye	Zzebady Zix	
6/10	Victoria Hall	Absolute — Haze	
7/10 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Earl Blue Stars	
7/10	Bannockburn Town Hall (Scouts)	Fortune Tellers	
8/10 (Su)	Golden Lion	Ronnie Clark Big Sound	
13/10 (Fr)	Hawaiian Eye	Zzebady Zix	
13/10	Victoria Hall	Three's A Crowd — Raving Circle	
14/10 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
15/10 (Su)	Golden Lion	Dolly Rocker Showband	

<b>Date</b>	<b>The Venue</b>	<b>The Bands</b>	<b>Cost / Duration</b>
20/10 (Fr)	Hawaiian Eye	Heenan Froud Set	
20/10	Victoria Hall	Absolute — This Side Up	
21/10 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
22/10 (Su)	Golden Lion	Country Cousins — Sunset Culture	
27/10 (Fr)	Hawaiian Eye	Foundation	
27/10	Pavilion Hotel	Heenan Froud Set	
28/10 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
29/10 (Su)	Golden Lion	Southside Dance Band	
3/11 (Fr)	Hawaiian Eye	Hunters	
3/11	Wheatsheaf (Camera Club)	Fortune Tellers	
4/11 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Hawes	
4/11	Fallin Church Hall	Fortune Tellers	
5/11 (Su)	Hawaiian Eye	Verge	
5/11	Golden Lion	Sockam J B	
10/11 (Fr)	Hawaiian Eye	Poets	
10/11	Boys Club	Honey Machine Group	
11/11 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
12/11 (Su)	Golden Lion	Big Dee Sound	
17/11 (Fr)	Hawaiian Eye	Bo-Weavels	
18/11 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Trojans and Helen	
18/11	Royal Hotel (Boating Club)	Metronomes	
19/11 (Su)	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
24/11 (Fr)	Hawaiian Eye	Motion	
25/11 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
26/11 (Su)	Golden Lion	Ronnie Clark Big Sound	
1/12 (Fr)	Hawaiian Eye	Foundation	
2/12 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Hawes	
3/12 (Su)	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	



Date	The Venue	The Bands	Cost / Duration
8/12 (Fr)	Hawaiian Eye	Verge	
9/12 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Stag Party	
9/12	Fallin Church Hall	Fortune Tellers	
10/12 (Su)	Golden Lion	Nightingale Steel Band	
15/12 (Fri)	Hawaiian Eye	Heenan Froud Set	
16/12 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
17/12 (Su)	Golden Lion	Big D Sound	
22/12 (Fr)	Victoria Hall	Beatstalkers — This Side Up	
23/12 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
24/12 (Su)	Golden Lion	Riot Squad	
25/12 (Mo)	Museum Hall (Scouts Xmas Ball)	‘Two bands quoted, none identified’	
29/12 (Fr)	Museum Hall	Absolute — Support Band	
29/12	Hawaiian Eye	Foundation	
29/12	Victoria Hall	Brotherhood Showband	
30/12 (Sa)	Albert Hall	Merry Macs Showband	
30/12	Sauchie Town Hall	Bo-Weavels	
30/12	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
31/12 (Su)	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	

This year’s candidate for band name of the year is surely ‘George Bean and the Runners’. Brilliant! Another of the crazy names was the Zzebody Zix.

At the Victoria Hall a future superstar with Led Zeppelin appeared. Robert Plant took the stage with his own band The Band of Joy. Also playing this year at the Victoria Hall were The Mindbenders and The Move. The Bee Gees and Cat Stevens played at Alloa Town Hall and Cliff Bennett and the Rebel Rousers played at Sauchie Public Hall.



The Golden Lion became a major ‘beat group’ dance venue this year with weekly dances on a Saturday and Sunday. The venue required that men wore a shirt, tie and jacket. The dances were held to support various charities and organisations.

The 20th of May was the first advert where Alex Hamilton was identified as front man for the Blue Sabres.

Bands with regular venue bookings this year were the Tyme for the Scouts, Metronomes for the Boating Club and Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres at both the Pavilion Hotel and Golden Lion. Although live music for dancing in the Plaza had ceased in September of 1966, they started Sunday Cabaret sessions in its new guise as a bingo hall. Those cabaret nights did not last long and bingo resumed.

A new event this year was when Radio Scotland (*the pirate radio station, not the BBC*) held dances throughout the area under the banner 'Clan Mod'. They were generally held on a weekday. The first of those events at the Albert Hall saw the line up change on three occasions before it took place. Booking agents nightmare no doubt!



There were also more jazz events advertised, firstly at the Riverways, then at the Wheatsheaf. The resident jazz band was Old Bailey and his Jazz Advocates. Occasionally, George Penman and his Jazzmen made an appearance.

This year there was a definite reduction in the number of venues hosting 'beat groups' compared to 1966, also fewer well known UK bands visited the area.

## 1968

Date	The Venue	The Bands	Cost / Duration
2/1 (Tu)	Gateway (Concorde Beer Garden)	Fourth Dimension	
5/1 (Fr)	Wheatsheaf (Ski Club)	'No Band Named'	
6/1 (Sa)	Sauchie Public Hall (Jaguar)	Chris McClure Section	
6/1	Golden Lion	Reigning Monarchs Show Band	
7/1 (Su)	Golden Lion	Big D Sound	
12/1 (Fr)	Hawaiian Eye	Fortune Tellers	9pm to 1am
13/1 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
14/1 (Su)	Golden Lion	Dolly Rocker Band	
15/1 (Mo)	Hawaiian Eye	Bo- Weavels	8 to 11.30pm
19/1 (Sa)	Golden Lion (Ski Club)	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
19/1	Hawaiian Eye	Poets	

<b>Date</b>	<b>The Venue</b>	<b>The Bands</b>	<b>Cost / Duration</b>
20/1 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Hawks	
21/1 (Su)	Golden Lion	Ardennes	
22/1 (Mo)	Hawaiian Eye	Bo-Weavels	
24/1 (We)	Hawaiian Eye	Bo-Weavels	
26/1 (Fr)	Hawaiian Eye	Beatstalkers	
27/1 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
28/1 (Su)	Golden Lion	Kimbos	
31/1 (We)	Hawaiian Eye	Bo-Weavels	
2/2 (Fr)	Hawaiian Eye	Pathfinders	
3/2 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
3/2	Sauchie Public Hall (Jaguar)	Studio Six — Crumble	
4/2 (Su)	Golden Lion	Nightingale Steel Band	
9/2 (Fr)	Hawaiian Eye	Scots of St James	
10/2 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
11/2 (Su)	Golden Lion	Big D Sound	
16/2 (Fr)	Hawaiian Eye	Paper Chase	
16/2	Victoria Hall	Absolute — Midnight Sect	10.30pm to 2.30am, 6/6
16/2	Kippen Public Hall	Roosters	
17/2 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
17/2	Gateway	Paper Chase	
17/2	North Church Hall (BB)	Fortune Tellers	
18/2 (Su)	Golden Lion	Dolly Rocker Band	
23/2 (Fr)	Hawaiian Eye	Foundation	
24/2 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Ardennes	
24/2	Wheatsheaf (NUJ)	'No Band Named'	
24/2	Sauchie Public Hall	Rhythm and Blues Incorporated — Support Band	

<b>Date</b>	<b>The Venue</b>	<b>The Bands</b>	<b>Cost / Duration</b>
25/2 (Su)	Golden Lion	Tony and the Traders	
1/3 (Fr)	Hawaiian Eye	Dream People	
1/3	Victoria Hall	Dream Police — Raggy Tram Lines	
2/3 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
3/3 (Su)	Golden Lion	Ronnie Clark Big Sound	
8/3 (Fr)	Victoria Hall	Rite Tyme	
8/3	Hawaiian Eye	Foundation	
9/3 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
10/3 (Su)	Golden Lion	Dolly Rocker Band	
15/3 (Fr)	Hawaiian Eye	Verge	
15/3	Victoria Hall	Wells Henry Sect — Pang Projections	
16/3 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Hawks	
16/3	Fallin Church Hall	Prize Chunks	
16/3	Sauchie Public Hall (Jaguar)	Chris McClure Section — Oryx	
17/3 (Su)	Golden Lion	Ronnie Clark Big Sound	
22/3 (Fr)	Hawaiian Eye	Growing Concern	
22/3	Victoria Hall	Sunset Culture — Toaste	
23/3 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
23/3	North Church Hall	‘No Band Named’	
23/3	Fallin Church Hall	Fortune Tellers	
24/3 (Su)	Golden Lion	Sir Percy and the Riot Squad	
29/3 (Fr)	Hawaiian Eye	Tardy Host	
29/3	Victoria Hall	Citreons — Resistance Fayre	
30/3 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
31/3 (Su)	Golden Lion	Erle Blue Stars	
5/4 (Fr)	Victoria Hall	Absolute	
5/4	Cochrane Hall	Simon Dupre and the Big Sound — Brian Marshalls Foundation	10pm to 2am, 8/6

<b>Date</b>	<b>The Venue</b>	<b>The Bands</b>	<b>Cost / Duration</b>
5/4	Hawaiian Eye	Rare Breed	
6/4 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
7/4 (Su)	Golden Lion	Big D Sound	
12/4 (Fr)	Hawaiian Eye	Zeke State !!	
12/4	Museum Hall (Edinburgh Students)	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
12/4	Victoria Hall	Dream Police — Churston Deckle Blues Band	
13/4 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Dolly Rocker Band	
13/4	Moray Arms Blackford	Four Dimensions	
13/4	Bannockburn Town Hall	Candy Floss	8.30 to 11.30pm, 5/-
14/4 (Su)	Golden Lion	Dolly Rocker Band	
14/4	Metropolitan Hotel Falkirk	Erle Blue Stars	7.30 to 10.30pm
17/4 (We)	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
19/4 (Fr)	Golden Lion (Ski Club)	Erle Blue Stars	
19/4	Hawaiian Eye	Tardy Host	
20/4 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Memphis Roadrunners	
20/4	Moray Arms	Four Dimensions	
21/4 (Su)	Metropolitan Hotel Falkirk	Ronnie Clark Big Sound	
21/4	Golden Lion	Tony and the Traders	
26/4 (Fr)	Victoria Hall	Sunset Culture — Toaste	
26/4	Hawaiian Eye	Glass Dolls	
26/4	Grangemouth Town Hall	Dream Police	
27/4 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Concordes	
27/4	Royal Hotel	Metronomes	
27/4	Wheatsheaf	Aces	
28/4 (Su)	Golden Lion	Dolly Rocker Band	

<b>Date</b>	<b>The Venue</b>	<b>The Bands</b>	<b>Cost / Duration</b>
1/5 (We)	Golden Lion	Ronnie Clark Big Sound — Heenan Froud Set	
4/5 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
4/5	Wheatsheaf	Four Aces and Tina	
5/5 (Su)	Golden Lion	Dolly Rocker Band	
10/5 (Fr)	Victoria Hall	Vipers — Citreons	
11/5 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
11/5	Wheatsheaf	Four Aces	
12/5 (Su)	Golden Lion	Reigning Monarchs	
17/5 (Fr)	Victoria Hall	Blackhawks — Six Steps Beyond	
18/5 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
18/5	Moray Arms	Peter and the Peppers	
18/5	Fallin Church Hall	Height Ashbury	
19/5 (Su)	Golden Lion	Big D Sound	
24/5 (Fr)	Victoria Hall	Heraldic Decoration — Mad	
24/5	Hawaiian Eye	Jury — Glass Dolls	
25/5 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Reigning Monarchs	
26/5 (Su)	Golden Lion	Dolly Rocker Band	
31/5 (Fr)	Victoria Hall	Bo -Weavels	
31/5	Hawaiian Eye	Hi-Fi Combo — Pattern People	
31/5	Victoria Hall	Bo-Weavels — Pangs Projection	
1/6 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
2/6 (Su)	Golden Lion	Erle Blue Stars	
7/6 (Fr)	Hawaiian Eye	Just Us — Glass Dolls	
7/6	Victoria Hall	Ronnie Clark Big Sound	
7/6	B/burn Masonic Hall	Purple Freeze	
8/6 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
9/6 (Su)	Golden Lion	Ronnie Clark Big Sound	
14/6 (Fr)	Victoria Hall	Macbeth Periscope — Haight Ashbury	

<b>Date</b>	<b>The Venue</b>	<b>The Bands</b>	<b>Cost / Duration</b>
15/6 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
16/6 (Su)	Golden Lion	Dolly Rocker Band	
21/6 (Fr)	Victoria Hall	Chris McClure Section — Citreons	
22/6 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Reigning Monarchs	
22/6	Sauchie Public Hall	Chris McClure Section — Oryx	
23/6 (Su)	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
25/6 (Tu)	Dobbie Hall	Love Affair — Emelaland Show Band — Tommy Bishop and the Rock and Roll Revival	
28/6 (Fr)	Golden Lion	Reigning Monarchs	
28/6	Victoria Hall	Poets — Sugar Beats	
29/6 (Sa)	Sauchie Public Hall (Jaguar)	Fiction	
29/6	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
5/7 (Fr)	Victoria Hall	Dream Police — Six Steps Beyond	
5/7	Douglas Hotel	Go-Go Dancers	
5/7	Hawaiian Eye	Bo-Weavels	
6/7 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
6/7	Douglas Hotel	Growing Concern	
7/7 (Su)	Golden Lion	Erle Blue Stars	
7/7	Douglas Hotel	Oryx	
12/7 (Fr)	Victoria Hall	Bo-Weavels — Citreons	
12/7	Douglas Hotel	Oryx	
13/7 (Sa)	Sauchie Public Hall	Poets — Support Band	
13/7	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
13/7	Douglas Hotel	Prize Chunks	
14/7 (Su)	Golden Lion	Ronnie Clark Big Sound	
19/7 (Fr)	Victoria Hall	Stoics — Absolute	
20/7 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Reigning Monarchs	

<b>Date</b>	<b>The Venue</b>	<b>The Bands</b>	<b>Cost / Duration</b>
20/7	Sauchie Public Hall (Jaguar)	Oryx — Federation	
21/7 (Su)	Golden Lion	Dolly Rocker Band	
26/7	Victoria Hall	Writing on the Wall — Go-Go Dancers — Forever Amber	
27/7	Golden Lion	Steve Thomas System	
28/7	Golden Lion	Bermudians Steel Band	
2/8	Victoria Hall	Dream Police — Dum De Dum	
3/8	Sauchie Public Hall (Jaguar)	Mode	
3/8	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
4/8	Golden Lion	Ronnie Clark Big Sound	
9/8 (Fr)	Victoria Hall	Ronnie Clark Big Sound	
10/8 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
10/8	Sauchie Public Hall (Jaguar)	Conchords	
11/8 (Su)	Golden Lion	Kimbos	
16/8 (Fr)	Victoria Hall	Poets — Executioners	
17/8 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Kimbos	
17/8	Dobbie Hall	Bo-Weavels — Brian Marshalls Foundation	8 to 11.30pm, 6/-
18/8 (Su)	Golden Lion	Ronnie Clark Big Sound	
23/8 (Fr)	Victoria Hall	Stoics — Sugar Beats	
24/8 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
25/8 (Su)	Golden Lion	Steve Thomas System	
30/8 (Fr)	Victoria Hall	Dream Police — Jynx	
31/8 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Memphis Roadshow Band	
1/9 (Su)	Golden Lion	Dolly Rocker Band	
6/9 (Fr)	Victoria Hall	Chris McClure Section — Absolute	
7/9 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Heenan Froud Set	
8/9 (Su)	Golden Lion	Sir Percy and the Riot Squad	
13/9 (Fr)	Victoria Hall	Stoics — Citreons	



<b>Date</b>	<b>The Venue</b>	<b>The Bands</b>	<b>Cost / Duration</b>
14/9 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
15/9 (Su)	Golden Lion	Dolly Rocker Band	
20/9 (Fr)	Victoria Hall	Power of Music — Oryx	
21/9 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
22/9 (Su)	Golden Lion	Chris McClure Section	
27/9 (Fr)	Victoria Hall	Bo-Weavels — Jynx	
27/9	Falkirk Town Hall	Gino Washington and the Ram Jam Band — Brian Marshall's Foundation — Absolute	10pm to 2am, 10/-
28/9 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Gill Todd and the Teetees	
29/9 (Su)	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
4/10 (Fr)	Victoria Hall	Stoics — Pipe Dream	
5/10 (Sa)	Sauchie Public Hall (Jaguar)	Stoics — Support Band	
5/10	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
6/10 (Su)	Golden Lion	Sir Percy and the Riot Squad	
11/10 (Fr)	Cochrane Hall	Stoics — Dum De Dum	
12/10 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
12/10	Sauchie Public Hall (Jaguar)	Writing on the Wall — Support Band	
13/10 (Su)	Golden Lion	Heenan Froud Set	
15/10 (Tu)	Falkirk Town Hall	Jimmy James and the Vagabonds — Brian Marshall's Foundation — Haze — Procession	9pm to 2am, 12/6
19/10 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Dolly Rocker Band	
19/10	Sauchie Public Hall	Pathfinders	
20/10 (Su)	Golden Lion	Dolly Rocker Band	
25/10 (Fr)	Cochrane Hall	Chris McClure Section — Dum De Dum	
26/10 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Ronnie Clark Big Sound	
26/10	Sauchie Public Hall	Dream Police — Grecos People	
27/10 (Su)	Golden Lion	Ronnie Clark Big Sound	

<b>Date</b>	<b>The Venue</b>	<b>The Bands</b>	<b>Cost / Duration</b>
1/11 (Fr)	Cochrane Hall (Jaguar)	Dream Police — Support Band	
2/11 (Sa)	Sauchie Public Hall (Jaguar)	Beatstalkers — Support Band	
2/11	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
3/11 (Su)	Golden Lion	No Band Named'	
5/11 (Tu)	Cambusbarron Youth Club	Glen G's	
8/11 (Fr)	Cochrane Hall (Jaguar)	Stoics — Love Department	
9/11 (Sa)	Sauchie Public Hall	Kimbos Show Band	
9/11	Golden Lion	Riot Squad	
9/11	North Church	Crumble	
10/11 (Su)	Golden Lion	Chris McClure Section	
15/11 (Fr)	Cochrane Hall	Power of Music — Defecting Grey	
16/11 (Sa)	Sauchie Public Hall (Jaguar)	Writing on the Wall — Jynx	
16/11	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
17/11 (Su)	Golden Lion	Heenan Froud Set	
23/11 (Sa)	Golden Lion	'No Band Named'	
23/11	Sauchie Public Hall (Jaguar)	Ronnie Clark Big Sound	
24/11 (Su)	Golden Lion	Dolly Rocker Band	
30/11 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
30/11	Holy Trinity (Scouts)	Fortune Tellers	
1/12 (Su)	Golden Lion	Dolly Rocker Band	
7/12 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
7/12	Sauchie Public Hall	Stoics — Cream Puff War	
7/12	Scout Hall	Blue Horizon	
7/12	Boating Club	Metronomes	
8/12 (Su)	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	

<b>Date</b>	<b>The Venue</b>	<b>The Bands</b>	<b>Cost / Duration</b>
14/12 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Dolly Rocker Band	
14/12	Sauchie Public Hall	Pathfinders — Crumble	
15/12 (Su)	Golden Lion	Heenan Froud Set	
21/12 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Riot Squad	
21/12	Wheatsheaf	Bermudian Calypso Band	
22/12 (Su)	Golden Lion	Riot Squad	
24/12 (Tu)	Museum Hall (Scouts)	‘Two bands, none named’	
24/12	Golden Lion	St Louis Union — Dum De Dum	
25/12 (We)	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
28/12 (Sa)	Golden Lion	‘No Band Named’	
29/12 (Su)	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	

This was a good year for wacky band names such as, Raggy Tram Lines, Cream Puff War, Gill Todd and the Teetees, Pangs Projection, Tardy Host, Candy Floss and Macbeth Periscope. I wish I knew how they came up with such names!

The well known chart bands that played in the area this year were, Love Affair at the Dobbie Hall and Gino Washington and the Ram Jam Band and Jimmy James and the Vagabonds at Falkirk Town Hall. Well known UK bands playing locally was much reduced in number from previous years.

Bands with regular venue bookings were Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres still going strong at the Golden Lion assisted by the Ronnie Clark Big Sound, Heenan Froud Set and the Riot Squad. Other than Ramsey Scott still at the Sword, there were no others.

The Golden Lion had a bumper year with dancing to a ‘beat group’ every week. The Hawaiian Eye had no dances with a ‘beat group’ after July and disco now reigned supreme! The Plaza cabaret sessions had ceased, as did the cabaret sessions in the Museum Hall.

The prominent promoter this year was Jaguar Promotions with events at the Cochrane Hall and Sauchie Public Hall, but they were not booking the chart bands of previous years.

## 1969

Date	The Venue	The Bands	Cost/Duration
2/1 (Th)	Golden Lion	Chris McClure Section	
4/1 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Heenan Froud Set	
5/1 (Su)	Golden Lion	Riot Squad	
11/1 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
11/1	Sauchie Public Hall (Jaguar)	Chris McClure Section — Support Band	
11/1	Wheatsheaf	Kinged Reigns Disco — Go Go Dancers	
12/1 (Su)	Golden Lion	Ronnie Clark Big Sound	
18/1 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Dolly Rocker Band	
18/1	Sauchie Public Hall (Jaguar)	St Louis Union — Support Band	
19/1 (Su)	Golden Lion	Dolly Rocker Band	
22/1 (We)	Falkirk Town Hall	Bandwagon — Brian Marshall Foundation — Chapter Six	
25/1 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
25/1	Sauchie Public Hall (Jaguar)	Oryx	
26/1 (Su)	Golden Lion	Steve Thomas System	
26/1	Boys Club	Mood Machine	
1/2 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
2/2 (Su)	Golden Lion	Ronnie Clark Big Sound	
7/2 (Fr)	Gateway	Traders	
8/2 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Stag Party	
8/2	Sauchie Public Hall (Jaguar)	Stoics — Support Band	
9/2 (Su)	Golden Lion	Ronnie Clark Big Sound	
14/2 (Fr)	Dobbie Hall	Stoics — Brian Marshall Foundation	
15/2 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Dolly Rocker Band	8 to 11.30pm, 8/-
16/2 (Su)	Golden Lion	Dum De Dum	7.30 to 10.30pm, 6/6
22/2 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Ronnie Clark Big Sound	
23/2 (Su)	Golden Lion	Lady Jane and the Royalty	

<b>Date</b>	<b>The Venue</b>	<b>The Bands</b>	<b>Cost/Duration</b>
23/2	Boys Club	'No Band Named'	7.30 to 10pm, 2/-
1/3 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
2/3 (Su)	Golden Lion	Dolly Rocker Band	
8/3 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
8/3	Sauchie Public Hall (Jaguar)	Stoics — Support Band	
9/3 (Su)	Golden Lion	Sir Ivor and the Vikings — Heenan Froud Set	
9/3	Albert Hall	Peter Sarstedt — Humblebums	
15/3 (Sa)	Scout Hall	Fortune Tellers	7.30 to 11pm, 5/-
15/3	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
15/3	Sauchie Public Hall (Jaguar)	Pinkerton Assorted Colours — Support Band	
16/3 (Su)	Golden Lion	Black Hawks	
22/3 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Dolly Rocker Band	
22/3	Sauchie Public Hall (Jaguar)	Poets — Sweet — Tender Motion	
23/3 (Su)	Golden Lion	Chris McClure Section	7.30 to 11.30pm, 10/-
29/3 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
29/3	Sauchie Public Hall (Jaguar)	Chris McClure Section — Motion A	
30/3 (Su)	Golden Lion	'No Band Named'	
4/4 (Fr)	Station Hotel	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
5/4 (Sa)	Albert Hall (Golden Lion)	Dolly Rocker Band	
5/4	Scout Hall	Fortune Tellers	
5/4	Sauchie Public Hall (Jaguar)	Hectors House — Kaywana Stock	
6/4 (Su)	Albert Hall (Golden Lion)	Honeybus	
11/4 (Fr)	Station Hotel	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
12/4 (Sa)	Sauchie Public Hall (Jaguar)	Stoics — Support Band	

<b>Date</b>	<b>The Venue</b>	<b>The Bands</b>	<b>Cost/Duration</b>
12/4	Holy Trinity (Scouts)	Fortune Tellers	
26/4 (Sa)	Sauchie Public Hall (Jaguar)	Poets — Support Band	
3/5 (Sa)	Sauchie Public Hall (Jaguar)	Chris McClure Section — Support Band	
17/5 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres — Heenan Froud Set	
17/5	Sauchie Public Hall (Jaguar)	Acid Rock	
18/5 (Su)	Golden Lion	Chris McClure Section	
24/5 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
24/5	Sauchie Public Hall (Jaguar)	Dream Police — Support Band	
25/5 (Su)	Golden Lion	Dolly Rocker Band	
31/5 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Cage	
31/5	Sauchie Public Hall (Jaguar)	Poets — Support Band	
1/6 (Su)	Golden Lion	Dolly Rocker Band	
7/6 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Dolly Rocker Band	
7/6	Sauchie Public Hall (Jaguar)	Writing on the Wall — Support Band	
8/6 (Su)	Golden Lion	Chris McClure Section	
14/6 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Chase	
14/6	Sauchie Public Hall (Jaguar)	Oryx — Support Band	
15/6 (Su)	Golden Lion	Breadline	
21/6 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
22/6 (Su)	Golden Lion	Dum De Dum	
28/6 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
5/7 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
12/7 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Dolly Rocker Band	
12/7	Sauchie Public Hall (Jaguar)	Chris McClure Section — Support Band	
19/7 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Power Set	

<b>Date</b>	<b>The Venue</b>	<b>The Bands</b>	<b>Cost/Duration</b>
26/7 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Dolly Rocker Band	
2/8 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Class (originally Golden Crusaders)	
9/8 Sa)	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
9/8	Sauchie Public Hall (Jaguar)	Chris McClure Section — Support Band	
16/8 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Don Gordon and the Soul Machine	
23/8 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
23/8	Sauchie Public Hall (Jaguar)	Tear Gas — Support Band	
30/8 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Bitter Suite	
6/9 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Dolly Rocker Band	
13/9 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
13/9	Sauchie Public Hall (Jaguar)	Chris McClure Section — Support Band	
20/9 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Nathaniel Fever	
20/9	Sauchie Public Hall (Jaguar)	Fleaz Band — Savage Rose	
27/9 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Bitter Suite	
28/9 (Su)	Golden Lion	Chase	
4/10 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
4/10	Crown Hotel Callander	Madhatters	
5/10 (Su)	Golden Lion	Nathaniel Fever	
11/10 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Ardennes	
12/10 (Su)	Golden Lion	Bitter Suite	
18/10 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Black Hawks	
18/10	Sauchie Public Hall (Jaguar)	Poets — Support Band	
19/10 (Su)	Golden Lion	Happy Ever After	
25/10 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Don Fardon and the Nathaniel Fever	
26/10 (Su)	Golden Lion	Dolly Rocker Band	
1/11 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	

<b>Date</b>	<b>The Venue</b>	<b>The Bands</b>	<b>Cost/Duration</b>
1/11	Sauchie Public Hall (Jaguar)	Small World	
2/11 (Su)	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
5/11 (We)	Golden Lion	Acker Bilk and his Paramount Jazz Band — George Penman Jazzmen	9pm to 1am, 15/-
8/11 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Reflection	
9/11 (Su)	Golden Lion	Ardennes	
14/11 (Fr)	Museum Hall (Scouts)	Fortune Tellers	9pm to 2am, 7/6
15/11 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Black Hawks	
15/11	Sauchie Public Hall (Jaguar)	Poets — Crumble	
16/11 (Su)	Golden Lion	Raith Ballroom Showband	
22/11 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Reflection	
22/11	Sauchie Public Hall (Jaguar)	Suede — Support Band	
23/11 (Su)	Golden Lion	Raith Ballroom Showband	
29/11 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
29/11	Museum Hall (Young Farmers)	Roosters Showband	
30/11 (Su)	Golden Lion	Raith Ballroom Showband	
3/12 (We)	Falkirk Town Hall	Hank Locklin	
6/12 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Black Hawks	
6/12	Sauchie Public Hall (Jaguar)	Stoics — Support Band	
13/12 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Dolly Rocker Band	
13/12	Sauchie Public Hall (Jaguar)	Chris McClure Section — Support Band	
20/12 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
24/12 (We)	Museum Hall (Scouts)	Triad— Camera	9pm to 2am, 10/-
27/12 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
27/12	Sauchie Public Hall (Jaguar)	Toby Jug	



This was not a good year for wacky band names. The best of this poor year were the Fleaz Band and Lady Jane and the Royalty.

The well known chart bands that played in the area this year were St Louis Union and Pinkerton's Assorted Colours at Sauchie Public Hall and that was all. It was a much reduced number from previous years. David Bowie was booked to play the Albert Hall on the 11th of November but it was then cancelled and punters got their money back, reason unknown.

Bands with regular venue bookings this year were Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres still going strong at the Golden Lion assisted by the Ronnie Clark Big Sound, Heenan Froud Set and Riot Squad. Ramsey Scott Four were still performing at the Sword.

The Tommy Kettles Dance Band made regular appearances at the Golden Lion. On many occasions this was on the same night as the 'beat group' but in a different room.

Starting in February and on certain weekends the Golden Lion introduced a disco along with the 'beat group'. This trend would eventually lead to Discos replacing 'beat groups' completely in the following years.

It had been another good year for the Golden Lion, but at the beginning of April a fire occurred that closed it down for a month. It reopened at the beginning of May and dancing restarted in the middle of May.

The Golden Lion made it clear with an advert in the local paper that at weekend dances "under 18's access not allowed". This meant that compared to previous years there were fewer venues where the under 18's could go.

Jaguar Promotions were still the major promoter this year with regular events at Sauchie Public Hall, but the chart bands of previous years were few and far between.

A gig at Perth City Hall on the 11th of April for Andy Lothian Enterprise was advertised in the local paper. The bands performing were The Foundations, Love Affair, Julian Ward and Chapter Six. Buses were put on from Stirling to take dancers to the gig.

Also in April an advert in the local paper advertised Friday night dancing at the Electric Garden in Glasgow. A bus left various locations in the Stirling area at a cost of 5/6 return.

This year there were many more Dinner-Dances at various venues in the area such as the King Robert, Dunblane Hydro, Sword, Station Hotel and Allan Water. This was maybe a reflection of the 60's teen becoming older and more mature.

From May through to October only the Golden Lion and Sauchie Public Hall advertised 'beat group' dances. The Alpha Club in Fallin had opened. It was one of a small number of venues with a 'beat group'. The club was suitable for under 18's but it did not advertise its dances in the local paper, only as a note under the youth club notes page. It ultimately became for members only. Eventually like many of the other venues, a disco replaced the 'beat group'.

## 1970

Date	The Venue	The Band	Cost/Duration
3/1 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Ardennes	
10/1 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Dolly Rocker Band	
17/1(Sa)	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	

<b>Date</b>	<b>The Venue</b>	<b>The Band</b>	<b>Cost/Duration</b>
17/1	Sauchie Public Hall (Jaguar)	Poets — Support Band	
24/1 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Reflection	
24/1	Sauchie Public Hall (Jaguar)	Cure	
31/1 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
7/2 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Nathaniel Fever	
7/2	Sauchie Public Hall (Jaguar)	Small World	
14/2 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Dolly Rocker Band	
19/2 (Th)	Albert Hall	Writing on the Wall — East of Eden	
21/2 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Agathas Moment with Sweet Plum	
28/2 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
7/3 (Sa)	Golden Lion	‘No Band Named’	
14/3 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
21/3 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Reflection	
28/3 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres	
28/3	Museum Hall (Young Farmers)	Sovereign Showband	
4/4 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Clockwork	
11/4 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Harry Wragg	
18/4 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Beggars Opera	
25/4 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Reflection	
25/4	Museum Hall (rugby)	‘No Band Named’	
2/5 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Telephone	
9/5 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Dolly Rocker Band	
16/5 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Harry Wragg	
23/5 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Honda	
30/5 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Reflection	
30/5	Station Hotel (Ski Club)	Mr Oz and his Trio	
6/6 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Chase	

<b>Date</b>	<b>The Venue</b>	<b>The Band</b>	<b>Cost/Duration</b>
13/6 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Dolly Rocker Band	
20/6 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Harry Wragg	
27/6 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Harry Wragg	
4/7 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Avengers	
4/7	Maitland Hall	'No Band Named'	
11/7 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Golden Sound	
17/7 (Fr)	Dodos	House of Lords	9pm to 1am, 6/6
18/7 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Harry Wragg	
24/7 (Fr)	Dodos	Pence	
25/7 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Cat Violet	
31/7 (Fr)	Dodos	Harry Wragg	
1/8 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Wall Street Diversion	
7/8 (Fr)	Dodos	Tangerine Atmosphere	
8/8 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Harry Wragg	
14/8 (Fr)	Dodos	Strobe	
15/8 (Sa)	Museum Hall (Young Farmers)	Tommy Trousdale and the Sundowners	
15/8 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Harry Wragg	
21/8 (Fr)	Dodos	3rd Division	
22/8 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Clockwork	
28/8 (Fr)	Dodos	Fence	
29/8 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Kaywana Stock	
4/9 (Fr)	Dodos	Bay City Rollers	
5/9 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Harry Wragg	
11/9 (Fr)	Dodos	Harry Wragg	
12/9 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Avengers	
12/9	Museum Hall (Young Farmers)	Tommy Trousdale and the Sundowners	
18/9 Fr)	Dodos	House of Lords	
19/9 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Harry Wragg	
25/9 (Fr)	Dodos	Ceremony	

<b>Date</b>	<b>The Venue</b>	<b>The Band</b>	<b>Cost/Duration</b>
26/9 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Raspberry	
2/10 (Fr)	Dodos	Rush	
3/10 (Sa)	Golden Lion	'No Band Named'	
9/10 (Fr)	Dodos	Bay City Rollers	
9/10	Museum Hall (SNP)	Metronomes	
16/10 (Fr)	Dodos	Ceremony	
17/10 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Cleo's Mood	
24/10 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Cleo's Mood	
31/10 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Cleo's Mood	
31/10	Cambusbarron Community Centre	Big Mary	
7/11 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Cleo's Mood	
14/11 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Cleo's Mood	
20/11 (Fr)	Museum Hall	Mode	8.30 to 11.30pm
21/11 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Cleo's Mood	
27/11 (Fr)	Mogil Showroom Union Street (Kippen Gun Club)	Group 4 + 1	9.30pm to 1.30 am, 10/-
27/11	Maitland Hall	'No Band Named'	
28/11 (Sa)	Museum Hall	Mode	
28/11	Golden Lion	Cleo's Mood	
5/12 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Cleo's Mood	
12/12 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Cleo's Mood	
19/12 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Cleo's Mood	
24/12 (Th)	Museum Hall	Kaywana Stock	
26/12 (Sa)	Golden Lion	Cleo's Mood	

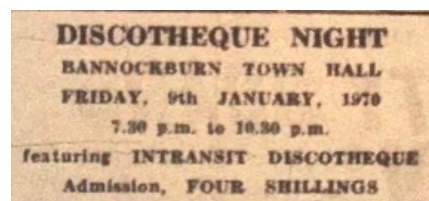
Like 1969 this was not a good year for wacky band names, the best of this year was Agatha's Moment with Sweet Plum.

There were no well known chart bands that played in the area this year. The Bay City Rollers appeared but this was before they became famous.

Bands with regular venue bookings were Harry Wragg and Cleo's Mood who took over from Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres at the Golden Lion. The Ramsey Scott Four were still performing at the Sword.

The Tommy Kettles dance band was still a regular at the Golden Lion. Like last year, this was the same night as the 'beat group' but in a different room

On the 9th of January a Disco was held in Bannockburn Town Hall from 7.30 to 10.30pm at the cost of 4/-. Was this the beginning of the end for 'beat groups' playing at dances?



This year there were many more adverts for dances where a disco was the means of providing the music, around October even the Alpha youth club had stopped using 'beat groups' and had started using a Disco for their Saturday night dances. Dunblane Hydro held a number of Caribbean nights with a steel band during this year. In July they also started Disco sessions every week.

Dodos Disco Club opened in Orchard Place on the 17th of July. It advertised a 'beat group' playing on a Friday, but it was a very short lived venture and the last advert was on the 16th of October.

On the 27th of November a dance was held in the Mogil Motors car showroom at the top of Union Street. It had 400 attendees, but due to trouble breaking out the police stopped the dance early. Four people were charged and appeared in court the next week.

There were now no promoters such as Jaguar Promotions organising dances in the area. The demise of 'beat groups' playing the music for dancing had started and Disco was coming to the fore.

## Summary

In the Stirling area the prime years for dancing to a 'beat group' were 1965 and 1966. The number of events advertised in the local paper for each of those years was as follows -

1960 - 0  
1961 - 88 (includes 40 Plaza Monday nights)  
1962 - 103  
1963 - 60  
1964 - 213  
1965 - 301  
1966 - 261  
1967 - 195  
1968 - 232  
1969 - 126  
1970 - 82.

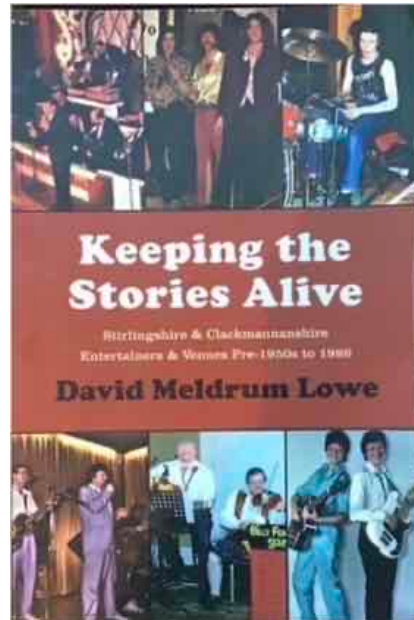
In 1963 there was a reduction in the venues advertising dances with a 'beat group', which may have been down to the Plaza not hiring 'beat groups' for a good part of the year.

It should be noted that the dances identified in each of the above years were those that were advertised in the local paper. There would have been events that took place that were not advertised in the paper, perhaps either as part of a youth club event or another organisation's normal programme. Stirling University Students Union held regular dances at the Albert Hall, Museum Hall and the Pathfoot Centre that were never advertised. The list however shows the rise and fall of the events involving a 'beat group' in the 60's.

Looking at 1971, it was noted that other than the Golden Lion on a Saturday night, there were very few 'beat group' dances advertised throughout the year. The first advert noted was for an event on

the 3rd of April for Cambusbarron Community Association to be held at the Museum Hall. The music was provided by the Countdown Show Band.

The 'beat group' era of playing music for teenage dances appears to have come to an end. Disco had made its presence felt in dance venues all over the country. An insight in to the demise of 'beat groups' came in an April article in the local paper. A band calling themselves Big Mary claimed they were Stirling and Districts only established 'beat group'. They might well have been right!



An excellent reference that gives an overview of local bands who participated in the 60s 'Beat Group' scene is a book titled "Keeping the Stories Alive: Stirlingshire and Clackmannanshire Entertainers and Venues Pre - 1950s to 1989 (2021)" by David Meldrum Lowe, it gives an in-depth overview, biographies and photographs of local bands. Well worth a read.

On the following page are photographs of some of the local bands that played in many of the venues in this great decade -



Top Left to Bottom Right -

- |                       |                                      |                         |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 Fortune Tellers     | 2 Tony and the Traders               | 3 Tommy and the Apaches |
| 4 Pack                | 5 Heenan Froud Set                   | 6 Moonbeats.            |
| 7 Resistance          | 8 Roadrunners                        | 9 Statesman Syndicate   |
| 10 Sundowners (young) | 11 Alex Hamilton and the Blue Sabres | 12 Trespassers.         |

Newspaper Coverage: Occasionally in the local papers there was an article about a local group, this next section highlights some of that coverage.

1965 Journal

### BIG OPPORTUNITY FOR "THE MOONBEATS"



Stirling's popular musical combination, "The Moonbeats," associated with the Stirling Boys' Club, get their big chance next week when they make their first appearance on the B.B.C. Home Service programme, "Come Thursday," specially devised for young people. Shown above, from left to right, are:—Standing—Back row—Iain McGuire and Graham Livingston. Front row—David Stevenson, Ian Gilmour, Marina Pass and Lex Cruden.

### "THE MOONBEATS" ON THE AIR

HONOUR FOR STIRLING MUSICIANS.

"The Moonbeats," a popular musical combination associated with the Stirling Boys' Club, whose performances have become the "talk of the town," get their big chance on 25th March.

At 6.35 that evening, following a successful audition with the B.B.C., they will make their first sound broadcast on the Home Service, "Come Thursday," a programme specially devised for young people.

Their many fans will be glad to hear of the success of the Stirling lads who will be playing at a special session in the Boys' Club on Sunday night.

## STIRLING'S LEADING BEAT GROUP

### "MOONBEATS" HAVE FIRST BROADCAST



The Moonbeats, seen with their extensive sound equipment, left to right—Tommy Samson, David Stevenson, Ian Gilmour, John McGuire, Marina Pass, Graham Livingstone, and Lex Cruden.

The Moonbeats, Stirling's leading beat group, are making their first broadcast on the B.B.C. Home Service programme, "Come Thursday," between 6.35 and 7 p.m. on Thursday of this week.

The group was formed about two years ago when they first played for the "Sunday Special" at Stirling Boys' Club. From there they progressed to the "Daily Record" Mac-Beat Competition and were placed first in Stirlingshire. In the final in the Kelvin Hall, Glasgow, the group were sixth out of nine groups from all over Scotland.

For six months they were resident in The Plaza, Stirling, and they have played at the Burma Ballroom, Kirkcaldy, and The Gay Gordon, Balloch.

It was while playing in Balloch that the boys were discovered by Mr Tommy Samson who was band-leader in the same class as Joe Lox and Ted Heath between 1947 and 1953.

Mr Samson has been training The Moonbeats for the past three months and they were successful in a B.B.C. audition. They will feature in "Come Thursday" with The Modelles, who have also been trained by Mr Samson, musical director of a group of ballrooms in Kirkcaldy.

The Moonbeats comprise:—Iain Gilmour, Linden Avenue, Stirling, the leader; Lex Cruden, Stenhouse-

muir, the vocalist; Marina Pass, Alva, the girl vocalist; John McGuire, Wallace Street, Stirling; Graham Livingstone, Denny, and David Stevenson, Whins of Milton. Manager of the group is Mr R. Ritchie, The Boys' Club, St John Street, Stirling.





## "SUNDOWNERS" PROVE A POPULAR POP GROUP



In the above photograph are The Sundowners, a well-known pop group in the area. The players, from left to right, are:—John McKinlay, Brian Watters, Andy Hepburn, Derek Cowan, Derek Watters and Ian Thomson.

Six young musicians who have formed themselves into a popular pop group known as "The Sundowners" are proving themselves very attractive, particularly at dances held in the Stirlingshire area by members of churches. The group has been in being for three years in the counties of Stirling and Clackmannan and are in

great demand by youth organisations associated with churches. John McKinlay, Camelon, is the second lead guitarist. Brian and Derek Watters, Stenhousemuir, are lead guitarists and bass guitarist respectively. Ian Thomson, Stenhousemuir, rhythm guitarist. Derek Cowan, Skinflats, drum and Andy Hepburn, Whins of Milton, vocalist.

### STIRLING MINISTER'S WORK PRAISED

PRESBYTERY THANK REV. NORMAN BROOK.

## GLASGOW BEAT GROUP

### MAD-HATTERS FOR THE PLAZA



Photo shows Alisdair Mair (18) (Bass), Jackie Brown (20) (Rhythm), Dave Agnew (18) (Singer) Harvey Freedman (18) (Lead) and Jim O'Kane (18) (Drums).

The Mad-Hatters, a Glasgow beat group, will be making their first appearance in Stirling on Saturday night, when they will play during a dance in the Plaza. Recently, about 200 of the group's

"fans" from Stirling travelled to The Olympia in East Kilbride where the Mad-Hatters were playing in a contest. On this occasion, they were placed third out of the 45 groups competing.

The average age of the boys playing in the group is 18. On Saturday night they hope to be well supported by their Stirling fans and other beat enthusiasts.

## A POPULAR STIRLING BEAT GROUP



Making a name for themselves locally at dances are "The Trespassers" in the above photograph. The group are hoping that shortly they will hit the disc jockey parade and make an appearance on the television screen. The players, all Stirling lads, are, from left to right:—D. Howe (leader), A. Cox, I. Fraser, A. Gow and B. Ritchie; in front, singer J. Gow.



Jonny and the Copycats, originally known as the "Cimmerians," shown above, are coming to the Aibers Hall, Stirling, to-morrow night (Friday) in a star top bill arranged by Andy Leahan, jun., and in support of the fantastic "Hollies." The Copycats have won the Scottish section of the National Beat Championships and came second in the London finals. They are shortly to cut their first disc. The players all hail from Burghhead.

Other performers are Mark-Peter and the Silhouettes, the McKinnon Sisters whose first disc is due to-morrow and Johnny Hudson's The Four, the Decca recording group.

Tickets are still available at the "Journal" Office, 9 King Street, Stirling, and are priced 10/6d., 8/6d., 6/6d. and 4/6d.



Photo shows the new group, left to right — Erik Macera, John Jenkins, Alistair Drummond, Roy Kenny and Tony Wylie.

Take an apprentice motor mechanic, an apprentice engineer, a young shop assistant and a couple of students—add liberal dash of talent and a collection of electronic equipment—and the end product becomes another group of local lads striving to break into the big time of popular music.

The Tyme Beat Group, consisting of eighteen and nineteen-year-olds from Stirling and district is making its mark on the local music scene in no uncertain manner. The proud possessors of about £600 worth of guitars and amplifying gear, these lads have already proved their talent to the many who have attended dances and functions at which "The Tyme" have supplied music to listen and dance to. Their manager, Mr. David Gillespie of 4 Earlburn Avenue, St. Ninians, is working hard to secure for them a recording contract and he reckons that all the boys need is that initial chance to carve their name on the board of success.

# BEAT GROUP'S BIG CHANCE

## TEST RECORDING DATE



Left to right—Ted McLeod, Hugh Blevins, John Mann, Stuart Solomon and John Menzies.

The latest beat group to make an impact on the Stirling pop scene is The Squad, who are fast attracting a following in the district.

Recently a representative of the Decca recording company was so impressed with the group that he offered them the opportunity of making a test record. They agreed and will travel to either Edinburgh or Glasgow later this month for the

recording session.

The five members of the group are Hugh Blevins, lead guitar; Teddy McLeod, rhythm guitar; John Menzies, bass guitar; John Mann, drums; and Stuart Solomon, vocals, who all come from the Stirling area.

They have been playing together for about a year, but only recently accepted public engagements and now appear regularly at The Rob Roy Motel, Aberfoyle.

# THE STIRLING ROTUNDA

## LATEST CLUB FOR TEENAGERS



Mrs Audrey Oddy is seen here with the group, left to right—Billy Kerr, Jimmy McCulloch, Gerry Dawson, Chris Oddy, and Lynden Williams.

The Stirling Rotunda Club, which meets every Wednesday in the British Legion Hall at 7.30 p.m. to 10 p.m., is for teenagers and will be organised and entertained by teenagers.

The resident group will be the "Voodoo Fracton." An opportunity will be given to any boy or girl from the age of 13 to 19 who wishes to entertain.

Each week we will endeavour to please the members by inviting

popular groups from Stirling and the surrounding districts.

This idea originated from the teenagers themselves, who requested a club of their own. The British Legion have made this possible by sponsoring them.

## ANDY ROBERTSON'S POP CORNER

It is over eighteen months now since one of Stirling's best groups decided to "call it a day" and ended, for ever, what was surely one of the most colourful and polished groups in the business—"The Squad."

They had played with many of the "Pop Giants," such as, "The Small Faces," Peter and Gordon, "The Move," "Cat Stevens and the Yard Birds," to mention a few.

Playing for hours on end, when they got home at last in the early hours of the morning, and after a few hours sleep it was back to work till five at night, which wasn't very healthy.

Touring up and down the country, they were in favour with most promoters and had plenty of fans and never lacked bookings. I remember watching them on the stage. They never failed to transfer their feelings to their audience, especially in such favourites as "Hold On" and "Michael."

It was with regret that they choose to break up, but they did so in the knowledge that they had finished "on top," as was proved by the protest made by many fans.


John Mann the drummer is now in England and James Blevins (organ) is working in Singapore. His brother Hugh Blevins (Bass Guitar) is working in Stirling as are Ted McLeod (Rhythm Guitar), Stuart Solomons (Lead Vocals) and Tom Bell (Lead Guitar) who is working at Throsk, near Fallin.

It was once said, "all good things come to an end," but this one came too early.

### CHESS NOTES

By L. J. Stirling

(Black)



## STIRLING BEAT GROUP

### ONLY ONE IN DISTRICT



Photo shows, left to right, A. Bye, D. Cantwell, D. Forsyth and J. Forquhar

The Mary, Stirling and district's only established beat group, are making a name for themselves with their playing of a mixture of heavy Rock and Progressive numbers. Much of the music played by the group is their own material.

The group's intriguing name springs from the inspiration of 17-year-old guitarist and vocalist, Joe Forsythson, Main Street, Bannockburn, whose Aunt Mary has been honoured by having her name used by the group. Lead guitarist and vocalist Alan Bye, also aged 17, formerly of Clark Street, Bannockburn, and now resident in Cumbernauld, drummer David Cantwell (16), 91 Station Road, Bannockburn, and organist David Forsyth (19), Bannockburn, with Mary's cousin, the Big Mary Beat.

It was nine months ago that the group changed. For nine months they were the Stirling Beat Group. The group was formed in the Main Street.

The following column was started in the Stirling Journal, year unknown, but likely after 1967. As you can see this was the first one. My limited research has found no other column on the subject, so either this was the only 'The Beat Groups' column published or further research is required.

**THE BEAT GROUPS.**

Beginning as from to-day, the "Stirling Journal" gets under way with the first in our series of local beat groups.

It is a weekly series intended to keep the young people of this area up-to-date with their local beat groups—their future engagements, their occupations, where they were born, whom do they admire in the music field, pop groups, male and female, singers, etc.

These are the things that you will find out each week in the "Stirling Journal."

To start of our weekly feature on local beat groups, we have five boys from Stirling who call themselves the "Fortune Tellers." Their "life-lines" are featured below:—

Robert (Rab) McLaren, born 23rd October, 1948. Lead singer. Favourite singer—Tom Jones. Favourite group—Hollies and the Pedlers. Occupation—Electrical Engineer.

Donald (Donnie) McInnes, born 14th December, 1946. Drums. Favourite singer—Lulu. Favourite group—Beatles and Shadows. Occupation—Television Engineer.

Gordon (Twiggy) Harrower, born 25th August 1947. Bass guitar. Favourite singer—Lulu and Gino Washington. Favourite group—Small Faces and all Tamla Motown. Occupation—Electrical Engineer.

Jim (Slim) Huston, born 27th January, 1949. Lead guitar and mouth organ. Favourite singer—Marvin Gaye and Astrid Gilberto. Favourite group—Jimi Hendrix Experience, the Miracles, and Jr. Walker and the All Stars. Occupation—Weights and Measures Inspector.

Sandy (Surf) Murphy, born 22nd June, 1949. Organ and piano. Favourite singers—Dusty Springfield and Robert McLaren. Favourite group—Beatles, Booker T and the MGs, and the Small Faces. Occupation—Laboratory Technician.

Reading the column now, it is enlightening to realise who you admired in those early years. Maybe it was a good thing no other 'beat group' had to bare their soul!

The following paragraphs relate the memories of a few of the musicians from local bands of the time. Unfortunately, many of the band members who participated in the sixties scene are no longer with us, however they are fondly remembered by all of those who performed with them during that great era of music.

#### MUSICIANS QUOTES :

**IAN THOMSON:** Founder Member/Guitarist/Vocalist with **THE SUNDOWNERS:**

“There are so many 'best' times and memories, but one that stands out for me was at the very beginning of our (The Sundowners) musical journey. We were all just schoolboys and desperate to play anywhere and then we were invited to play at the intervals of a few local dances. Eventually, after many weeks, days and hours of practice, we secured our first paid gig at The British Legion Hall in Stenhousemuir. We were paid 10 shillings (50p), so 2/6d each (12 and a half pence!). To be honest, we would have played for nothing, but to be paid anything was fab. As years went by, we went on to many great playing memories all over Scotland, but I for one, always remember the feeling of playing to a packed hall, and being paid for it! Great times that I would love to do all over again!”.

**MARTIN GRIFFITHS:** Lead Singer with **BEGGARS OPERA:**

“Yes, I seem to remember we played at a hotel in Stirling (Golden Lion) on a Saturday night in 1970 and the gig was a couple of floors up and no lift! We had to lug all the gear up and we just had the one Roadie at the time as we weren't earning much money. Four of us took a corner each of Alan Park's (our Organist) Hammond, it weighed a ton! We had already played a gig at the Burns Howff (Glasgow) that Saturday morning so we were a wee bit tired and getting the gear up nearly finished us off! But the audience was so good to us that we soon recovered and it was a great gig with a lot of encores! Then of course, we had to get all the gear back down the stairs and pack the van, probably getting back to Glasgow for about 3.00 a.m. to play a gig at the Picasso Club. Then a couple of hour's kip before setting off again for Paisley and the Watermill Hotel for our morning session. Phew, it was often like that and even more so as we became more well-known. All of the audiences were all great and there were so many great places to play that it made it all worthwhile”.

**KAZIK WALUSIAK:** Lead Guitarist with **THE BARONS:**

“When playing with The Barons, we were on the bill along with The Who, at Perth City Halls in the 60's. We were due to go on after The Who, but met their Roadies in a local pub prior to the gig and managed to wangle it so we went on before them. Nobody would have heard us or would have been interested if we had played after them. Also when playing with Scratch, down in London at a promo as we had just signed a recording contract, we played at a few prestigious clubs, The Pheasantry and Hatchets. On the bill at one of them was The Drifters. The dressing room wasn't to their standards and refused to do their second set and left early for gigs in Germany”.

**PETER SCOBIE:** Drummer with **THE SLAVES:**

“My best memory of the 'early years' was when we played The Shack Club in Denny. It was always packed every week and the audience was great. During the period between 1963 and 1965 we also loved playing the Maryland Beat Club (Glasgow) and the Town Halls in Perth and Auchterarder. Away back then we were lucky to get to the end of a gig without any of the Amps going on fire! At a hotel in Alexandria Davy Mann's Amp went on fire and that was the end of the gig!”.

**JOHN MYLCHREEST:** Lead Singer with RBJs and THE BARONS:

“In the 60s the “Big Names” played Scottish Dance Halls. Perth City Halls was a popular and we (The Barons) played there with The Who, Kinks, Spencer Davis Group and The Troggs. We did the Stirling Plaza Ballroom with Them (Van Morrison) and Lulu & The Luvvers. We also played with Clodagh Rodgers (Aviemore) and The Bee Gees (Forfar) as well as playing several gigs at Stirling’s Hawaiian Eye Discotheque – great times/great memories!

**JOHN McPHERSON:** Lead Singer with THE CITROENS:

“I remember the early days with the Group when we played in the North-East of Scotland when we would be in B&B for 15 shillings (seventy five pence today) a night, with no showers we would head into Aberdeen to the Public Baths for a wash, You each got a cubicle with a number on and if you wanted more hot or cold water you shouted your number and your bath got filled from this large pipe. We soon clocked this and would shout out for more cold in someone else’s bath and hear them curse and scream as the volume of water came out. One night in Fraserburgh, the police came in and told us to turn the volume down and as they were leaving the crowd all spread to the sides of the hall leaving one policeman walking out on his own to which I started singing Nobody’s Child, I thought he was going to kill me.

We had an old Morris J2 van with a hole in the floor and a bottle of Irn Bru actually froze in the van. Needless to say, a large Transit van was purchased before our next sojourn up North. The only time we ever got snowed-in we had to stay in a Hotel in Old Meldrum, when the landlady showed us our rooms it looked like someone had just exited the bed but as we had no choice we stayed. At that time we all wore long army or navy coats, part fashion mostly accessory for the old van. I remember we went to bed lying on the top with our towels over the pillow, fully dressed complete with coats and boots and the landlady looking in and asking if everything was alright. The breakfast in the morning was a greasy mess and thankfully we were able to leave just after lunchtime.

**DAVID MELDRUM LOWE:** Drummer/Vocalist with MIDAS TOUCH & Author

Drum kits- From Pig Skin to French Monster Kit:

“From the time I was 8-years old I just loved music. I was brought up on a ‘diet’ of R’n’R – especially from the USA; Chuck Berry, Little Richard, Everly Brothers, Gene Vincent and of course Buddy Holly! One of my older brothers, Bobby, played ‘washboard’ in Stirling’s first Skiffle Group – The Scorpions, along with Hector MacLean (guitar). Hector (bass) and Bobby (drums) then went on to form the embryonic Tuxedo All Stars who practiced in the Little Hut on the Raploch Road, where I used to peek through the window at them. I ‘dabbled’ occasionally with Bobby’s drums although I couldn’t afford to buy my own and used to go to the ‘dancing’ in the Raploch/Stirling/Sauchie area etc. I occasionally got the opportunity to ‘sit-in’ with several local musicians and even played in the Douglas Hotel and Cross Keys Bar around 66/67 with the Burns and Blues Club.

I eventually bought (£10) an old 3-piece Premier Kit from a workmate on the building sites, what a learning curve that was – it had ‘pig-skin’ heads that had to be soaked in water and stretched over the drums until they ‘dried-out’. My first real ‘paying’ job was in Cowie Tavern with some great older musicians who taught me about different timings and genres of music. It wasn’t long before I bought a second-hand kit of Olympic Blue Pearl (Premier) and then got the job as Resident Drummer in Cowie Miner’s Welfare backing Cabaret. I soon joined a ‘gigging-band’ (Natural Harmony) and bought a lovely Mother-of-Pearl Premier Kit which I used for over 10-years. However, around the early-1980s we started to do a lot of Residency work in the Lothians and when we secured a 3-night residency in the Jewel Club (Edinburgh) I decided to buy a new kit. Visiting Sound Control in Dunfermline I came across an amazing kit by Jaques Capelle (French) called the “Turbo Kit”, which I eventually built-up to a 10-piece kit! The Bass was a massive 32”x22” and all toms were at least 1 to 2 inches deeper than normal drums. In 2004 I “gave-up” drumming and emigrated to Crete (Greece) and before leaving gave this great kit to a young up-and-coming drummer in Edinburgh. But not long after moving to Crete I was offered a job with a local Rock ‘n’ Soul band (Bad Language), where I joined 3-Scots and an Englishman – this was some band! I was

loaned a kit until I bought and shipped one from Rhythm Base in Glasgow - TAMA Superstar Custom 5-piece kit. I've only very recently sold this kit to another young up-and-coming drummer from Ayrshire. Here endeth the 'lecture'.

**JIM HASTON:** Lead Guitarist with THE FORTUNE TELLERS:

"It's hard to pick out just a few gigs, but I particularly remember McGoo's and the Top Storey Club in Edinburgh, Ayr Ice Rink and an open-air festival at Ochilview Stadium. The Club Tomay which was a bit like the Cavern Club, was always a fun night with bands including the Beachcombers and Jimmy James and the Vagabonds. The stage had a very low ceiling, with holes where guitar necks had pierced the plasterboard. At Stirling's Albert Hall I remember gigs with The Pretty Things and The Flowerpot Men. But probably some of the best nights were at Stirling's Plaza Ballroom with bands including Brian Poole and the Tremeloes, Them, a sell-out gig with Glasgow's Beatstalkers and in my opinion the best live band at that time Cliff Bennett and the Rebel Rousers. There were lots of incidents involving our Ford Thames van. A front tyre blow-out on Blairdrummond corner at 50mph was 'sobering'. The custom rear seating (which saw extensive use) was a plush leather bench seat taken from, I think, a 1950's Humber Hawk.

The band's name was for no great inspirational reason. It was just that one of the first songs we played was called 'Fortune Teller' (by the Merseybeats). We split up in 1971 at which time I sold my Vox AC30 and Cry Baby wah-wah for £25 and later traded-in my Hofner Verithin for different equipment to play with other bands. If that guy still has my AC30, I'll give you double to buy it back! They were great times and kept us out of mischief (well, mostly) during our teenage years."

**ROBERT MCLAREN:** Lead Singer with THE FORTUNE TELLERS:

"Playing in the band was one of my life highlights. A couple of mates and I formed a 'group' after seeing the Moonbeats playing at St Andrews Church youth club. They were our inspiration to start on the journey of being part of a band. We first called ourselves the Tricons, but that didn't last and we became the Fortune Tellers. Our playing days were full of great memories. One that sticks out was at Ayr Ice Rink where we were playing at the final night of the skating season along with a well known Glasgow band. At the end of the session the fans (girls) went wild and were pursuing both bands throughout the corridors of the ice rink. The staff eventually had to turn water hoses on the fans to allow us to get to the dressing rooms. It's not often a local band gets to experience fan frenzy like the well known bands! It didn't always work out as you hoped or expected. We were booked to play the Rob Roy Motel, Aberfoyle. Unknown to us, it was a bikers rally night. We were playing 'Mod' type music like the Small Faces. They wanted 'heavy metal' like Steppenwolf. It was a long night! But, it was an absolutely brilliant time and I wish I could do it all again."

**GORDON HARROWER:** Bass Guitarist with THE FORTUNE TELLERS:

"The Beatles wore suits, I wore my fathers old RAF jacket as my stage gear. When we played at Corpach near Fort William it was a 3 hour drive because you had to drive around Loch Leven, there was no bridge. We would play for a few hours then drive back in the early hours of the morning. I always had my fingers crossed we would have enough petrol to reach Lix Toll, the van used a lot of petrol. I remember that when we played at Aberfeldy the hall at the start would be pretty empty, the pubs closed and the party started. What a great experience."



Of course it was not just the band members that had happy memories of those times, the dancers and band followers also had a story to tell, the following are some of the memories of those who participated in the local scene:

“We just wanted to sit there and listen to the music”.

“Most Sunday afternoons my friend and I would walk to Corrieris in Causwayhead in our Sunday best. We used to kid ourselves that we were walking for health reasons as we walked along eating sweets and chocolate. Corrieris was always busy with cyclists and bikers. There was always plenty of music on the jukebox”.

“The Hawaiian Eye was dark, but the music was great, we loved that venue”.

“To me the Hothouse was the best place in town, the dancing and atmosphere was great”.

“One of my haunts in the 60’s was the Hothouse club, now the Fubar. On Friday nights they had top Scottish bands playing, I saw Dean Ford and the Gaylords, the Royal Crest and the Poets”.

“ My friends and I loved dancing and our usual weekend was the Hothouse and the Hawaiian Eye”.

“ We went to the Pavilion Hotel if we could get a lift from the guys”.

“We went to the Lobster Pot, but while waiting in the queue a fight broke out and the police were called, the troublemakers ran of and we were told to go home, we were not happy”.

“Me and my friends found the crowd at the Plaza could be intimidating, we preferred the atmosphere of the smaller venues”.

“The youth club dances at St Andrews church hall in Callander were great, and you could always slip in to the hotel next door for a wee drink”.

“We liked going to the Club Tomay, it had a great atmosphere and many good groups played there”.

“My friends and I would use our lipstick to write a message on the groups van”.

“We had a great time at the Boys Brigade hall in Bannockburn, these were always good nights”.

Those memories give a flavour of what some of the dancers and participants felt about this great era, I’m sure that all of those who were part of the 60’s local dance scene would have a memory or two to share, if only it had been possible to record all those memories, what a story they would tell.

## CHAPTER 10

### “What did you and the band wear”

Throughout the 60's decade fashions changed from formal to Rocker to Mod to Hippie. You never knew what you would encounter. Bands had an eclectic mix of fashion in their line up. Some wore formal suits with collarless jackets. Others wore flowery shirts with either drainpipe or flared trousers. Some wore what can only be described as 'fancy dress' and others just wore the everyday clothes they came in. How often those clothes were washed is open to question! One band member recalled cleaning out their group van and throwing out empty drink cans, old fag packets and general debris along with a mangy threadbare pair of gutties (trainers). Preparing for the gig on the Friday night the bass player asked where his stage shoes were!

This was the generation of Mods and Rockers and as a result you could encounter many different types of dress at a dance. This was the era when many girls wore the mini skirt (no more than a pelmet in some cases). It was an unbelievably short skirt that left very little to the imagination. Another iconic garment was the short shift dress, either with bold colours and geometric shapes or black and white with optical patterns.

Due to the short skirts and dresses stockings were no longer suitable and it was time for tights, coloured or otherwise. Another fashion style seen was the flared dress and the tight black Capri pants of the Rock and Roll era.

For their footwear the gal Mods could be wearing either go-go boots or flat shoes. The Rockers stiletto heels or flat soled sandals.

Their hairstyle might be the 'beehive' which required a liberal application of hair spray to keep it in place. As a result a guy when dancing a slow dance felt as though he was snogging a candy-floss. Oh the happy memories!

The guy of the Mod era could be wearing a slim-fitting single-breasted continental-style suit and skinny tie, or they might opt for flared or drainpipe trousers and gaudy shirts with kipper tie. Some also opted for the Italian-style 'bum jacket' with their initials on the breast pocket. One friend proudly recalls having both a green and a maroon 'bum jacket' with gold initials.

Their footwear might consist of Cuban heeled boots, desert boots or pointed shoes (winkle-pickers!). The Rockers might have worn a leather jacket, tight jeans or drainpipe trousers, a t-shirt with a logo, or a dress shirt with a bootlace tie. The footwear could have been winkle-pickers or beetle-crushers. Hairstyle could have been the quiff and slicked-back hair rocker style. This required a liberal application of Brylcream to keep it flat, usually resulting in stains on the partners clothing or their own shirt collar.

Later in the decade the Mop-Top Beatles style was in vogue with your hair just over the ears and it was also the start of the mullet era of long hair. Both styles sometimes made you look as if you had an animal on your head. Barbers takings must have plummeted when those styles came in to fashion.

## CHAPTER 11

### “What did you dance to”

In this decade, unless you were doing the ‘Jive’ or a ‘smooch’ (slow dance), dancing was generally non-contact. Some venues had a dance step named after them. One that was well known was the ‘Dobbie Run’ (shuffle) where you held your partner at arms length and shuffled around each corner of the dance floor.

Other dance moves that were prevalent were the Hitch-Hike where you alternately swung your arms over each shoulder with your thumb extended (but never got a lift) and the Shimmy where you shook your body like a quivering blancmange. The Shimmy could also include the moves from the Hitch-Hike making the whole thing look as if you had ‘ants in your pants’.

There was the Jive which was a throwback to the rock ‘n’ roll era. In this dance you did have hand contact with your partner and you threw each other about like ‘whirling dervishes’.

Then there was the Twist where, as the name suggests, you twisted your body in to many different shapes while standing in one spot in an attempt to wear away the soles of your shoes. Given that there was limited physical or minimal verbal contact other than “wanna dance” and “thanks” during such dances it’s a wonder we ever got hitched.

But of course all was not lost because you had the slow dance where full physical and verbal contact could be made. In the Stirling area the last slow dance of the night was referred to as the ‘Moon Dance’. The lights were dimmed, the music played, much smooching would go on and maybe then you found the gal or guy of your dreams. I am sure many couples paired up after dancing to the Moonbeats when they played ‘Midnight’ by the Shadows or the Fortune Tellers when they played ‘Please Stay’ by the Cryin’ Shames.

At this time there seemed to be a new dance style invented every few months, but most guys just stuck to the old favourite, the Hitch Hike/Shimmy combination. If you go to a function today, you will still see those moves practiced by the dads and granddads, much to the embarrassment of their own children and grandkids.

The music for dancing that was played by the bands would cover a wide range of genre such as, rock and roll, Soul, Motown and Hard Rock. For example, with a few ‘must play’ standards on the list, the music played generally reflected the current pop charts (hit parade) or the charts of the preceding years. Some of the music that most local bands would have performed in the mid sixties were tracks by the Beatles, Four Tops, Rolling Stones, Monkees, the one hit wonders Cryin’ Shames, Foundations and many more. Below is a sample of some of the music you may have danced to -

I’m a Believer	The Monkees
Reach Out I’ll Be There	The Four Tops
This Old Heart of Mine	The Islay Brothers
Summer in the City	The Lovin’ Spoonful
Wild Thing	The Troggs
Please Stay	The Cryin’ Shames
Sunshine of your Love	Cream
Twist and Shout	The Beatles
Hey Joe	Jimi Hendrix

Dancing in the Street	Martha and the Vandellas
Gimme Some Lovin'	The Spencer Davis Group
Hold On I'm Coming	Sam and Dave
Knock on Wood	Eddie Floyd
Sunny Afternoon	The Kinks
Black is Black	Los Bravos
Land of 1000 Dances	Wilson Pickett
Get Off of My Cloud	The Rolling Stones
Get Ready	The Temptations
Pretty Flamingo	Manfred Mann
Huckelbuck	Chubby Checker
Baby Now That I've Found You	The Foundations
Barefootin'	Robert Parker
Hang on Sloopy	The McCoys
The Answer to Everything	Del Shannon
Under the Boardwalk	The Drifters
Another Saturday Night	Sam Cooke
Out of Time	Chris Farlowe
Glad all Over	Dave Clark Five
House of the Rising Sun	Animals

and many, many more!

To determine which tracks they should practise and add to their play list, the local band would refer to the hit parade (pop chart) to determine the popular songs of the month. An invaluable source for this information was the New Musical Express (NME) which incorporated a weekly hit parade. Two examples are shown, LH the chart for March 1965 and the RH for January 1966.

1	The Rolling Stones	The Last Time
2	Tom Jones	It's Not Unusual
3	Herman's Hermits	Silhouettes
4	The Searchers	Goodbye My Love
5	Unit 4+2	Concrete And Clay
6	Marianne Faithfull	Come And Stay With Me
7	The Seekers	I'll Never Find Another You
8	Sandie Shaw	I'll Stop At Nothing
9	Gene Pitney	I Must Be Seeing Things
10	Cliff Richard	The Minute You're Gone
11	The Yardbirds	For Your Love
12	The Hollies	Yes I Will
13	PJ Proby	I Apologise
14	Wayne Fontana & The Mindbenders	Game Of Love
15	The Who	I Can't Explain
16	Vai Doonican	The Special Years
17	The Pretty Things	Honey I Need
18	The Animals	Don't Let Me Be Misunderstood
19	Petula Clark	I Know A Place
20	Donovan	Catch The Wind

1	The Spencer Davis Group	Keep On Running
2	The Overlanders	Michelle
3	The Beatles	Day Tripper / We Can Work It Out
4	Herb Alpert & The Tijuana Brass	Spanish Flea
5	The Four Seasons	Let's Hang On
6	The Walker Brothers	My Ship Is Coming In
7	Herman's Hermits	A Must To Avoid
8	The Kinks	Till The End Of The Day
9	Crispian St Peters	You Were On My Mind
10	Ken Dodd	The River
11	Cliff Richard	Wind Me Up (Let Me Go)
12	The Seekers	The Carnival Is Over
13	Otis Redding	My Girl
14	Cilla Black	Love's Just A Broken Heart
15	David & Jonathan	Michelle
16	Roger Miller	England Swings
17	Peter Sellers	A Hard Day's Night
18	The Mindbenders	Groovy Kind Of Love
19	Ken Dodd	Tears
20	Vince Hill	Take Me To Your Heart Again

As far as I am concerned, listening and dancing to a live band or performer is better than listening to a recording. It engages all your senses and there can be a greater energy and instant feedback from the audience in such a performance.

Every local band would have had its own interpretation of a particular song. Some would play it as per the original, but others would put their own stamp on it.

The music key chosen to play the music was sometimes changed from the original to suit the vocalist. This could have an affect on how the song was heard and if the wrong key was chosen the vocalist could be in trouble, his vocal chords straining to reach the high or low notes.

The standard of performance of the music would vary dependant on the bands experience. Sometimes an inexperienced band would be over ambitious and end up under performing, but that was the way to improve. You definitely learned by your mistakes. Generally, the only people who noticed a wrong chord, a missing verse or mistake in the words, were your other band members or other musicians. The dancers, they were too engrossed in the music, or each other, to notice.

There were exceptions of course. Maybe a band didn't play what the crowd wanted, or were completely out of their depth. The dancers were not long in letting their feelings be known. Those incidents luckily were few and far between and without a doubt the local bands played an important role in keeping the 'swinging sixties' swinging. I salute them all, and I am proud to have been one of them.

## CHAPTER 12

### “What a great time we had”

My one regret is that I did not keep a record of all the dates and venues where my band played, nor kept a copy of the music playlist of the songs we performed. We omitted to take enough photographs and cine recordings of our performance, so there is a minimal visual record of our performances (maybe a good thing!), and how I wish I had kept a diary of all the places we travelled to and had placed on record the many stories of those travels.

The reason none of this was done was because “we never thought those good times would end”. As the saying goes, “hindsight is a wonderful thing”!

But as in life, all good things come to an end. We grow up, take on responsibilities and have a family of our own. The days of the dancing fade away. The bands we danced to merge in to one and we forget what a great time it was.

The ex-band members revert back to playing the guitar or keyboard in the bedroom, some accumulate more instruments than they now need and no doubt most are half deaf with their ears still buzzing from their years on stage.

Then, one day in our later years, something, someone or a snippet of a song triggers a memory and we are transported back to the 60's, and if you shut your eyes you can see it all unfolding before you. You're on stage giving your all, or on the dance floor shaking the night away. As an ex-band member, memories come flooding back of the people you met, the venues you played and the bands you played alongside, and as a dancer you recall the bands you followed, the venues you went to and the fun you had at the end of the night. All of those great memories can lead me to only one conclusion:

“What a great time we had”!

For many of the musicians from that Decade the next ‘big thing’ for them was playing in Clubs, Pubs and Hotels, but that’s another story!

## Acknowledgement

This is my first attempt at writing and without the help and advice of others my time ‘on the road’ may have languished in my memory for evermore. What I have written is my experience of that wonderful decade of music. Others may disagree with my interpretation of those memories but I’m sure we can all agree “what a great time we had”.

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Robert McLaren  
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