

IDIOT FOR FEBRUARY 2011.

SCHPROCKET

Q.1 What is your real name (optional) or the name you would like to be called?

Steve - the surname's buried in the many threads we have but the hint is that it rhymes with "Schprocket"...

Interviewer. You wouldn't be related to that guy who was born on a mountaintop in Tennessee, or maybe you're the brother of Lucy the kangaroo who lost her pouch?

Q.2 What is your age group? 20 - 30. 30 - 40. 40 - 50. 50 - 60. Over 60.

Still "40-50"...

Q.3 How did you get started in music?

Hmmm... I had typed a [history](#) here originally but really I've only just started (again...) two years ago when I discovered Mixcraft 4. That was about the time when Terry started up the TwoTrack site and I've been here since then.

Q.4 Can you list your top 3 music genres?

No. Wouldn't even try to. But if it sounds like The Beatles, The Stones, or Floyd would have done it, then I'm there.

Q.5 Of the three, which do you associate with mostly?

I think for the most part that since music is an emotional and personal thing, it really depends on my mood.

Do I like "Mersey Beat" today or is it more a "White Album" day?

Interviewer. Since your age group is more akin to late seventies and early eighties music, I just wondered what gave you your obvious interest in The Beatles and the sixties?

This is a question I've asked myself and the best answer/justification I've ever come up with is this:

I grew up in an environment where there would always be a radio or record playing and I'd say that from what my Dad told me about his record collection, my interest in a variety of styles is from him, but the singing side of it is Mum's contribution.

There always seemed to be some interest about The Beatles on the radio (and the telly) and I'd always listen to them whatever chance I had.

The question might then be "So you liked them because you were 'told' that was what good music sounded like?" and I would say that as a kid, the answer would be yes.

As I got older, into my early to mid-teens, I dug their later stuff way more than the earlier stuff - I kinda 'grew' out of 'having to' like them and enjoying what they did with sonic textures, albeit 10 years out-of-phase.

This didn't mean that I didn't like the current music of the time - I was on holiday in the UK the Xmas when Bohemian Rhapsody was #1.

Hated it at first but by the time I got back to Oz, I couldn't wait for it to get into the local record store. I bought almost the entire Fleetwood Mac "Rumours" album in 7" singles... but I digress.

Since then, my appreciation for most 'big' artists has fallen into that "10 years out-of-phase" thing but these days I'm finding myself attracted to a wide range of Indie artists, particularly Au & NZ artists, played on TripleJ.

Now, as for the sixties culture, I don't think that you can appreciate The Beatles without taking into consideration their influences, both before them (50's Rock and Roll, Dance Hall, Swing music) and their contemporaries (Dylan, et al).

I am always interested in culture and history - sociology? - and the Sixties seems to be one of those periods of time where I would have been 'most comfortable' if I wasn't where I am now... whoa... heavy...

Q.6 What is your talent? Don't be modest.

Unfortunately, it seems it's singing.

I like singing original songs since there is no reference against which to make them 'wrong'

Interviewer. My wife keeps telling me I'm singing the wrong tune even if it's my own?

I like singing karaoke because I like the songs I sing or murder, the result depending on your point-of-view and how many takes I've done...

Interviewer. I have to stop you there Steve and question the 'karaoke' thing. I have several quotes from other members who all agree you have a unique voice. One that mixes well and can collaborate with many styles so it's hardly 'karaoke' if you put so much into it.

Q.7 Of the talents you have not listed, which would you like to do most?

1. Mix better without having to do it for years or exclusively to be anywhere decent at it.
2. Play guitar better.
3. Play keyboards.
4. Write songs. As in, occasionally write a song with some decent lyrical content.

I read online recently that a little local recording studio runs an accredited course for a Certificate II in Music, so I'll look into it further and I might give that a crack...

Q.8 From the list of members you know, who interests you most and why? (doesn't have to be because you think they own the best talent)

I've worked with a lot of people since this site started, so I reckon I can list something that interests me about every one of the people whom I've worked with, or are yet to work with.

That said, I have to give a lot of credit to Terry ([JustOneOldMan](#)) for entrusting me to sing his songs, no matter how much I complained about the word-count. If it wasn't for him, I doubt I would have stepped too far from my 'comfort-zone'.

I think he's coached a few people like that :)

I should mention Al ([OneTrackMind](#)) in terms of original music. I have absolutely no idea what it is he does that grabs my attention but it rarely fails to do so.

Q.9 Have you ever collaborated with another member or members on a recording.

Might be easier to count the ones who I haven't...

Q.10 Which of your colabs did you enjoy most?

This wouldn't be fair to the readers because the list would be way too long.

Here's a shortish, non-definitive list, which is subject to change...

[Slave](#) - [Dino](#)

[The River](#) - nearly everybody

[Heart Strings](#) - [Jimbo](#)

[The First Meets The Last](#) - [Spiral](#)

[Down By The River](#) - nearly everybody again (unfinished)

Most tracks with [Toadman](#) and [JooM](#)

For the fun aspect of things, I liked what you ([way2lon](#)) and I did with "[You Know My Name](#)" and "[Baby, It's You](#)" was fun, especially organising your backing singers

Q.11 Have you a favourite mix from our bandroom? (Could be one of your own.)

I have many (including some of my own) but mood-wise, for now I'll go with "[Nightwatch](#)" by [OneTrackMind](#), and [Jimbo's "Heart Strings"](#).

Q.12 What is your ambition both musically and personally?

Musically, I'm enjoying performing songs that challenge my 'norm', that is, opening up to genres that I haven't listened to in the past. Except Country and Western. Maybe... I'd like to add that liking Neil Young does not automatically make me a C&W fan...

Q 13 Do you belong to any other indie websites and will you name them?

Nope. Aside from the occasional foray onto the [Kristal](#) sites. This one keeps me busy enough.

Q.14 Where do you see TTM in 5 years time? What role can you play in it's development?

It's not one I sit back and ponder because I think Terry's laid down some pretty good foundations - he's built it, so they will come...

In terms of the site's development, you can thank me for having a hand in getting Terry to create the gagillion corner pockets we have for sub-boards. Are you sure you want me to do any more damage?

Q.15 Who is your next choice for the IDIOT?

Without a doubt, my partner in entendre, [Mungbean9](#)