

# TUNE IN TO YOUR TV

Issue No. 44

No Relation

Spring 2010

# TVTIMES



## BACK FROM THE DEAD!

The Re-birth of TV Times

### The Birth of The TV Times

by Dave Thompson

### TV Smith's Next Album Exclusive

### TUTS EARTHBOUND Good Times is Back

### TV Smith Books and Future Gigs

“Let me tell you a story...”



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Wise words, infectious tunes and live wire energy

TV TIMES cannot accept responsibility for any errors in  
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# BACK FROM THE DEAD!

The Re-birth of TV Times

By Tj Sundown

Article

TVTIMES

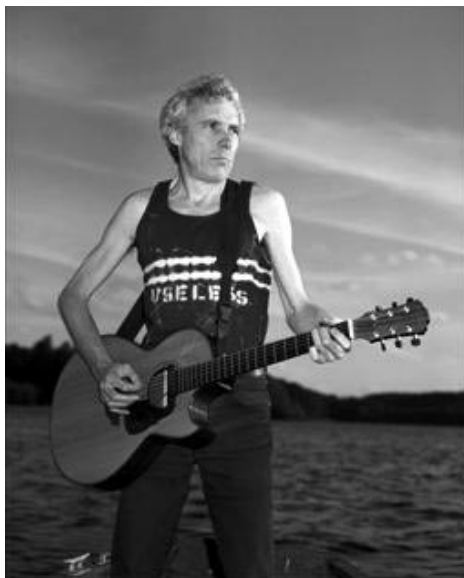
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Welcome to the first brand new special giant sized edition of TV Times (No Relation), a magazine focused on the life and times of the legendary singer-songwriter TV Smith. This first new edition in 26 years is focused on TV Smith's very latest album. After decades waiting we are delighted to present

**SPARKLE IN THE MUD Unreleased Songs and Demos (Volume One: 1979– 83)**

“When TV first told me that there were plans afoot to re-launch the TV Times (No Relation), the fanzine that consumed almost four years of my life in the early 1980's, my response was - Why?” Dave Thompson (TV Times (No Relation) 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Edition).

In the introduction to one of his two great new books on the life and times of TV Smith, Dave Thompson goes on to talk about the technological advances made over the past 30 years. It's a great question. Why did I get up this Saturday morning at 5:45am to write this introduction? Essentially because I, and the other dedicated members of



the TV Times team, feel inspired to do this. It's about having fun and spreading the word. We think this guy is gifted and what he has to say is worth listening to. Put it this way, if Specsavers can run a regular magazine why can't we? It's probably the same reason why so many German fans aged from Bored Teenager to Fabulous Fifty are flying over to see

TV Smith perform songs no-one has ever heard before at a piss up in a brewery - they see and hear something special!

It was 30 years ago when Dave Thompson attended the first gig of the new look TV Smith's Explorers. The first gig to feature what would become the classic line up. Dave was armed with dozens of copies of his handmade fanzine: The TV Times. Which of course bore no relation to the Radio Times twin sister. The tale of The Birth of The TV Times is best left to TV Smith's super fan turned multiple award winning music journalist, so please read through his fascinating article which is introduced in this issue and is printed in its entirety TV Times 45. An issue dedicated to our founding father, Dave 'TV Times' Thompson (No Relation). I'm delighted to say that the great explorer has joined our team as Adviser and he's sat in the back seat for the ride. Welcome home Dave, we missed you!

“I love the idea of the TV Times

TVTIMES



“I could jump a mountain now. Poke my head above the clouds and look around. I’m proud! I’m alive! Now I’ve found some purpose. Best of luck in bringing TV Times back from the dead!”

TV Smith (SongSmith) Live Gig, Earth

returning, and yes, begin with issue 44. Your plans for it sound great. I’ll drop something into every issue if you like!” Dave Thompson.

I’m delighted to say that the new TV

Times team includes the three biggest players in the world of TV Smith; Mr TV Times aka Dave Thompson our founding father as Adviser, Mr TV Smith.com aka Klaus Fleischer our Distributor (the man who single handedly made TV Smith more visible to the whole world) and Mr TV Smith himself our inspiration for creating this magazine (and I’m so very happy to say our occasional contributor). The core team that are focused on collecting, creating, editing and designing the new TV Times are yours truly and Fred Owen (Editors) and Fleag and Boris (Designers).

When we first talked about creating this magazine one of the concerns was will we get enough material. Within weeks we had so much material that TV Times was split in to two editions straight away. When the final

version of TV Times 44 was completed the giant had marched up to 35 pages, so out came the editing shears again. The real challenge was choosing what to place in which edition. TV is exclusively

announcing the title of his latest album and as this has already been delayed this had to be the focus of this first new edition. Issue 45 will be a tribute to Dave Thompson. The cover is a special treat for Dave (our way of saying thank you for all the tireless work he did promoting the great man in the 1980s). Fred Owen be creating and collating issue 46 which will feature his great article on the TV Smith Favourite Song Chart. Ironically it was that chart that started the movement that led to the return of TV Times. ...Typical you wait 26 years for a TV Times and three come along at once!

To swiftly bring you up to speed here’s the life and times of TV Smith and his fan base in one paragraph. Don’t worry too much if you don’t follow it all as it’s just a taster for future issues of TV Times where all will be revealed.

In the beginning was born TV Smith. He set off with an unusual name. From Poet to Panther. TV Smith begat The Adverts and they in turn transformed into great Explorers. Young Dave Thomson was so inspired he chose to shout out to the World about these great TV Times. Quiet, dark times then followed and TV Smith tuned into Channel 5 and hibernated to collect a chest full of hidden sparkling treasure. At 43, TV Times hibernated for what was to be a very long winter. TV came back with a mighty 200 Blows

# From Poet to Panther

## Secret to Legend



and started selling his fans something Cheap. And then the great wizard Attila shared some powerful wisdom with TV and a giant marched solo across the land. Germany called as Die Toten Hosen decided to learn English. TV HITS Blackpool and as the switch is made from secret to legend a certain obsessive young handsome German takes note. TVSmith.com is born and there the legend grows. TVSmith.com birthed a Communication Forum and an army of fans virtually connect. A Yorkshire guide

awakens to the call and poking fun (Tut! Tut! Tut!) at all the gigs in Germany the TUTS fans are gathered together as TVSmith United Tour Supporters. As two great Explorers return Earthbound is born, a TUTS annual World gathering in the sprit of friendship and connection to drown in a sea of quality beer and TV Smith's gigs like no other. The dozen Earthbound shows have been total entertainment, filled to the brim with dedicated fans, special guest performances, impossibly rare tracks

and virgin songs that get better and better with each passing year. *Having been positive that Probably and Complaints Department were TV's best new songs I found them both blown away be Worn Once and True Believers at a superb recent gig at the Verge in Hyde. Had I ever heard TV sound so good live?* People ask when was the purple patch that TV refers to in the song The Future Used To Be Better. The answer is; March 1977 (when The Adverts recorded their first song, Quickstep followed by the single, On Chord Wonders, with Larry Wallis at Pathway Studios) to right NOW.

...Enter TV Times 44.

After that little five decade catch up let's close 'Back From The Dead' with an excerpt from the first ever 21<sup>st</sup> Century TV Times interview. One of the goals that we have with this first issue is to form a three decade bridge from the last TV Times in the 80s to 2010. Our aim is to produce a magazine that keeps you up to date on all things TV and his world of words...

Tj: So what are your thoughts on the re-kindling of this old flame?

TV: I'm looking forward to seeing what

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## TV Together, But Never Alone



you do with the new TV Times. This is an opportunity to carry on the spirit of the old fanzine in a new context and I wish you all the best for it and hope you **have fun** doing it. I'm writing this in the van on the road between Boston and Philadelphia, which is quite a nice coincidence as it's where Dave Thompson now lives. Obviously it's going to be a different animal than the original TV Times, which was very much Dave's creation and had the stamp of his personality all over it. I'm sure you'll be able to create something

unique and reflect the spirit we have on the website forum.

*The full TV Smith life story interview is available to read along with a series of other great TV Smith interviews within the TUTS Forum at the following link <http://www.tvsmith.com/forum/index.php?board=16.0>*

**Tj Sundown**



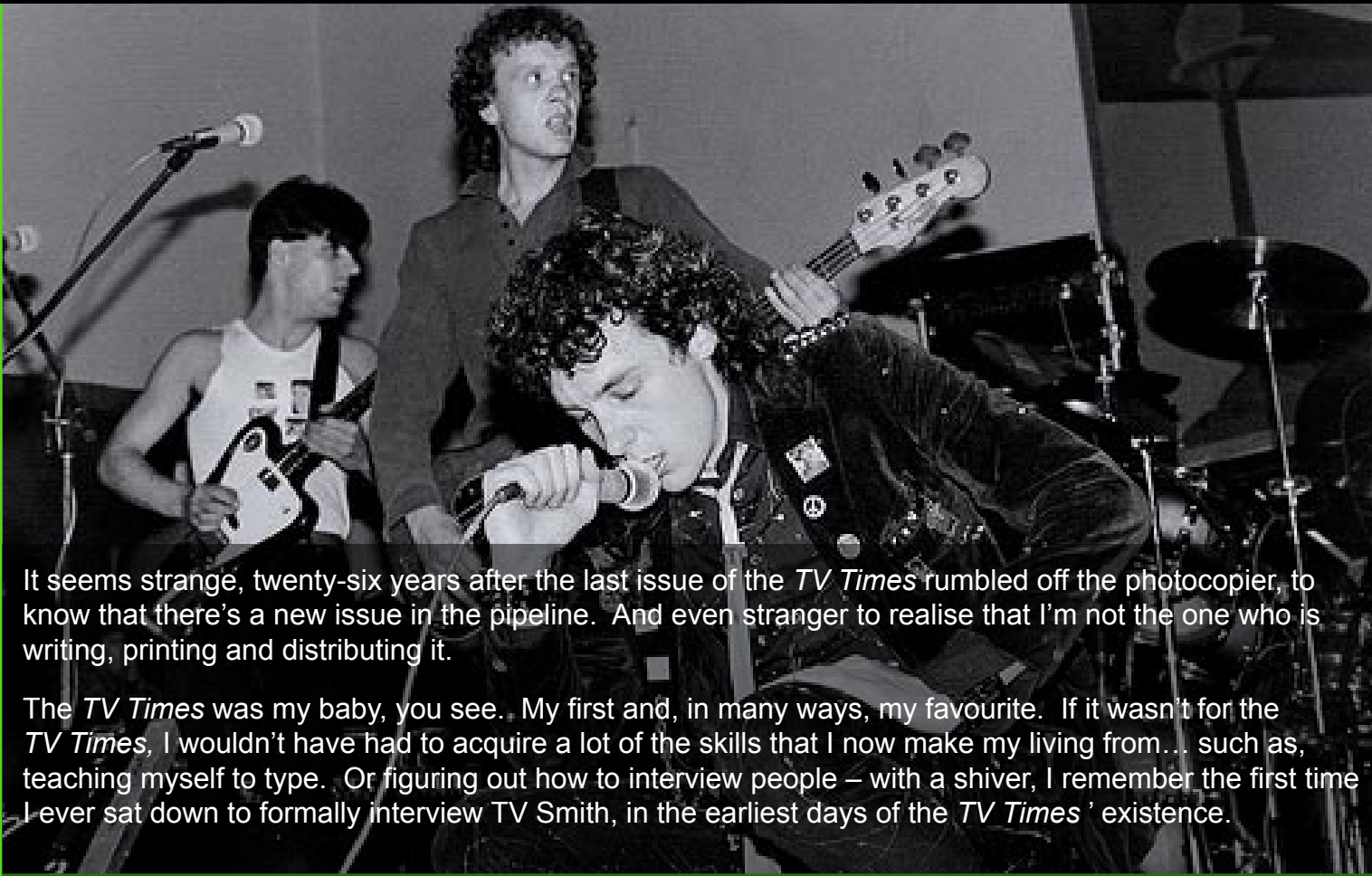
# 30 YEARS AGO

## The Birth of The TVTIMES by Dave Thompson

Article

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It seems strange, twenty-six years after the last issue of the *TV Times* rumbled off the photocopier, to know that there's a new issue in the pipeline. And even stranger to realise that I'm not the one who is writing, printing and distributing it.

The *TV Times* was my baby, you see. My first and, in many ways, my favourite. If it wasn't for the *TV Times*, I wouldn't have had to acquire a lot of the skills that I now make my living from... such as, teaching myself to type. Or figuring out how to interview people – with a shiver, I remember the first time I ever sat down to formally interview TV Smith, in the earliest days of the *TV Times*' existence.

# TVTIMES



Dave Thompson; THE Great 1980's Explorer of TV Smith

New batteries in the tape recorder, a list of carefully prepared questions, a willing subject; and we were about fifteen minutes in when TV offered up what remains the best advice I have ever been given. "You're not actually listening to my answers, are you? You're too busy preparing your next question."

I've never written down my questions since then.

So yes, I owe the *TV Times* a lot. It taught me to write to deadline - a new issue was required for every gig that TV and his then-current band, the Explorers, played, at least throughout the first six months of their existence. It taught me to write to length - although later issues would expand to absurd proportions, I limited the earliest ones to between two and four pages each. And it taught me

that I was quite capable of getting up at four or five in the morning, if that is what it took for me to have some quality time at the office photocopier.

And now somebody else has to do all that. I don't envy them in the slightest.

Dave Thompson

The second Spring edition of TV Times is a must read. It features the full spellbinding story of the original TV Times in a very special edition dedicated to our founding father.

Whilst compiling this first new edition of TV Times we received some red hot news for TV Smith fans around the Earth. Dave Thompson has released a brand new book to co-incide with the re-birth of his beloved TV Times . Ladies and Gentlemen, I give you...TV SMITH'S TV TIMES (NO RELATION) - THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY EDITION.

In print for the first time in thirty years, a 132 page digest of the very best of the legendary TV Times (No Relation), the official publication of the TV Smith fan club between 1980-1983. The book includes all 43 original covers, plus choice articles, illustrations, a wealth of never-before published photos, unpublished material and much, much, more. Everything you wanted to know about TV Smith and were too afraid to

ask (especially after reading Dave's story of his first interview with TV!).

Normally selling at \$25 this brand new book created just for you TVSmith United Tour Supporters out there and it's available at the special offer price of \$20 to all TUTS. Get It Now at <https://www.createspace.com/342157>



TV Smith captured in time by Meike magic

# TV's Next Album Exclusive: Unreleased Songs and Demos (Volume One: 1979-1983)

By Tj Sundown

Article

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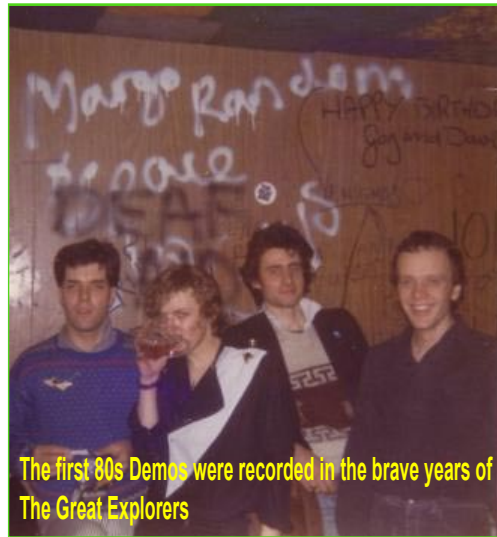
As you will have hopefully already read in 'Back From The Dead', when I first interviewed TV for the TV Times he shared with me a very exciting possibility:

"I'm intending to see if I can release a CD of some of the unreleased 80's demos, I've always thought it's a shame that they've never seen the light of day."

*TV had talked about these mysterious unreleased songs and demos in the TV life story interview we did for the Communication Forum at [www.tvsmith.com...](http://www.tvsmith.com...)*

Tj: This Century you've re-recorded three of your rare 80s demos; Carrying On, Open Up Your Heart and Trojan Horse. For those new discoverers out there, what's the full story about these legendary recordings?

TV: After the break up of the Adverts, the collapse of the Explorers, and the financial catastrophe of Channel Five where the label went bust on the week of release - and including along the way



the death of my manager and the loss of my publishing contract - there wasn't a record company in the world that would touch me. But I was still writing, and had a fairly regular routine of going down to visit Tim Cross and recording the new songs with him on his eight track recorder. He'd add some keyboards, and every now and then we'd ask Tim Renwick, who was still living in London at the time, to come over and add some

guitar and bass. Some of my favourite songs come from that period, but I have to admit I was pretty depressed about the situation I was in - there seemed no chance that any of those songs would ever get heard by anyone. I was on income support for ten years, heavily in debt, ignored by the music industry and with no apparent way to get back in touch with my potential audience. It was only the internet and the start of the solo gigs that changed that.

Tj: What is this incredible spirit you have, that keeps you carrying on, even when you can't get a record deal?

TV: I just felt it was the right thing to do. I believed in the songs, and I believed that there were people out there who would want to hear them. It was just a question of how to reach them.

Tj: You were so right people did want to hear them and now over twenty years later they can hear some of them. At a previous Elland EARTHBOUND you played Drowning on Dry Land as your special choice. Why does this particular

TVTIMES

80s demo resonate so far with you?

TV: I like all those old demos, but I suppose I have a particular soft spot for the ones that were written in the depths of despair. It's that mixture of sadness with a glimmer of hope. Hanging on to the hope and looking for that chink of light in the darkness, I think that's important for all of us, and I think the songs that capture that are somehow universal.

Tj: Like a fire in the darkness burning forever bright.

As news of a possible one-off 80's Demo's album grew into a potential two albums packed full to the brim with rare exiting gems, I couldn't contain my enthusiasm any longer. It was time to dare interrupt the genius at work and shine a light on what TV was actually doing with his hidden gems.

Tj: Hi Teev, your old friend TV Times here, still no relation. I know you're incredibly busy working your way through many versions of around 60 rare demos for us, as I've been pleading with you to do for the past eight years, but could you possibly spare some time to share the story of your new release with your fans?

...*Silence.*

*I dig into the belief and perseverance*

*within the words of Carrying On and trying again with a different type of approach.*

...*Success!*

TV: As I've explained, these songs are very special to me. It was interesting to see that they're special for other people too - the songs have been sitting around so long that I'd almost forgotten people might actually like them. I think that's what motivated me to finally release this stuff.

The way the album has come about is, I'd been trying out some of the songs at Earthbound for a few years at the request of the TUTS, then last year I started slipping the occasional one into the set while I was on tour, and often people asked me after the gig about one or other of the "new" songs - I had to explain that they were not new at all! But it made me realise that the songs still worked, and there might just be enough people out there interested enough in the "missing" years to make it worth releasing an album.

Another consideration was that I needed to do it before the original cassettes and tapes degenerated any further. The sound quality of the recordings vary wildly - some of it is pristine, some of it is barely useable.

The next problem was, how to organise

it? I only have the patchiest record of when each song was recorded, and often I made multiple demos of the same song. I decided that the only solution was to order them chronologically according to when they were written - something I could do with almost 100% certainty because I have a record of it in my old notebooks.

So, then I set about sifting through the piles of cassettes, tapes and CD's I've gathered over the years to find the best version of each song. What became immediately apparent was that there was far too much material for one album, so I'm going to have to release it as two volumes. Volume One will cover the years from just after the Adverts broke up to 1983 and will be crammed with 80 minutes of music, the absolute maximum you can fit on one CD. Most of the songs will be completely unheard and unreleased, but I'm also putting on a few of my favourite demos from songs that did make it onto later albums.

There were problems along the way: for example, drop outs in the sound had to be patched up from alternative versions, and back then cassette copies were often made on machines that were running at the wrong speed, so many of the songs were too fast or too slow - but luckily these days we have the computer technology to correct that. Finally, I

took all the prepared songs over to the mastering studio who did such a great job on the "100 Club" live CD and "In The Arms Of My Enemy." That's where they are being worked on right now and I'm confident that they'll come out sounding as good as new - or at least as near as you can hope for, considering that some of them were recorded on a two-track Revox machine more than thirty years ago!

Tj: Super fans, Dave Thompson and Dave 'C5' Allen both count Channel 5 as your best ever album and more recently Klaus Fleischer and I are both totally spellbound by the 80s Demo's. Why do you think this least commercially successful period of your career has such unwavering adoration?

TV: It's hard for me to split what I've done into separate "periods" - I see it as a continual process, one song following another. It's only later that I can compartmentalise what I've done into which band I had at a certain time, or which album I put certain songs onto. The interesting thing about the eighties was that there was no band and, apart from Channel Five, there was no album - the only context the songs have is the period they were written. It's a shame they didn't get heard because they really are just as good as all the others - the only reason they never came out was

because of how things were back then: no record companies were interested, and I didn't have the means or money to put out my own records, so the demos got recorded and then put on the shelf. It's been an interesting process bringing them all together again after all this time: there were a lot of versions of the songs around - original tapes and cassettes of varying quality - so I had to work my way through them all to find the best ones. An early problem was that it soon became clear that there were far too many songs for one CD. The idea of just putting out a "Best Of Demos" CD didn't go down too well with the TUTS I spoke to about it, so I decided to go through the recordings chronologically and include one version of every missing song I could find. That way I'll just about be able to cram everything onto two CDs, each one full with the absolute maximum 80 minutes. If there are any songs that have to be left out I will try and arrange a download so TUTS don't miss out on anything. Volume One, which covers the years 1979 - 1983 will get released this year, hopefully in time for an exclusive TUTS release at the three Earthbound shows in Yorkshire, and then I plan on putting out Volume Two in a year or so. I've had everything carefully mastered to bring out the best possible sound quality, and even though some of the original tapes had degraded quite badly most of the songs have come

up sparkling like new. Considering that I once thought that most of them would be lost forever it's been a pleasure to hear them like that, and I hope the TUTS and everyone else will enjoy them too - it's been a long wait!

Timing wise my aim is to officially release the album in early June, with those TUTS exclusive early copies available at Earthbound in May.

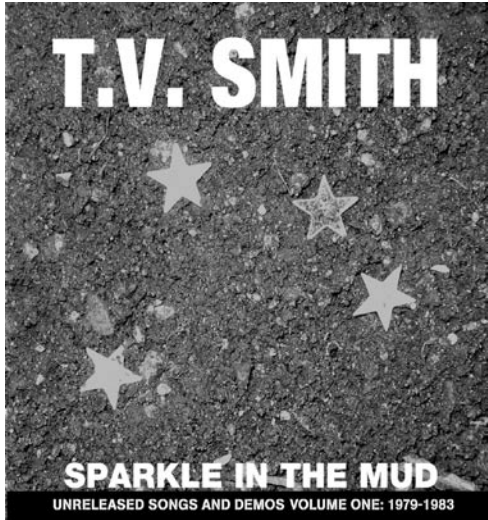
*[Fred Ed note - Great news! ...Sorry to disturb you, I couldn't resist it. Now back to Tj!]*

*TV's story about my favourite ever songs captivated me. My sub-conscious kicked in and reminded me that when you dare to dream, reality always begins with an ASK. It worked for me before when I ended up exploring madness singing live on stage with at the TV Smith's Explorers and The Doctors of Madness shows. Oh! Well nothing ventured, nothing gained, let's try and get a TV Times first new edition exclusive...*

Tj: It would be so cool if we could use TV Times to first publish the album cover wouldn't it?

...Wouldn't it, Teev?

TV: And...exclusively for the return of TV Times and all the TUTS, here is the cover:



Guiding Starlight sparkled. My thoughts went first to the hidden treasure of sparkling lost gems and then to a famous quote that I often use as I follow my purpose...

“Two men looked out from behind prison bars; one saw mud, the other stars.”

*What do you see?*

You might wonder why all this excitement about some dusty old recordings? Why are Klaus Fleischer (the man who created [www.tvsmith.com](http://www.tvsmith.com) and in doing so re-ignited his hero's career, helping

secret transform into legend) and I, so obsessed about a few dozen 30 year old rough cut pop rock demo's. Here's our story. A story I'm sure we'd both love to call...

## Carrying On

I was given the 80s demos by Klaus on the week-end of the first ever gathering of the TUTS. To be exact it was the morning of what later became known as the first ever EARTHBOUND, At Attila's (the TV catalyst name pops up again) Glastonwick 7 Music and Beer Festival in Southwick. Klaus gave copies to me, Smit and the late great C5, with strict instructions not to copy the two CD's to anyone on pain of a slow and tortuous death. ...I swear I saw a strange glint in his eyes when he said tortuous. I played them on the way home from the amazing festival with Smit and I was totally captivated. Klaus had already sent me one song by email. A song that still means as much to us both then as it does right now. A song that captivated everything I believe in about the unlimited potential of human beings. It is the Carrying On spirit of “We can do anything.” ...that's the wonderful thing. As I soaked in the journey other songs began to mesmerize me; The Sure Thing, Impulse Buy and the magic of People Don't Know. ...Did he really just sing “You get your miracle for just

darling to ask?” How could we keep the secret? People Don't Know sits on the twin throne alongside Carrying On as my favourite two songs of all time. TV's voice is at its majestic peak and those incredibly enlightened and inspirational lyrics. Create your own personal transformation programme... play People Don't Know and Carrying On on repeat.

...Right Klaus? ;o)

These two albums got better and better with each journey through the discs until they finally out marched the giant and out brainstormed The Doctors of Madness to become the most played albums of my life. So why do I love them so much? Here's my secret...

Inspirational Story: I love the whole story about TV in his darkest hour working for penny's writing such glorious songs and never giving in, forever Carrying On. Whenever I'm in a dark valley of life these songs pick me up and get me back swimming on dry land. In fact they have just done this for me as I melt like ice, Make My Escape and flow like water back on course for the peak again.

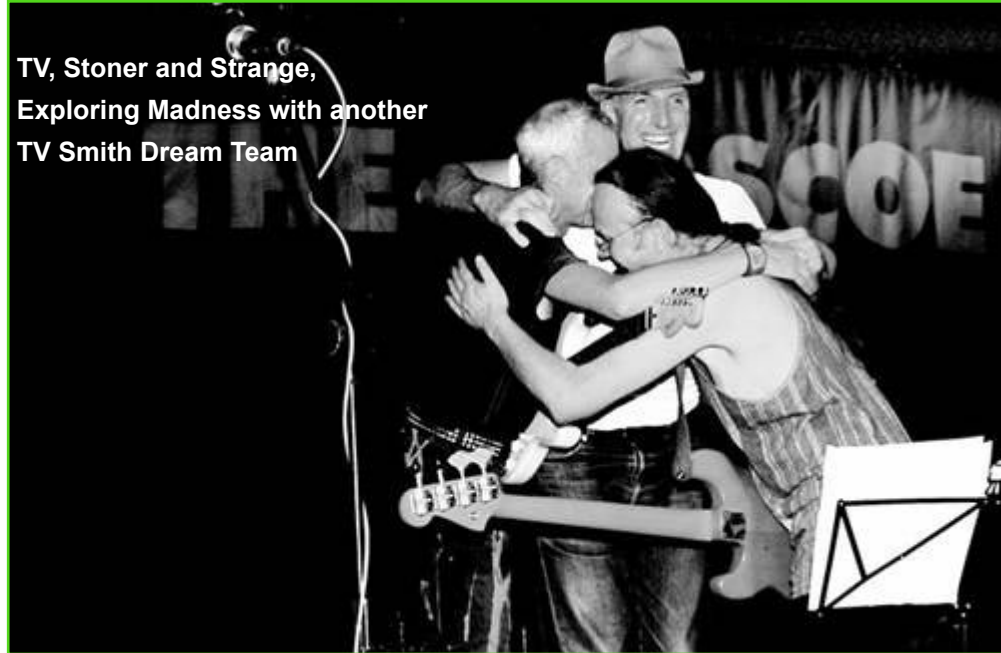
Songsmith: Where do I start? So many truly great lyrics written with hope in very desperate times. AWESome. As already mentioned they include several

of my favourite TV Smith songs of all time. Does TV have a true love song? In I Already have your Heart you the love song C5 was on a journey to write. Two other glorious songs that have really grown on me over the decade are the haunting Land of Plenty and spine tingling Drowning on Dry Land. Then there's the warped genius of New Discoverers. Guiding starlight lead me to Lean Toward the Light and then I felt a little Downbeat. Right now the catalyst for change and freedom is Make Your Escape. Then you have the joy of the wonderful Today and Get It Off Your Mind being found under TV's bed. The treasure in the darkness shines bright. So many superb songs, so hard to improve them, yet in Trojan Horse TV is the impossible person that finally tops the original demo.

That Voice: For me TV's voice was in his purple patch with songs like People Don't Know and Make My Escape. I've always been slightly more captivated by singing and lyrics than the tunes and musicianship...

Three Tim's: Saying that, I'm now going to contradict myself and say that the guitar solo on Land of Plenty is one of my favourite guitar solos of all time. I love the catchy arrangements made with the other two Tim's. Whilst they went on to tour as The Party Line and TV Smith's

### TV, Stoner and Strange, Exploring Madness with another TV Smith Dream Team



High and recorded as Production House, they are best known as The Three Tim's. Along with Stoner and Vom, for me they would make up TV's true dream band. ...At least until Urban Blitz joins them on violin!

Scarce Virginity: I love how rare, raw and so very special these songs are. This is how many of TV's songs started out. TV's 2009 best song chart toppers The Lord's Prayer and Lion and the Lamb both started out as 80s demos.

The Timing: Back in 2002 when I was

originally given the demos by Klaus I'd recently re-discovered TV Smith live. I was enchanted and obsessed. It was the month of the birth of both the TUTS and what would be called EARTHBOUND. TV was writing great songs like Not A Bad Day, Earthbound, and Swimming in the Flood. ...Swimming in yet another of his ongoing songwriting purple patches. I was enthused with all things TV Smith and these were the hidden gems. The ultimate TV treasure.

**Tj Sundown**

I asked Klaus to share the story of how he became such a dedicated fan of the 80s Demos and he put pen to heart and sent this through to me. It's a story full of surprises ...bar the ending ;o)

## Lost In The 80s

The story of the 80s demos started for me in the 90s. As a reward for my help on starting his website, Attila The Stockbroker gave me one of the greatest presents I ever received. Attila learned that I was obsessed with all things TV Smith and when he found a cassette of old TV Smith demos, he thought I might like a copy.

...He was wrong, I loved it!

It was so amazing to find out about another TV Smith who again sounded different than the other songs I discovered in his back-catalogue. There was something special about these songs, that was clear from the beginning. It took me a few years and a lot of talk to friends (especially to Tj who shares my love of TV's early to mid 80s period) to find the words to explain what makes them so very special to me. I have always been looking out for music which touches my soul, which is honest and which makes you feel the circumstances they were created in. With the 80s demos you got exactly that. TV



**TV Smith's Party Line playing the 80's Demo's live at Dingwalls on 6<sup>th</sup> December 1983**

Smith definitely had the darkest days of his career in the 80s. He must have been desperate that all his dreams have gone to dust. His bands which looked so promising split up. Record companies went bankrupt at the worst time possible. The 80s were pretty bad times for TV, but to our luck those bad times became an incredible creative period for him.

His voice was very special and quite different back then. He already had his friends Tim Cross and Tim Renwick around him, which guaranteed excellent arrangements and musicianship.

With this great mixture he kept on making music coming from his soul. No one wanted to give him a record

contract. No one wanted to take notice. Or so it seemed. It must have been a really shattering experience after being in the charts and playing on Top Of The Pops and The Whistle Test. But he never gave up.

And this legacy can still be felt in his music today. There's something of the 80's' struggle, desperation and hope preserved in every album he records. He always carried on.

Carrying On became, for me, probably the greatest song ever. This song kept me carrying on.

I remember (or at least my friends do) a party in the late 90s. It was my birthday

party. And when just a few people were left I insisted to put on Carrying On. And it had to keep on playing! I allowed no-one near the stereo. When I came home from that party I put on Carrying On again and it was on repeat for the rest of the night. It played for 8 hours... My girlfriend back then must have realized that night, that I am somehow special, too. ;-)

Carrying On has saved my life constantly since then. Thanks TV!

From the first time I heard the 80s demos I couldn't accept that these fine tunes would stay unheard by the world. It was unbearable for me that songs of that quality, honesty and power would be lost in the 80s. So I tried to convince TV to give copies to some die-hard fans (TUTS we call them now). All the reactions I got were absolutely positive. Over the years more and more people were encouraging him to make more out of those lost gems. First, we got remakes of some classics like Carrying On and Open Up Your Heart. And now we are going to get the real deal...

The original demos released. I always hoped this would happen one day, but honestly I never really thought this would ever actually happen.

But as a good friend of mine would say: You get your miracle for just daring to



Steve P's rare 80s Production House cassette

ask. Enjoy this miracle!

[Klaus Fleischer](#)

## Shining a light to Sparkle in the Mud

"It was the first time I'd worked on my own in a studio for a long while. I really enjoyed myself"

[TV Smith \(December 1981\)](#)

"You'll not find a truer account of life in the 80s anywhere."

[Steve P \(February 2010\)](#)

"It's on this material that Smith's development as a songwriter can be truly gauged. Smith's forte has always been pulling off the unexpected."

[Dave Thompson \(Your Ticket Out Of Here\)](#)

..."Ponder on the greatest of life's little mysteries – why TV Smith has not yet really *made it*"

# TUTS EARTHBOUND

## Greetings to 21<sup>st</sup> Century TV Times

From a cast of thousands

"Well, I never expected to see you again!"

**Dave Thompson (Award Winning Author and Father of TV Times) Newark, Delaware, USA**

"Welcome back TV on this the 30th Anniversary of your fanzine. Maturing like a fine wine I trust? More like being the hardest working man in Punk, I'll bet. Always impressed by your list of forthcoming gigs old chap, and looking forward to seeing you 'tread the boards' in the not too distant future. Health and wealth to you all for the forthcoming year."

**Tim Renwick (Guitarist to TV Smith, David Bowie and a Cast of Thousands) Cornwall, UK**

"Being a hardcore fan of all things TV Smith, I can only say TV Times can count on one new avid reader! TV Smith has given so much to so many people (me included of course!) that anything we can do to show him respect, gratitude and admiration will never be enough. So I'll raise my glass to TV Smith, TV Times



TV and BBQ alarming TUTS at Earthbound Germany 2007 in Essen

and all the TUTS-friends who have been crucial in making my collaborations with TV so special. There will be more in the future, and I can't wait!"

**BB Quattro (Bass Player in Bored Teenagers and Suzy & Los Quattro) Barcelona, Spain**

"TV Times → tvsmith.com - The circle has been closed:

TV Smith's website has been deeply connected with Dave Thompson's TV Times from the early beginnings of the site at the end of the 90's. Most of its early content originated from a copy of the rare TV Times compilation 'The Life And Times of TV Smith'.

When my enthusiasm about TV Smith and his music started to gain the intensity it still maintains today, I ran

search-ads in British and American music magazines. I was looking for anything TV Smith related. Every communication was still snail-mail based back in those days. Amazing how slowly things had to be handled back then - but the waiting was much more exciting! You never knew when any item would be arriving... Nowadays you get informed about any step in the ordering process and in most cases you know the exact date when something is going to arrive. One day you'll be able to track the postman's journey to your door on Google-maps.

Under the surprisingly many offerings I received in my physical mailbox there was also a rare copy of the TV Times compilation edition. Of course I didn't miss that opportunity and bought it.

It revealed a world of TV Smith I didn't know existed out there. The discography and the songlist wouldn't have been on the website years ago, if not for that copy of the TV Times.

I am glad that I was able to get a grasp of the pre-digital fanzine world and transfer a part of it into the digital world of the world wide web. And I am even more pleased that with this first digital edition of the legendary TV Times its glorious history is going to be continued. And what's really amazing, after 10 years when the original TV Times provided

**"Best of luck in bringing TV Times back from the dead!"**

**TV Smith (SongSmith) Live Gig, Planet Earth**



content for the new-born website the same website is now providing content for the reborn TV Times!

The circle has been closed - the TV Times are Carrying On!"

**Klaus Fleischer (Founding father of [tvsmith.com](http://tvsmith.com) and Super TUT) Aachen, Germany**

"It's nice to see the legendary "TV Times" is back in a new updated version! TV Smith is still a brilliant songwriter and consistent performer. After a decade of going to TV's gigs, meeting TUTS from all over, moderating the forum and discussing his lyrics and songs with other fans, I'm looking forward to many more TV Times ."

**Ulrich 'Uli' Schmid (TV Smith Forum Moderator) Laichingen, Germany**

"Hi Tj! Thanks for the heads up! I am so glad you enjoyed the TV Smith interviews in The Big Takeover magazine.

I've greatly enjoyed all three interviews I have done with TV over the past twenty odd years. He's a good egg and a great songwriter. His lyrics over the years are a testament to the fact he's incredibly bright and outspoken. He's a thinker! His lyrics and singing and songs are so good, and so thought provoking. As a teenager TV was an idol of mine. His old band The Adverts were great and what he's done since has been really good too.

Article

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TVTIMES

## Tj, Smit and Fred are happy True Believers at Kettering in 2010



I'm glad you are digging the radio show, Tj. Fantastic! Thanks for telling all TV Smith's fans about our mag, us print mags can really use the help.

Be good!"

**Jack Rabid (Editor at Big Takeover Magazine) New York, USA**

"The first album I ever bought was "Crossing the Red Sea with The Adverts" and the last one I bought was "TV Smith Live at the NVA" – I guess I should get out more! I've bought all of TV's recordings from The Adverts to his most recent solo material and I dearly love them all. Since I first saw TV live in 2001 I have been at dozens of his gigs (as I had a quarter of a century to make

up for – what the hell was I doing for all those wasted years?). Whether he is fronting a band (which he still does like it was 1977) or he's entralling a crowd with just his guitar, witty repartee and amazing lyrics, I treasure the memory of each and every show. I also greatly value the friendship of the TUTS I have encountered along the way and I'd like to thank each and every one of them for their input to the experience. Special mention has to go to some:

Tim and Gaye – for obvious reasons!

Klaus (El Presidente!) Fleischer – without whom there wouldn't have been tvsmith.com and many of us would have lost track of Tim and never been able

to form the TUTS. A simple thanks just doesn't cover it Klaus mate!

Tj – for being a super-supporter and ultimately bringing back the TV Times and having the energy to pull it all together. Nice one mate – you've more than proved that you CAN organize a piss up in a brewery!

And all the other super-friendly and helpful TUTS – you know who you are. To mention only Alan, Chris, Jock, Carol, The Fleagles, GJ, etc., etc. would be wrong, but I've done it anyway!

I won't thank Steve the Fish as he's very annoying!

**Fred Owen (Proud TUT that now owes Steve a pint and TV Times Editor) Midlands, UK**

'To quote TV, "some people say the Adverts changed their lives', ..'the world just got smaller again' and 'perhaps, the good times are back ' kind of reflects my feelings on the TUTS adventures!

**Fleagle, Carshalton UK**

"It's been a pleasure working on TV Times, I get to read it before anyone else"

**Boris, Sutton UK**

"TV Times 44... "It's going to be a huge production." You can sing that again, Teev!

Article

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TVTIMES

Welcome and greetings to all the TUTS EARTHBOUND from Austria to Australia and beyond.

Special thanks to TV for the constant inspiration to keep us all Carrying On and for freeing his ancient hidden treasure to sparkle in the mud.

Mega thanks to Dave Thompson for the first 43 and reminding me the secret is to "Have Fun!"

Huge thanks to Klaus for virtually connecting us all together alone in the first place.

Extra special thanks to Fred, Fleag and Boris for standing up, being counted and making a difference... "We can do anything and that's the wonderful thing."

Thank you to all who contributed to make this comeback issue a March Giant.  
...Ouch!

TV & TUTS... Creating Dream Reality again... "You get your miracle for just daring to ask."

*This ones for us mate, say goodbye to those grey gloomy clouds."*

**Tj Sundown (Fire in the Darkness  
Torch Lighter and TV Times Editor)  
Yorkshire UK**

## TV Smith Books

Getting There (First Tour Diaries by TV Smith)

How To Feel Human (Second Tour Diaries by TV Smith)

Your Ticket Out Of Here (TV Smith Guidebook by Dave Thompson)

TV Smith TV Times (No Relation) (30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Edition by Dave Thompson)

"I've been a fan of TV Smith's ever since The Adverts. I am currently reading his travel diaries, How To Feel Human." **Neil Gaiman** (Multiple award winning author of Sandman and Stardust)

## TV Times (No Relation) Back Issues by Dave Thompson

All 43 back issues can be purchased on CD from [www.davethompsonbooks.com](http://www.davethompsonbooks.com)

## TV Smith Film Documentary

Uncharted Wrecks of Wonder  
**BACKERS WANTED:**  
[www.whitedolphinfilms.co.uk](http://www.whitedolphinfilms.co.uk)

Watch out for 'Elland Earthbound' at this years triple gig world fan club gathering in May in Yorkshire. Brewed by the team who brought you the Supreme Champion Beer of Britain



Article

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# Future Gigs

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	<b>UK</b> 
<b>Fri 02 Apr 10</b>	<b>EDINBURGH - Citrus Rooms</b>
	<b>Italy</b> 
<b>Sun 04 Apr 10</b>	<b>MILAN - Tunnel Club</b>
	<b>Germany</b> 
<b>Sat 10 Apr 10</b>	<b>ASCHAFFENBURG - JUKUZ/Beatbaracke</b>
	JUKUZ, Kirchhofweg 2, 63739 Aschaffenburg. TV onstage 21:30 - 22:30 <a href="http://www.myspace.com/beatbaracke">www.myspace.com/beatbaracke</a> NEW! Vom will be joining TV for this set so it will now be a TVOM! show!
	<b>Spain</b> 
<b>Thu 15 Apr 10</b>	<b>BARCELONA - Sidecar</b>
	TV Smith "small band" with B.B. Quattro and Yuri Quattro.
<b>Fri 16 Apr 10</b>	<b>MADRID - Wurlitzer Ballroom</b>
	TV Smith "small band" with B.B. Quattro and Yuri Quattro.
<b>Sat 17 Apr 10</b>	<b>BURGOS - Estudio 27</b>
	TV Smith "small band" with B.B. Quattro and Yuri Quattro.
<b>Sun 18 Apr 10</b>	<b>VITORIA - Ibu Hots</b>
	TV Smith "small band" with B.B. Quattro and Yuri Quattro.
<b>Mon 19 Apr 10</b>	<b>SAN SEBASTIAN - Mogambo</b>
	TV Smith "small band" with B.B. Quattro and Yuri Quattro.
<b>Tue 20 Apr 10</b>	<b>BERMEO - Auditorium</b>
	TV Smith "small band" with B.B. Quattro and Yuri Quattro.
<b>Wed 21 Apr 10</b>	<b>PONFERRADA - Cocodrilo Negro</b>
	TV Smith "small band" with B.B. Quattro and Yuri Quattro.
<b>Thu 22 Apr 10</b>	<b>ZARAGOZA - La Lata De Bombillas</b>
	TV Smith "small band" with B.B. Quattro and Yuri Quattro.
<b>Fri 23 Apr 10</b>	<b>VALENCIA - Caverna</b>
	TV Smith "small band" with B.B. Quattro and Yuri Quattro.
<b>Sat 24 Apr 10</b>	<b>PEDREGUER - Rockodrom</b>
	TV Smith "small band" with B.B. Quattro and Yuri Quattro.
<b>Sun 25 Apr 10</b>	<b>CASTELLON - Four Seasons</b>
	TV Smith "small band" with B.B. Quattro and Yuri Quattro.

**TV Times Team (No Relations)**

**Editors:**

Fred Owen & Tj Sundown

**Designers:**

Boris & Fleagle @ Music Art Design

**Distributor:**

Klaus Fleischer

**Adviser:**

Dave Thompson

**Inspiration:**

TV Smith

**Contributors**

**Words**

Tj Sundown

Dave Thompson

TV Smith

Klaus Fleischer

Steve P

Fred Owen

Tim Renwick

BB Quattro

Uli Schmid

Jack Rabid

Neil Gaiman (Stardust in the Mud)

**Pictures**

Meike Hartmann

Ian Grieveson

Ookami Dou

Dave Thompson

Steve P

**Pictures**

Tj Sundown

Alan Smith

**TV Times (No Relation) 44**

is dedicated with great respect to these fantastic four who all made a very special contribution to TV in his transformation from secret to legend.

**Michael Dempsey** (TV Smith's Special Friend and Manager in the 1970's and 1980's)

**Howard Boak** aka Howard Pickup (The Adverts gifted and celebrated guitarist)

**Jay Reatard** (TV Smith's Real Rock'N' Roll USA Touring Partner)

**Dave Allen** aka C5 aka Backstage Bob (TV & TUTS 'Heart and Soul' Super Fan)

**TV Times Feedback**

**TVSmith United Tour Supporters (TUTS) Communication Forum @ TVSmith.com**

Please let us know exactly what you think of this 21<sup>st</sup> Century version of TV Times (No Relation) by posing in the TV Times section @ <http://www.tvsmith.com/forum/index.php>



TV Times Dream Design Team of Boris and Fleagle @ Music Art Design



The Great C5, Elland Smit, Leg End, Tj Bluesky and Fleagle Less laugh it up at the amazing Earthbound 2003 at Bogart's in Peterborough after hearing Xmas Bloody Xmas and People Don't Know for the first time. ...Play it again Teev!



## Next Issue

### Mr TV Times

TV Times 45 is out very soon and it's a real treat. The issue is dedicated to Dave Thompson. Mr TV Times is now regarded as one of the world's top five rock biographers and he cut his teeth on this very magazine 30 years ago. The fully story is extremely captivating. The issue is also a special tribute to Jay Reatard, a very gifted artist who passed away way too soon. TV described Jay as being very talented, full of energy and a big heart. To bring us up to date the issue also features TV talking politics 2010 and an up to date album discography and full future gig listing.