

'Raiders Of The Lost Archives' - Welcome to the page for The Drunkards' 'Estate'.

Page last updated 27th April 2018

'Glamorising and trivialising alcohol abuse' - Julia Mitchell, 2012
'Since 1976' - Gary Mitchell, five minutes later

This is the page for the 'saloon's' current activity (it's unofficially a 'saloon' because it's not really big enough to be an 'estate' - boom, boom!)

The 'Take That of British comedy?' Although no longer a disfunctioning unit (see *'Gary's Previous Life (to 1996)'*), in 2006 THE DRUNKARDS came together again to mark their 30th anniversary by producing a charity calendar.

Where are they now? Graham (ironically) used to run a pub back in Warwickshire, and now drives huge trucks for a stress-free existence. Andy is ordained as a curate by the Church of England (based in Cumbria) and Harry is... well, possibly the nicest bloke in the universe. As for Gary, see the rest of this site for his nefarious activities.



As delegated keeper of the flame Gary has worked on 're-visioning' unissued archive material using 'latest technology' (*sic* - below). Note the '77', '87, '07 synchronicity, Man! We *think* the broadcast of *'Family Reunion'* by ['Hope FM'](#) is the first ever of a

Drunkards recording (as opposed to a cover version of Drunkards penned material). The track is now available on the charity compilation CD *'Unavailable Elsewhere'* - see ['Shop'](#)



See ['Shop'](#) for details of current archive-based 'product'. - including charity work for ['Comic Relief'](#) - and 'new' product based upon the 'legend'!

BIBLIOGRAPHIC BIT

Timings are only given for mastered recordings.

RECORDING SESSION, 27/04/2018, Bournemouth (Gary's house). PERSONNEL: Gary. ITEMS RECORDED: You'll Always Find Me In the Kitchen At Parties (3:29) NOTES: Jonah Lewie cover using (in part) *objet trouve* from the day before – indeed the idea that had sparked the search. Use the 'mint abuse' bit...

RECORDING SESSION, 26/04/2018, Bournemouth (Gary's house). PERSONNEL: Gary. ITEMS RECORDED: Party Piece II – The Boring Society (5:40) NOTES: Remastering of the original of 'Party Piece II – The Sequel' that got forgotten about the year before.

RECORDING SESSION, 20/5/2017, Bournemouth (Gary's house). PERSONNEL: Gary. ITEMS RECORDED: Consequences Of Conversion (1:56) / August Bank Holiday Monday (4:28) / Family Reunion / Ted Sprocket – At the Pictures NOTES: We were talking, about the space we need to fill... Andy poem oft used plus half remembered, half forgotten, group composition from down 't pub sees Gary – ultimately ironically – playing all four of 'em. Remasters too....

RECORDING SESSION, 17/5/2017, Bournemouth (Gary's house). PERSONNEL: Gary. ITEMS RECORDED: Octopus's Garden!?! ('17 Remix Edit) (5:07) / Ted Sprocket Interviewing Mr X ('17 Remix) (6:41) NOTES: Check you don't use the same joke twice....

RECORDING SESSION, 16/5/2017, Bournemouth (Gary's house). PERSONNEL: Gary. ITEMS RECORDED: Stratford 5-0, Ep 1 (6:07) / Stratford 5-0, Ep 2 (5:28) / Stonewall J (5:25) / Imagine (6:29) NOTES: 'Blimey Chalky! This tape conservation lark takes more re-mastering than you think'.

RECORDING SESSION, 14/5/2017, Bournemouth (Gary's house). PERSONNEL: Gary. ITEMS RECORDED: Ted Sprocket – At Henley Post Office (4:11) / Gladys Meets Bert – Part 85, In the Long Grass (5:19) / Do You Remember? (4:32) NOTES: 'When in doubt, go to the library?' Two more 'conservation issue remasters' – and a cover of Mark Sainsbury's song about Stratford so *he* can be on a Drunkards record! Approved by him too!

RECORDING SESSION, 12/5/2017, Bournemouth (Gary's house). PERSONNEL: Gary. ITEMS RECORDED: A Lesson To Us All (4:48) NOTES: Another CD conservation issue remaster...

RECORDING SESSION, 6/5/2017, Bournemouth (Gary's house). PERSONNEL: Gary. ITEMS RECORDED: The Dead Author Sketch (6:26) NOTES: Another CD issue remaster...

RECORDING SESSION, 04/5/2017, Bournemouth (Gary's house). PERSONNEL: Gary. ITEMS RECORDED: Theme From 'Henley High School Musical' (3:16) NOTES: Using an alternate take of Laura Jerome's song from the soundtrack (qv) a duet concocted using open mics and electronic trickery.

RECORDING SESSION, 29/4/2017, Bournemouth (Gary's house). PERSONNEL: Gary, Barry The Hedgehog. ITEMS RECORDED: The Harrods Sketch ('17 Remix) (3:38) / Ted Sprocket – In A Pub ('17 Remix) (3:38) / Sleeping Beauty (9:31) / Sleeping Beauty ('17 Remix) (9:53) / Star Wars ('17 Remix) (9:45) / Octopus's Garden!?! (4:50) / Octopus's Garden!?! ('17 Remix) (6:54) NOTES: Long story short. 'Harrods' and 'Pub' always suffered from being early tinny mono – but were here (at Barry's suggestion) remastered with FX to enhance the sound. The tape of 'Sleeping Beauty' was thought too deteriorated – but Barry's electronic trickery saved it (original deemed 'not for release'). With editing and FX it and 'Star Wars' were restored and enhance. 'Octopus's' had degraded too – ON CD!!! – so had to be re-mastered before remixing.

RECORDING SESSION, 28/4/2017, Bournemouth (Gary's house). PERSONNEL: Gary. ITEMS RECORDED: Hogmanay – A Government Health Warning (3:45) NOTES: Always one you miss – a version of 'Christmas Drinking'.

RECORDING SESSION, 20/4/2017, Bournemouth (Gary's house). PERSONNEL: Gary. ITEMS RECORDED: The Edinburgh Fridge (2:53) NOTES: Penned by Gary and Graham back in '95 – a fridge does stand-up – jokes by the latter – experience by the former.

RECORDING SESSION, 15/4/2017, Bournemouth (Gary's house). PERSONNEL: Gary. ITEMS RECORDED: I Can't Go To Your Party (2:13) / Red Lion Rock (2:27) NOTES: Amazingly surviving material from '76 via Gary's 'Gary Von Mitchell's Aardvark'. The first is a Mitchell/Mark Sainsbury song – the second turned into a real Drunkards track.

RECORDING SESSION, 13/4/2017, Bournemouth (Gary's house). PERSONNEL: Gary. ITEMS RECORDED: Love Is... ('17 Remix) (6:44) / I'd Like To Deny That Last Rumour (No.2) ('17 Edit) (0:48) / Snow White (X) ('17 Edit) (1:16) NOTES: Barrel (or is that 'keg) well and truly scrapped...

RECORDING SESSION, 12/4/2017, Bournemouth (Gary's house). PERSONNEL: Gary. ITEMS RECORDED: The Legend Of The 6/2 Physics Group (8:03) / Wombat Recoiless (7:14) NOTES: Nostalgia for schooldays isn't what it was. 'Physics' is a composite edit of 'Back In the Rotten Old School', 'Fan Club News' and '6/2 Physics Group Story'. For internal consumption, unlikely to ever be released. 'Wombat' (named after one of Harry's fave weapons) is (basically) a mish-mash of 'the French Connection' and Radio Boscombe's 'Thatcher Is Innocent' on which Harry guested, and used by permission.

RECORDING SESSION, 11/4/2017, Bournemouth (Gary's house). PERSONNEL: Gary. ITEMS RECORDED: Return To The Scene Of The Crime ('17 Edit) (6:12) NOTES: Despite being edited for libel the group's arch piece of vainglory is somehow longer than the original. FX added to during and the end, and a bit from 'Pleasant Valley Sunday' to the start.

RECORDING SESSION, 09/4/2017, Bournemouth (Gary's house). PERSONNEL: Gary, Barry The Hedgehog. ITEMS RECORDED: People we Left Out (7:30) NOTES: It is a truth, universally acknowledged, that a man in possession of time and a tape recorder...Using multi-tracking (for echo) varispeed, a 'House' dance track and useable bits of 'Who's Who' (see below) for a weird 'dance' track courtesy of the 'random' of top producer 'DJ Baz'.

RECORDING SESSION, 08/4/2017, Bournemouth (Gary's house). PERSONNEL: Gary. ITEMS RECORDED: Float on ('17 Edit) (3:02) NOTES: Non-litigious edit of the most infamous use of 10cc's 'I'm Not In Love' for a popular parody. Just about useable...

RECORDING SESSION, 04/4/2017, Bournemouth (Gary's house). PERSONNEL: Gary. ITEMS RECORDED: The Die Is Cast (Disco Version) (3:29) / Don't Let The Bastards Grind You Down ('17 Version) (1:27) NOTES: The joys of copyright free music. The former uses Andy's 'alternate take' of the 'HHSM' poem (see below) - plus outtakes - over a disco beat - a clear compliment to the poet's terpsichorean proclivities. Once again it proved impossible to use the original recording of 'Bastards', so the words were instead added to a punk backbeat. Panache carried the day and semi-cleared the in-tray.

RECORDING SESSION, 31/03/2017, Bournemouth (Gary's house). PERSONNEL: Gary. ITEMS RECORDED: I'm In The Mood For Dancing (3:17) / Last Chance dance ('17 Version) (4:06) NOTES: First use of the inserts. It had been hoped to use some of the original 'Last Chance Dance' (see below) but this proved to be technically impossible - on account of the original being crap.

RECORDING SESSION, 30/03/2017, Bournemouth (Gary's house). PERSONNEL: Gary. ITEMS RECORDED: Was God An Astronought? ('17 Edit) (16:22) NOTES: Previously kinds released on 'Previously Unleashed Drunkards' this edit is less blasphemous. Original recorded??/12/77.

RECORDING SESSION, 29/03/2017, Bournemouth (Gareth's penthouse). PERSONNEL: Gareth Mayo. ITEMS RECORDED: Lovely Couple / Naughty Novelist / Yesterday In Parliament / Ernie - The Fastest Milkman In The West NOTES: Top-level electronic cleaning of newly canonical recordings (see below).

RECORDING SESSION, 29/03/2017, Bournemouth (Gary's house). PERSONNEL: Gary. ITEMS RECORDED: Stonewall J _ The Santa Claus Mystery (6:19) / Greatest Hits (1:52) / The French Connection (1:40) / Timetable For the last Day Of Term (4:34) / Who's Who In the Drunkards (6:26) / Why Not Open, A Midwest Current Account? (4:48) / 6/2 Physics Group Fan Club News (3:46) / Back In the Rotten Old School (2:31) / The 6/2 Physics Group Story - Part 1, Rub Me Do (4:27) NOTES: 'Stonewall' deemed 'just about', the band on firing on all cylinders (inserts taken too). 'Greatest Hits', 'Connection', 'Who's Who In...', 'Account' the 'Physics trio' and 'Timetable' deemed 'not for release', but inserts extracted. Originals recorded??/12/77 ('Timetable' ??/10/1977, 'Who's Who In...' ??/07/1977). Of the 'Physics' ones 'Back In' recorded 22/01/1977, 'Fan Club' 24/01.1977 and 'Story' ??/06/1977.

RECORDING SESSION, 27/03/2017, Bournemouth (Gary's house). PERSONNEL: Gary. ITEMS RECORDED: Lest We Forget (5:11) NOTES: Tape slowing and some background FX salvage this tale of Mods and Rockers. Original recorded??/12/77.

RECORDING SESSION, 26/03/2017, Bournemouth (Gary's house). PERSONNEL: Gary. ITEMS RECORDED: Letters We've Received (2:55) / Love Is... (5:48) / Sleep (2:44) / Who's Who (11:25) / Margerine Pubs - The Stars And You (2:04) / Phone Call (2:16) / Return To The Scene Of The Crime (6:06) NOTES: After emails a strategy of 'clear the decks' before reconstruction. 'Sleep', 'Letters', 'Who's' (tape slowing needed), 'Marge Pubs', 'Phone Call' and 'Love' deemed 'not to be released' - but from the last three could be cut and bits used. 'Return' 'not for release' but to form the basis of a reconstruction project - watch this space. 'Sleep' poor sound quality Private Eye cover. Recorded??/06/77 ('Letters'), ??/10/1977 ('Who's'), ??/12/1977 ('Return', 'Love' and 'Sleep'); 24/02/1977 ('Marge Pubs'), ??/07.1977 ('Phone').

RECORDING SESSION, 25/03/2017, Bournemouth (Gary's house). PERSONNEL: Gary. ITEMS RECORDED: Films This Christmas On BBC1 (1:47) / Film Night - Snow White (X) (2:34) / Birdwatching (3:11) / Holiday '77 (2:39) / How To Go Boosing (3:40) / How To Get Arrested Without Breaking The Law (3:24) / I'd Like To Deny That Last Rumour (No.2) (0:53) NOTES: Like 'Yesterday In Parliament' (below) 'Films This' and the two 'How To's' were delivered too fast - slowing the tape again the solution; for it is a truth universally acknowledged, that in doing 'filler's' on his own while waiting for the others etc Gary tends to gabble. 'Holiday', 'Birdwatching', 'Snow', 'Rumour' and the two 'How Tos' deemed 'not to be released' - but the latter three could be cut and bits used. Recorded ??/10/77 ('Films' and both 'How To's'), ??/12/77 ('Snow'), 24/02/1977 ('Birdatching' and 'Holiday'), ??/07/1977 ('Rumour').

RECORDING SESSION, 24/03/2017, Bournemouth (Gary's house). PERSONNEL: Gary. ITEMS RECORDED: Join The Sixth Form Fam Club (1:09) NOTES: So 'in' it's timeless - deemed 'passable' (recorded 22/02/1977).

RECORDING SESSION, 23/03/2017, Bournemouth (Gary's house). PERSONNEL: Gary. ITEMS RECORDED: Bruce Falseteeth And the Degeneration Game (3:18) / Party Political Broadcast (2:19) / Float On (3:31) NOTES: The first two deemed 'passable' (both recorded ??/10/1977), 'Float On' cover 'not to be released' (recorded??/12/1977) but bits deemed useful.

RECORDING SESSION, 22/03/2017, Bournemouth (Gary's house). PERSONNEL: Gary. ITEMS RECORDED: Ted Sprocket Interviewing Graham King (16:00) / Associated British Pathe Pt 1 (2:25) / Associated British Pathe Pt 2 (3:03) / Associated British Pathe Pt 3 (2:04) / Yesterday In Parliament (1:48) NOTES: For 'Pathe' the '5-0'solution (see below) was adopted to turn the cumbersome original into three by copying the intro and outro. 'Parliament' was delivered too fast - slowing the tape to add 8 seconds helped, also deepening Gary's voice. 'Ted Sprocket' deemed 'never to be released', some passages could be used. Possibly... Original recording dates ??/10/1977.('Sprocket'), ??/07/1977 ('Pathe'), ??/10/77 ('Parliament').

RECORDING SESSION, 21/03/2017, Bournemouth (Gary's house). PERSONNEL: Gary. ITEMS RECORDED: Don't Let The Bastards Grind You Down (3:11) / The last Chance Dance (2:31) / No Charge (1:57) / She Loves You (3:38) / A Hard Rail Strike (Collaborative Remix) (3:01) NOTES: Parody songs and covers deemed - with the exception of the last item - 'never to be released'. Fun fact - 'Bastards' amazingly got omitted from the original biobibliography. Original recording dates ??/10/1977 ('Charge'); ??/1/1977 ('Dance') and ??/12/1977 ('Bastards & 'She Loves You'). Easy to dispense with the failed songs. 'Rail Strike', however, an unreleased oddity from '87, which starts with The Drunkards sketch, and then goes into edits from The Incurable Romantics 'Railwaymania' from 1983 (Gary never one to let an idea lie). Made in 1987 - and originally slated for 'Beyond A Joke' - this version is credited to 'The Drunkards & The Incurable Romantics'.

RECORDING SESSION, 20/03/2017, Bournemouth (Gary's house). PERSONNEL: Gary. ITEMS RECORDED: That's Choice (4:02) NOTES: Deemed 'never to be released'. Purile character assassination. (Original item in 'Christmas Day'. Original recording date ??/12/1977).

RECORDING SESSION, 19/03/2017, Bournemouth (Gary's house). PERSONNEL: Gary. ITEMS RECORDED: Stratford 1999 (2:40) NOTES: Deemed 'fine as was'. (Original recording date 07/04/1977).

RECORDING SESSION, 17-18/03/2017, Bournemouth (Gary's house). PERSONNEL: Gary. ITEMS RECORDED: Various. NOTES: Andy's birthday on the 18th – conservation digitation of everything not yet digitised with a view to editing and making into something. Don't hold your breath for an early release...

RECORDING SESSION, 17/03/2017, Bournemouth (Gary's house). PERSONNEL: Gary. ITEMS RECORDED: Sleeping Beauty Remix / Telephone Line / Stonewall J – The Case Of The Ullenhall Wild Party (Version We Can't Be Sued For) / Margerine Pubs – Reader's Page '87. / Ted Sprocket – At Henley Post Office. NOTES: Digital mastering in 2017 of 1987 adaptations of 1977 recordings. The magnificent sevens?

RECORDING SESSION, 16/03/2017, Bournemouth (Gary's house). PERSONNEL: Gary. ITEMS RECORDED: Cars / Reincarnation / Talking In The Canteen (Mitchell & Lambsdown) / Ernie – The Fastest Milkman In the West / Politics Apology / The Temptation Of St. Kevin (Gary Mitchell) / Lovely Couple / Naughty Novelist / (Graham & Tina King) / Mixed Infants Sports Day / The House Of Commons Cleaner / The Hurdy Gurdy Man (Harry Holland). NOTES: Tracks from 1982's kinda reunion 'Warlords Of Stoke Newington' 'various artists' project incorporated into the canon, ready to be fired.

RADIO BROADCAST, 01/03/2017, Bournemouth ('Hope FM' studio). PERSONNEL: 05/10/2016 Gary, with Laura Jerome and Rob Jerome to Gary, with Laura Jerome and Rob Jerome to promote their 'Henley High School Musical' ([Comic Relief](#)). 'soundtrack' CD project in an (almost) Drunkards special – so let's call it that again. Kimari Raven ([Facebook Pages](#)), twiddling the knobs. ITEMS RECORDED: Official recordings of 'Livewire Live' (c.120:00 total). Included broadcast of tracks: Theme From 'Henley High School Musical' (Laura Jerome), Shieldmaidens (The Drunkards), The Girls Are Back In Town (Laura Jerome), The Die Is Cast (The Drunkards), Final Vow (Laura Jerome), If I fell (Abby & Steve), Pleasant Valley Sunday (The Drunkards). NOTES: 'Comic Relief' promo.

RADIO BROADCAST, 05/10/2016, Bournemouth ('Hope FM' studio). PERSONNEL: Gary, with Laura Jerome and Rob Jerome to promote their 'Henley High School Musical' project in an almost Drunkards special – so let's call it that. ITEMS RECORDED: Official recordings of 'Livewire Live' (c.120:00 total). Included: 'Henley High School Musical' Theme Song (Live On 'Hope FM') (2:07) by Laura Jerome / Ubiquitous Referendum (Live On 'Hope FM') by The Drunkards (1:03) and broadcast of tracks Do You Remember (Mark Sainsbury Band), Final Vow (Laura Jerome), If I fell (Abby & Steve), Down Down (Avon), Waterloo Sunset (Avon), The Die Is Cast (The Drunkards), Shieldmaidens (The Drunkards), Pleasant Valley Sunday (The Drunkards). NOTES: Guests interviewers George Attwill and Kimari Raven adding to mayhem.

RECORDING SESSION, 22/09/2016 Walney Island (Andy's Vicarage). PERSONNEL: Andy. ITEMS RECORDED: The Die Is Cast (Version 2) (1:19) NOTES: A louder recording – but due to quality issues technically massaged by Gary and sent (along with 'Version 1') to Gareth Mayo (ex Gary's [Project X](#)) for further technical massage, which both got the same day. 'Version 2' was deemed best by Andy, so was selected, 'Version 1' becoming an 'Alternate Take'.

RECORDING SESSION, 15/09/2016 Walney Island (Andy's Vicarage). PERSONNEL: Andy. ITEMS RECORDED: The Die Is Cast (Version 1) (1:20) NOTES: From 'Henley High School Musical'. For charity CD and the forthcoming radio broadcast. Due to quality issues technically massaged by Gary the next day, but too little gain on the original.

RECORDING SESSION, 02/08/2016, Bournemouth (Gary's house). PERSONNEL: Gary. ITEMS RECORDED: Shieldmaidens (1:38) NOTES: From the forthcoming 'Henley High School Musical'. For charity CD.

RECORDING SESSION, 22/07/2016, Bournemouth (Gary's house). PERSONNEL: Gary. ITEMS RECORDED: Pleasant Valley Sunday (3:20) NOTES: Using unreleased and other samples from back in the day, a heavily re-worded version of the Goffin/C.King/Momkees classic, relevant to 1976 Henley, and intended to support the (then) forthcoming 'Henley High School Musical'. 'Forty Years On' (to quote a play they was once in) *plus ca change* (as the Frenchies say).

RECORDING SESSION, 03/04/2008, Bournemouth (Gary's house). PERSONNEL: Gary. ITEMS RECORDED: Warning (0:38) / First Joke (0:56) NOTES: A mastering of Gary's unissued recording (originally for 'Radio Boscombe' or possibly solo on 3/12/1995) of a Mitchell/King/Holland thought-up-down-the-pub gag intro. 'First Joke' entirely new - Gary's take on the first joke he sold to the Beeb in 1979. Recordings for a projected radio special cum CD 'Radio Friendly' ? .

RECORDING SESSION, 11/9/2007, Bournemouth (Gareth Mayo's penthouse). PERSONNEL: Gareth Mayo. ITEMS RECORDED: Family Reunion (Beeped Version) (2:28) NOTES: A mastering for full broadcast using Gareth's system to not degrade the ageing tapes. History - he becomes the first person to work on a Drunkards recording without one of them there - editing out the 'record player' FX as noise to streamline!

RECORDING SESSION, 14/7/2007, Bournemouth (Gary's House). PERSONNEL: Gary. ITEMS RECORDED: Margarine Pubs - Readers Page (2:35) / Margarine Pubs - Readers Page (Radio Edit) (0:55) / Stonewall J. (5:21) / Stratford 5-0, Episode 1 (5:59) / Stratford 5-0, Episode 2 (5:28) NOTES: The 'vinyl solution' to 'Stonewall' was to edit and deleting all scandalous references to family and fiends - for '5-0' to turn the clumsy original into two by copying the intro and outro (with edits). No FX overdubs have been used to retain the 'punk' *verite* energy of the original takes (Ok, it sounds pretentious, but it's true...) (Original recording dates 24/02/1977 for 'Marge Pubs', ??/07/77 for all others).

RECORDING SESSION, 13/7/2007, Bournemouth (Gary's House). PERSONNEL: Gary. ITEMS RECORDED: Gladys Meets Bert - Part 85, In The Long Grass (5:18) NOTES: The version first released on the 1987 cassette 'Beyond A Joke' omitted the 'music' intro and outro. Here it's reinstated to its original form. (Original recording date ??/06/1977).

RECORDING SESSION, 13/7/2007, Bournemouth (Gary's House). PERSONNEL: Gary. ITEMS RECORDED: The Ten Trade Union Commandments (1:25) / Family Reunion (2:37) NOTES: If since Mrs Thatcher crushed the unions the former is now mainly of historical interest - the latter still rings true! (Original item for both 'Christmas Day'. Original recording date ??/12/1977).