

Ponies' superfan Ava Bourne's 100 % unofficial tribute page for 'The New Forest Pit Ponies'.

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CURRENT STATUS

'Let's like face it guys 'n' gals - the NFPP are like the fabbest, hippest, like grooviest Indie pop rock funk band on the planet - they're like so incredibly cool they're like really are like something other than else! You dig?' (from my seminal coursework essay, *'Write About A Band You Like For Homework And I'll Mark It As Your SAT's Test'*).



The band's final line-up is SIMON TWEED (gtr kbs vox - right), DAVE GREENBLATT (drms - left) and NICOLA ALLSOPP (bass kbs vox - centre). They are managed in perpetuity - *in a*



very real and legally binding sense - by NIGELLA CRUEL (website [Cruel Management Inc](#)).

HISTORY

Dave Greenblatt was born in December 1987 in Ringwood, Hants, the illicit offspring of a shop assistant and an itinerant Geography teacher who happened to be passing through. Simon Tweed was born in April 1988 in Fordingbridge, Hants, the son of the local squire and a former model for [Airfix](#). His kid sister [Seti Tweed](#) hopes to have a career of her own in opera as England's answer to [Katherine Jenkins](#) .

In late 2007, whilst playing in separate local New Forest bands (respectively 'Jack Plugg' and 'The Simon Tweed Experience'), they met dour Goth bass player Zoe

Robinson of 'The Depressed' in Lymington music pub *'The Fish And Aardvark'*.

Born in March 1989 Zoe is the daughter of a controversial mixed marriage between a chartered accountant and a certified accountant. Deciding to pursue their craft to a higher level the trio semi-instantly formed high-octane National Park area 'supergroup' The New Forest Pit Ponies - and had immediate postcode success with their revolutionary download hits *'I Haven't Decided Yet'* and the classic love song, *'Blood, Devastation, Death, War And Horror'*.

In 2008 this acclaim brought the band to the attention of local station [BBC Radio Solvent](#). Interviewed in the middle of his nervous breakdown by top sleeptime DJ Dick Head (real name Martin Cruel), the band were subsequently 'discovered' by Dick's elder brother, top TV impresario Nigel Cruel - who instantly decided this was a group he could exploit.

Sorry, I mean 'mould and work with'. The rest is, of course, religious education.

Sorry, I mean, 'history' (Ponies cartoons here by artist [Rob Jerome](#)).



Under Nigel's 'guidance' The Ponies quickly expanded their appeal, Simon writing with the [Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra](#) (as a change from using a piano or guitar), and Zoe being 'made-over' from wearing black to yellow and orange to appear in panto as Paris Travelodge's 'mentally challenged British best friend'.

Dave, meanwhile, was made to wash regularly and be regularly photographed coming out of nightclubs at 03:00 AM with the rich and infamous.

Despite objections the music was suffering - that they were 'selling out' and going commercial - media appearances accelerated as The Ponies began to regularly appear on [Hope FM's](#) top Wednesday night Indie radio show ['Livewire Live'](#) and - shrugging off criticism of Nigel's Stalinist inspired managerial style - they then went on a successful tour of Europe and Iran... whilst their manager worked on selling his TV ['Strictly Y Factor On Ice'](#) franchise to anyone who'd buy it. *'Being on the minimum wage for eighteen hours a day seven days a week in a foreign land is character building for any young band'*, he explained in his press release.

During this time further radio sessions followed for station [Forest AM](#), including the 2009 festive blues prog-rock special, *'Way-Hey - It's Whitsun Bank Holiday Monday!'* After a well-earned week off The Ponies re-appeared in public in early June 2009... so their manager could finally reveal to the world he was... shall we say, 'not the man he once was'... On live radio.



Well, as the world now knows, Dave and Simon's unfortunate remarks during their manager's PR exploitation of his/her gender realignment (*picture right - if you see her run*) caused all sorts of problems – not the least for a recently orphaned Zoe – who after initially being kidnapped by the organisation promptly ran off to *join* the Isle Of Wight Liberation Army (

freewightnowbysinkingalltheirferries.com - *picture left*). At this point Nicola Allsopp of legendary thrash metal outfit [Meatgrinder](#) stepped

in to replace Zoe. Previously most famous for her love of ingesting live poultry, Nicola (born January 1988) was - according to Nigella's press release - 'a welcome addition to the team'.



Reformed and re-branded the increasingly acoustic Ponies quickly played Glastonbury in support of [Bob Dillon](#), thence going into the studio to lay down tracks for their (as yet unreleased) masterwork double concept album, *'Help! Our Manager's Still Holding Us Hostage'*; Nicola quickly making her not inconsiderable presence felt as she began to share lead vocal duties with Simon - the group also appearing on satellite TV Indie rock show *'The Perfumed Hamster'* despite Dave being under a restraining order because of his unwholesome obsession with a different Nicola - Nicola Roberts of girl band [Girls Aloud](#) - his mental instability scuppering manager Nigella's plans to have him marry one of the blonde ones as an income-generating publicity coup.

With Dave 'cured' by electro-shock aversion therapy, after an amp overloaded when he was accidentally held down by roadies and tied to a set of wonky Xmas tree lights, The Ponies appeared regularly during the rest of 2009 on *'Livewire Live'* to promote their work, and at top Boscombe music venue [Chaplins](#). Nicola's entirely separate and unconnected restraining order concerning branches of [Next](#) remains an ongoing issue, but in the run-up to the 2010 general election she appeared on current affairs show [Panorama](#) to discuss the politics of bass playing. The Ponies then worked with [Seti Tweed](#) and the [Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra](#), who needed the money as much as they did.

In October 2010 the band did a further session for [BBC Radio Solvent](#) - meeting famous widow [Mrs Lennon](#) on the anniversary of her husband's birth. Their management also released *'Trio'*, an EP of material from the Zoe era, that reached the top spot in BOTH Fordingbridge AND Downton - and 'wot they dun sum Xmas promo stuff for an all'.

In April 2011 The Ponies were back, to back 'Mockeny' singer [Ali Lillian](#) on a track for her album. All this was quickly followed by CD *'Rockumentary!'* as top DJ Tommy Rock narrated the explosive story of the New Forest's savage young 'supergroup', as told through the fabled archives of [BBC Radio Solvent](#) (and I's

gets a name cheque on the CD cover, innit!) Whilst promoting this album the band took a short Easter break, Nicola going on holiday to Wales, Simon to Germany to work with [Wagner](#) (not the bloke from ['X Factor'](#)) on the soundtrack of sequel movie *'Downfall II - This Time It's Impersonal'*, and Dave to stay at home to muck-out the studio and turn his karmic wheel by learning the huge favour of a life lesson Ms Cruel does by not paying him, thereby unburdening him of the material world.

Reuniting in May 2011 to promote *'Rockumentary!'* on ['Livewire Live'](#) Simon and Nicola verbally clashed (on air) about who was the 'lead singer', fuelling speculation they're arguing about who the lead singer is. In June the band recorded a Hendrix cover [Purple Haze](#) as a protest against gravel extraction and rubbish dumping in the greenbelt - a track played frequently on [Forest FM](#), and one they've promoted on ['Livewire Live'](#) and around the area.

In February 2012 the band completed recording their (im)proper debut studio album AND appeared on [BBC Radio Solvent](#) backing veteran folkie [Troy Featherweather](#), winner of this year's *'Still Being Alive And Performing'* award. They also released the charity CD *'Live At Hope FM'* to support ['Livewire Live'](#) DJ Tim Heywood's fight against extradition back to Cornwall. The band's new studio album *'Three Legged Cross'* was released in March 2012, and was promoted on the April ['Livewire Live'](#) when I won a copy by knowing Dave's Dad's job!

In the Summer of 2012 The Ponies completed a tour of top Arab state, Syria, in which their music succeeded in providing a cause to unite warring factions I agreement that they really should go home. In August they were selected to play at [Olympic Chucking Out Ceremony](#), designed to encourage everyone to go back to work - and ended the season with a second charity CD *'Live At Hope FM 2'* to support ['Livewire Live'](#) and the worthy cause of keeping local music within the immediate geographical area.

In the autumn of 2012 The Ponies were (quite literally) locked in the studio, collaborating on writing and recording their new tour - despite Nicola's claims Simon's 'eclecticism' is 'copying' and his claims she's 'a witch'. They also began recording and rehearsing for their new 'sound movie' *'A Song For Europe'* - which Nigella has negotiated the rights to in conjunction with Hollywood conglomerate [United Money](#).

Plans for 2013 included the release of *'Reg'*, a rock opera Simon has devised at the behest of [Comic Relief](#), and after receiving advice from [Pete Dinklage](#) of top rock band [The Howl](#). *'Reg'* was fully recorded and in the can (of worms) - but so harrowing was the creative process Simon suffered a 'collapsed ego' and was taken to hospital. Dave and Nic had to appear on ['Livewire Live'](#) in November 2012 to ask people to clap and be nice in order to re-inflate it. It's Ok though, he recovered - not only can he can afford to go private, he was been nursed back to health by his French concept-artist girlfriend, [Marianne Fidele](#).

Then came the bombshell. On Boxing Day 2012 it was discovered that Nicola had probably accepted an offer to join [The Rowling Stones](#) as replacement bassist for [Bill Hymen](#) . Despite this shock horror Simon appeared unperturbed in public - Dave as usual dazed and confused. Then silence - then in January 2013 the release of rock-opera 'Reg' to support [Comic Relief](#) .

Was this the end of The Ponies? Sadly so it seems. Although they've never formally split up Simon is now resident in America, where he is a 'professional Englishman', occasionally doing sessions, movie cameos, and being pretentious. He regularly unwittingly upsets his new US girlfriend [Carly Ray Quickly](#) in order she can write songs about why all men are bastards, and is also introducing the natives to cricket and tea (in that order). Nicola is still with the [The Rowling Stones](#) , who were all really nice boys until they met her, but now have addiction problems and criminal records. Dave works at [Asta](#) in Fordingbridge, and drums regularly on [The Checkout](#) . That's not a band, it's his day job...

Rumours persist of a 'Greatest Hits' compilation...

I hope, however, the case was not closed! Watch this space. Art is still the final frontier! The Ponies could be bigger than Elvis! Especially if Nic kept eating all the pies...

THE NEW FOREST PIT PONIES DISCOGRAPHY

If, like, you want, like, copies of, like, these, like, bluetooth me like, at like, break. Cool! Wkd! LOL!

2008

'I Haven't Decided Yet' (Tweed/Robinson). Produced by The New Forest Pit Ponies

'Blood, Devastation, Death, War And Horror' (Tweed/Robinson). Produced by The New Forest Pit Ponies

2009

'All I Want For Christmas Is To Sit In My Room And Be Depressed' (Tweed/Robinson). Produced by The New Forest Pit Ponies

'Help! Our Manager Is Holding Us Prisoner' (Tweed/Robinson). Produced by The New Forest Pit Ponies (*withdrawn by production company one hour after release*)*



'Why Does It Always Rain On The Week We Rent A Beach Hut In Rhyl?'
(Tweed/Robinson). Produced by Nigel Cruel

WITH **BOB DILLON** '**Positively Acacia Avenue (live at Glastonbury)**' (Dillon). (also to be also found on Bob's album '**Live Peace In England, You Know, The One Where King Arthur Lived**') Produced by Vance Hogthrob

'The Ladette Anthem' (Allsopp). Produced by Nigella Cruel

'The House Of The Rising Sun' (Trad. arr, Tweed). Produced by Nigella Cruel

'Stream Of Conscience' (Greenblatt). Produced by Nigella Cruel

2010

'4 X 4 Mums' (Allsopp). Produced by Nigella Cruel

'Thatcher's Children' (Tweed). Produced by Nigella Cruel

'I Need The Loo' (Trad. arr, Greenblatt). Produced by Nigella Cruel



'Gastric Band' (Tweed/Allsopp). Produced by The New Forest Pit Ponies (demo for **Seti Tweed** to record with the **Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra**)

'A Day in The Life' (Lennon/McCartney). Produced by Nigella Cruel



TRIO
The New Forest Pit Ponies

'TRIO' (CD) Producer: Various - Executive Producer Nigella Cruel. Contains: I Haven't Decided Yet / Blood, Devastation, Death, War And Horror / All I Want For Christmas Is To Sit In My Room And Be Depressed / Why Does It Always Rain On The Week We Rent A Beach Hut In Rhyl?

2011

WITH **ALI LILLIAN** '**Rude Words**' (Lillian). (also to be also found on Ali's album '**It's Not Me, It's Everybody Else**') Produced by Mark Ransom



'ROCKUMENTARY!' (CD) Producer: Various - Executive Producer Nigella Cruel. Contains: behind the scenes dialogue and broadcasts as well as special versions of:- I Haven't Decided Yet / Blood, Devastation, Death, War And Horror / All I Want For

BBC
SOLVENT
On air, online... and on prosaic!

Christmas Is To Sit In My Room And Be Depressed / Help! Our Manager Is Holding Us Prisoner / Why Does It Always Rain On The Week We Rent A Beach Hut In Rhyl? / Positively Acacia Avenue (WITH BOB DILLON) / The Ladette Anthem / Stream Of Conscience / The House Of The Rising Sun / 4 X 4 Mums / Thatcher's Children / Gastric Band / A Day In The Life

'Purple Haze' (Hendrix). Produced by Nigella Cruel

'Nicola (Long Version)' (Greenblatt/Tweed). Produced by Nigella Cruel

'God Save Olde England' (Tweed). Produced by Nigella Cruel

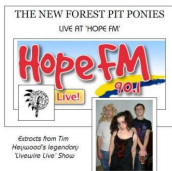
'Set The Sat Nav For The Dark Side Of The Sun' (Tweed). Produced by Nigella Cruel

***'A Song For Europe (WIP Demo)'* (Tweed). Produced by Nigella Cruel**

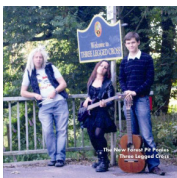
2012

'Bonham Moon' (Greenblatt). (currently unreleased)* Produced by Nigella Cruel

WITH [TROY FEATHERWEATHER](#) *'Court A Young Maiden' (Trad, arr. Featherweather). Produced by BBC Radio Solvent*



'LIVE AT 'HOPE FM' (CD) Producer: Various - Executive Producer Nigella Cruel. Contains music and banter from Fordingbridge's finest and special versions of:- The House Of The Rising Sun / Thatcher's Children / A Day In The Life / Nicola (Long Version) / 4 X 4 Mums / I Need The Loo / Purple Haze



'THREE LEGGED CROSS' (CD) Producer: Various - Executive Producer Nigella Cruel. The long awaited proper debut album - as in made in a big factory in large numbers not in Ms Cruel's garage on her PC!!!

Contains: *Set The Sat Nav For The Dark Side Of The Sun / The Ladette Anthem / I Need The Loo / The House Of The Rising Sun / 4 X 4 Mums / Thatcher's Children / Gastric Band (Demo For Seti Tweed) / God save Olde England / Nicola (Long Version) / Purple Haze / A Day In The Life / BONUS MATERIAL BUFFER TRACK / Positively Acacia Avenue (Live At Glastonbury - Duet with Bob Dillon) / Rude Words (Duet with Ali Lillian) / Court A Young Maiden (Duet with Troy Featherweather) / A Song For Europe (WIP Demo)*

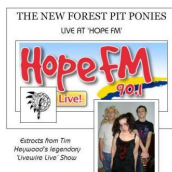
**'Rock Hobbit' (Tweed/Allsopp/Greenblatt).
Produced by Nigella Cruel**

'Mr Dobson' (Tweed). (Produced by Nigella Cruel

'Cybergirl' (Allsopp). Produced by Nigella Cruel

**'Set The Sat Nav For The Dark Side Of The Sun'
(Live At The Olympic Chucking Out Ceremony)**

(Tweed). (currently unreleased)* Executive producer by Nigella Cruel



'LIVE AT 'HOPE FM 2' (CD) Producer: Various - Executive Producer Nigella Cruel. Music and banter from Fordingbridge's finest as they promote their seminal 'Three Legged Cross'. Contains special versions of :- 4 X 4 Mums / Positively Acacia Avenue / Purple Haze / Thatcher's Children and an exclusive interview with top rick journalist Mike Pseud.

'We'll Meet Again' (Parker. arr, Tweed). Produced by Nigella Cruel

2013



'REG' (CD) Producer: Various - Executive Producer Nigella Cruel. the long awaited 'rock opera' to support [Comic Relief](#). Contains:- Simon's Concept Album (Studio Chatter) / Simon's Collapsed Ego (Live Chatter On 'Hope FM') / BLANK BUFFER TRACK / Reg (Overture) / Stream of Conscience / Reg (Next Bit) / Mr Dobson / Reg (First Middle Bit) / Cybergirl / Reg (Second Middle Bit) / Rock Hobbit / Reg (Coda) / BLANK BUFFER TRACK / Nicola Leaves (Studio Chatter) / Reaction To Nicola Leaving (Live Chatter On 'Hope FM') / We'll Meet Again



Nicola Allsopp solo (when with [Meatgrinder](#))

'The Chicken Is Dead' (CD album, 2008) (not yet available as a download)*

Nicola Allsopp solo (when with [The Rowling Stones](#))

Watch this space - still locked in the pub 'rehearsing'. Fans fear she may have led Mick, Keef and the boys onto an unwholesome life of debauchery...

Zoe Robinson solo (now with [The Isle Of Wight Liberation Army Band](#))

'Free Us Nelson Mandela' (illegal download, 2009) (NB possession of this file on the IOW is a criminal offence punishable by up to twenty years imprisonment)*

* But I've got a bootleg copy - Luv Ava
