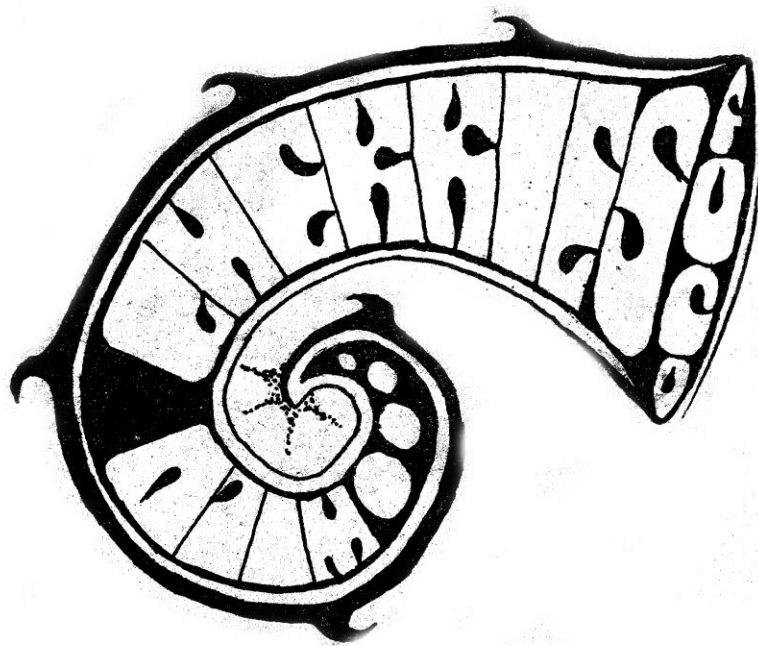




★ Volume One № 28 Page Two 12.9.68 FOCO NEWSLETTER ★ ★ ★



The visit this week of the Wild Cherries has special significance to the mouldy old walls of FOCO. The Cherries are synonymous with so many things dear to the very heart of FOCO that their return seems more of a reunion than just a visit of another group. The very first chords ever to be wrung from a guitar were from the Cherries. On the first night, 29 Sundays ago, the very first band ever to appear at FOCO was the Wild Cherries. Les Gilbert (OR NODDY AS HE IS CALLED), with his Hammond organ, Keith Barber on drums, John Phillips on bass, Lobby Lloyd playing lead guitar and Danny Robinson playing his

voice were all in town at the time playing at Alice Is, the musical extravaganza or whatever produced and written by good old Number One. The original FOCO group at the time decided that it would be best for all concerned to have such a groovy group as our first band so it happened. The Cherries appeared at FOCO. This great feat as well as the fact that the old Alice Is cast formed a basis for the forming of the FOCO Tribe endears the group to the heart of FOCO to a great extent.

There has been a certain amount of criticism levelled at the powers that be for putting too great an emphasis on so called pop music when we have a visiting group up from the south. We feel that this emphasis is in keeping with general FOCO policy. We are basically trying to show that minority entertainment can and does have something for all even though it doesn't have appearances at Festival Hall or City Hall or even Her Majesty's. That cultural expression can have an important message even though it can't be seen on telly or heard on most radio stations.

This is why groups like the Cherries are appearing at FOCO with maximum time coverage. Their music has something more than the old garbage that is pounded down ears day and night. They have musicians approach to

music with a view to expression and communication rather than the sign of the good old dollar. You can even tell just how progressive they really are without even hearing them. Last time they were in Brisbane playing at Alice Is, at the Avalon Theatre, local residents of St. Lucia issued a court injunction forcing them to stop playing. All sorts of "NICE" type people are really trying to put the Cherries down. Their records are completely ignored in Sydney, and as a matter of fact there are only about a total of two radio stations in Australia who even acknowledge the existence of the Cherries band that 99.9% of the people in Australia are down on can't be all that bad - and as a matter of fact they must be really good.

If you still are not convinced make sure you hear their music. The band is equipped with more power than any group in Australia and even challenges some of the great bands in the world. This isn't lust so they can make more noise (though they certainly can) but because so much of their music involves really incredible electronic effects. Lobby Lloyd has 400 watts of power to toy around with and what he does with it just can't be described in one newsletter. Les Gilbert playing a massive Hammond Organ that has more controls than a boeing 707 has had years of classical music experience and often blows everyone's mind by breaking into Bach tocata in the middle of a twelve bar blues. Combine these two with three of the greatest muso's around and you have a really great sound. Make sure you hear them on Saturday and Sunday and at the Gardens on Sunday. You won't regret it.

Directed by Vladimir Fetin

Based on a story by Sholokhov. The period is the Civil War when Red cavalry units were fighting along the Don country-side. A man's love for an animal causes him even to neglect his duty.



the colt

Two 40 minute films of SUNDAY only fitting in with the band breaks

Directed by T. Abuladze and R. Chkeidz  
Diploma of Merit, Edinburgh Film Festival 1956  
Best Story Film, Cannes Film Festival 1956

A film made by the Georgian Studios. The period is the last century. A donkey, left for dead by a merchant, is nursed back to health by the children of Magdana, a peasant woman. Magdana goes to the town with the donkey and it is recognised by the former owner. He claims his property and the dispute is taken to court.

The unusual background and excellent acting are features of this film.



magdalena's  
donkey

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## — PROGRAMME —

Saturday Wild Cherries 7 till 12  
with Acme Light Show Inc.

Sunday ditto.



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