

The Michael Armstrong Newsletter



SEPTEMBER

An Introduction from Michael...



Hi all.....it's me again! September eh? That month when all the shops start selling Christmas decorations, crackers, turkeys, cards, sprouts and those big tins of chocolates that the kids want to eat straight away but Mum says 'No....they're for Christmas'. Kids answer 'Why have you got them now then?'.....and it's a fair point. There is in fact still the best part of a quarter of a year to go until the big day so let's all just chill out a little. Did you know that the last day of September in any year always falls on a different day of the week from the last day of any month? You gotta love google!

EXCLUSIVE

I am really excited to announce that I will be releasing a very special Christmas song! What? I know it's September! I reserve the right to be a hypocrite.....It's a long story but a few years ago I was fortunate enough to be introduced to Liverpoolian's Debbie & Nigel Greenberg. Debbie's father owned The Cavern Club in the 60's and in 1967 he wrote and recorded a Christmas song for his daughter (Debbie) entitled 'On Christmas Day'. Debbie & Nigel have been hugely supportive of my music career and gave me a CD of the track (which had pretty much remained unheard outside of the family) and asked if I could do something with it. Well....I have! Or at least Warren Bennett and I have. We took the basic song, chopped it up, changed it around and wrote some new bits and we now have 'Little Girl (Bells of Christmas)'. The song will be premiered on national radio when I appear on BBC Radio 2's Good Morning Sunday on 4th October. There will be a special limited collector's edition CD which I'll give you more info on closer to the time. For now you can hear (and see) us working on the



track, in the studio, in 30 degrees of heat, whilst the neighbour is sunbathing next door and wondering why he can hear sleigh bells!

https://youtu.be/QDq6n87_fXk

LATEST NEWS



1) I provided the weekly 'Wednesday Words of Warmth' on Vanessa Feltz's BBC Radio 2 show earlier this month, which were followed by my track 'The Radio Years'. The basic premise of my heartfelt words was 'whose round is it next?' I honestly don't know how I get away with it! Ha! You can hear it here - [https://soundcloud.com/michael-armstrong-60/vanessa-feltz-](https://soundcloud.com/michael-armstrong-60/vanessa-feltz-radio-2-wednesday-words-of-warmth/s-9N2HY)

[radio-2-wednesday-words-of-warmth/s-9N2HY](https://soundcloud.com/michael-armstrong-60/vanessa-feltz-radio-2-wednesday-words-of-warmth/s-9N2HY)

2) My manager, Lisa Davies, held the first ever LisaFest on Bank Holiday Monday (I'm aware that was in August - don't write in and pick me up on it)! The weather was amazing, for once, and we had a good crowd of friends, family and neighbours. Lisa's covers band 'Atlantis' performed and I joined



them on keys as well as doing a couple of solo sets myself. We were also entertained by the gorgeous and super talented Phoenix Rain - remember the name - she's going places. There were also a couple of famous faces there, aside from my own, and the video link here shows us performing with legendary DJ Mike Read on guitar and vocals! - <https://youtu.be/FOs60KTiHYI>



3) I was honoured to be asked to perform at this year's Garlic Festival on the Isle of Wight on both the Saturday & Sunday. The weather was awful on Saturday and so we had to perform in the beer tent (I kid you not!) rather than the main stage because of

high winds and the dreaded Health & Safety! Sunday was much better and I decided to ask the afore-mentioned Lisa Davies to join me for a couple of numbers. After all...she's got to earn her cut somehow...I've no idea what else she does for it! This video was kindly supplied by super-fan Andy Whittaker who was clearly shivering in the wind! - <https://youtu.be/D6nJWks9L8Y>

4) Wearing my promotional hat, I had the great pleasure of spending a few days with the very lovely Stella Parton. She's the 'lesser known' sister of Dolly, although very successful in her own right as an actress and singer/songwriter...plus she has *the best* accent in the world ever! Hillbilly Baby!



5) The Beatles 'Eight Days A Week - The Touring Years' was premiered on 15th September and I was fortunate enough to be at a screening. It was a fantastic event and movie. The impact of these guys just cannot be overstated, not just in musical terms, but in global, economic and historic terms. It isn't possible for anyone, ever, to repeat what they did. And it's really very funny! Check out this classic from Ringo - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W6sB5xxk-Oo>

7) The new album is taking shape nicely. Warren and I are having far too much fun making it. Doing this for a living shouldn't really be legal. But it is...so we are! Here is an exclusive link to the pair of us working through some ideas on a BRAND NEW song which has never been heard before outside of the studio walls....except for the poor neighbours of course - <https://youtu.be/pP3HZYyXKm0>



8) I must give a huge thank you to all of you that have already pledged in the new album campaign. Long gone are the days when record companies would support emerging artists and to enable any new music of quality to be heard now it takes

'people power'. I'm so appreciative of your support as there is no way I could do it without you. In return I intend to make this album very very special.

And for those of you that still want to get involved.....

YOUR MICHAEL NEEDS YOU!



<http://pmusic.co/rwMPWw>



Well guys, this is it.....that 'difficult' 2nd album. I was thinking of just going straight into album No.3 to avoid the clichés but instead I've decided to 'bite the bullet' and go for it. I have a wealth of new songs written and ready to be put to hard drive (didn't it sound better when we could say 'tape')? FIND OUT HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED HERE - <http://pmusic.co/rwMPWw>

COMPETITION TIME!!

We received a lot of correct answers to last month's competition but the quickest off the mark was.....Roger Alderson. Congratulations to Roger, and commiserations to the runners-up. Roger has received his Limited Edition Singles Collection and says they're the best set of table coasters he's ever had!



For those who were stuck.....

QUESTION.....Which recording artist would you be were you to find yourself snared somewhere in the region of the Sea of Tranquillity and the Hudson river?



ROGER....."Easy...Christopher Cross, when you get caught between the moon and New York City"

Now this is YOUR chance to win the Limited Edition Singles Collection!



(NOTE: Roger, unless you're thinking of making £4 on ebay can I suggest you keep quiet this month?)

SEPTEMBER COMPETITION QUESTION

Seeing as we have a Merseyside/Beatles theme running through this month's newsletter I thought we had to base the question on the Fab Four.....

QUESTION.....Which collaborator with an ex-Beatle could very nearly be a Beatles song themselves?

As usual, the first person to write in with the correct answer will WIN! Send your entries to ldpromos@aol.com and mark the subject box 'Michael Armstrong Competition Time'.

IT'S THAT OLD DEMO CALLED LOVE

So, last month I talked about the demo of the song 'The Radio Years' and how it was the last track recorded for the debut album 'Michael Armstrong'. This month I thought I'd go way back in time.....The oldest song on the first album was a track called 'Iris'. I think I wrote it when I was about 17 years old. For those that know it and have wondered what it's all about, this is the story of Iris - <http://www.independent.co.uk/news/people/obituary-iris-bentley-1285561.html>



And this is my band and I playing the original track live in circa 1992...

IRIS Live - <https://soundcloud.com/michael-armstrong-60/iris-1/s-XjzMk>

MIKE WITH A STAR



Throughout my adventures over the past 5 years or so I've met and worked with some fantastic people. I know that many of you who have supported me and my music have connected with me through the UK's most successful ever solo artist....SIR CLIFF RICHARD. So here's a hitherto never before seen photo of the great man and me, taken at his 'Quinta' in Portugal courtesy of photographer to the stars, Brian Arris.

FANS LETTERS & PICS



Yeah....Tumbleweed! Call yourselves friends and fans do you? You should be ashamed! Do you know how long it takes me to write this newsletter each month? Do you? I have better things to do with my time! Give me some respect goddammit!!

OK.....breathe.....it's now your job to get writing and sending in. I want your letters about anything and everything....from gigs you've seen either of me or anyone, to funny stories, to your tales of meeting the stars. And if you have any photos of 'You With A Star' then I'll be publishing the best ones in future editions. Send all your stuff to ldpromos@aol.com with the subject heading MICHAEL ARMSTRONG NEWSLETTER. I have faith in you x

UPCOMING TOUR DATES



2016

28th Sept
30th Sept
4th Oct
6th Oct
5th Nov

TORBAY PALACE THEATRE, PAIGNTON (WITH DEAN FRIEDMAN)
SPRING ARTS & HERITAGE CENTRE, HAVANT (WITH DEAN FRIEDMAN)
THE GATE, CARDIFF (WITH DEAN FRIEDMAN)
OTLEY, KORKS (WITH DEAN FRIEDMAN)
RIVERHOUSE BARN THEATRE, WALTON-ON-THAMES (WITH LISA KWEI)

+ COMING SOON.....

MORE 2017 TOUR DATES WITH MICHAEL & HIS BAND

Already confirmed.....

1st April **The Stables, Wavendon**
29th June **The Epsom Playhouse, Surrey**
30th June **Chapel Arts Centre, Bath**

AND FINALLY....

The business end of things. If for some inexplicable and inexcusable reason you don't own my debut album, the imaginatively titled 'Michael Armstrong' it is available from the following: -

AMAZON

https://www.amazon.co.uk/MICHAEL-ARMSTRONG-Michael-Armstrong/dp/B00VUDHZCW/ref=sr_1_2?ie=UTF8&qid=1464358499&sr=8-2&keywords=michael+armstrong

iTunes

<https://itun.es/gb/xGgR6>

PLEASE if you haven't yet left a review on either of these sites and are able to at all it would be HUGELY appreciated! The more reviews we have (provided they're good ones of course) the higher the preferential treatment from each site in advertising etc.

Also, if you haven't yet joined and liked my FaceBook page then again, if you're able, please do as every little bit helps –

<https://www.facebook.com/MichaelArmstrongMusic/?fref=ts>

Likewise – join me on Twitter –

@mike73armstrong

And check out, like and comment on my various YouTube videos - **YouTube/
michaelarmstrong73**

And of course check the website for all updates –

www.michaelarmstrongmusic.co.uk

SEE YOU IN OCTOBER – THANKS Y'ALL!

