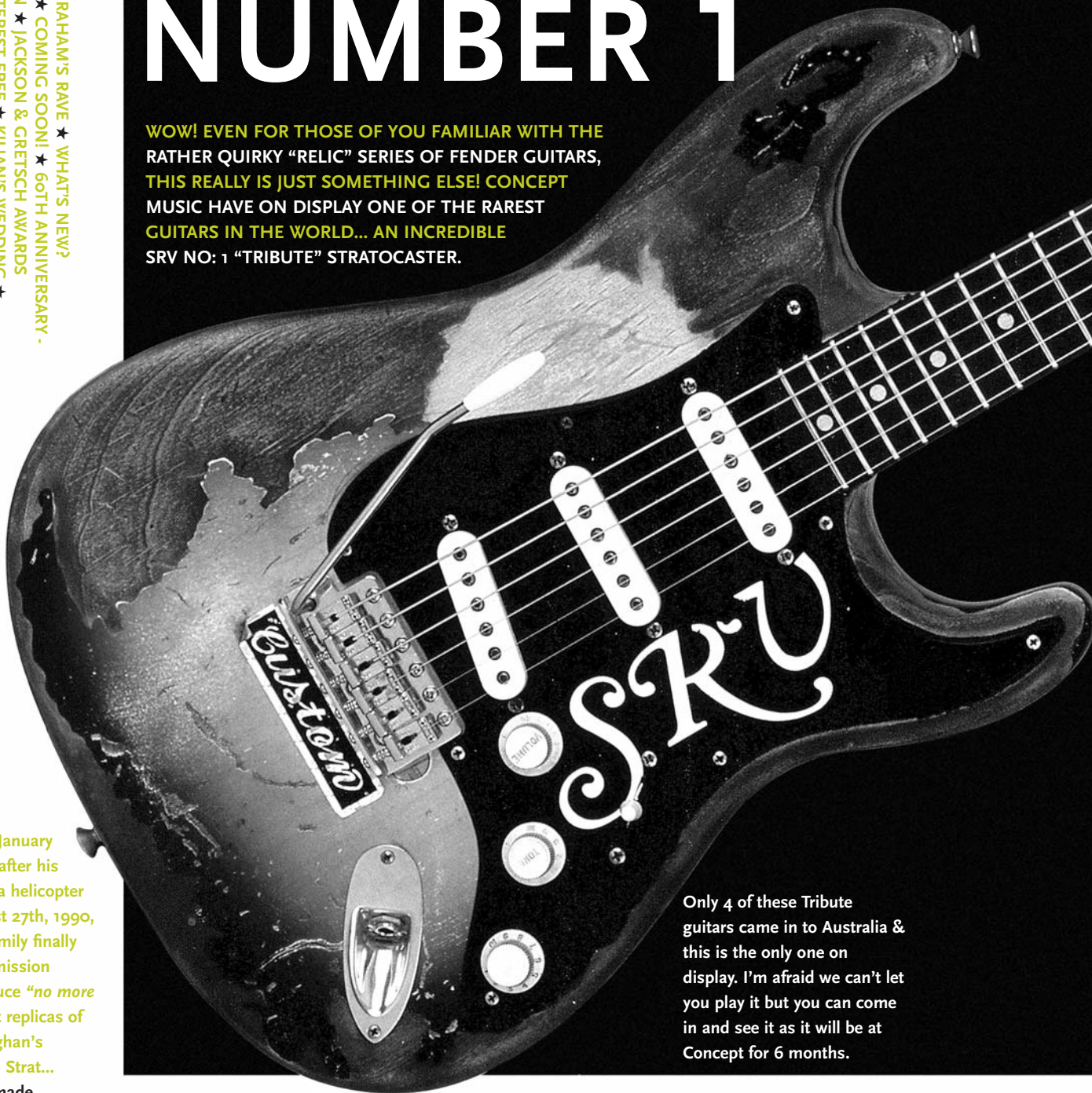


LOOK INSIDE ★ GRAHAM'S RAVE ★ WHAT'S NEW?
 ★ WHAT'S HOT?! ★ COMING SOON! ★ 60TH ANNIVERSARY -
 FENDER & MATON ★ JACKSON & GRETSCH AWARDS
 ★ 24 MONTHS INTEREST FREE ★ KILIAN'S WEDDING ★
 TIP: GUITAR TUNING PROBLEMS? ★ VALVES: WHEN SHOULD
 I REPLACE THEM?

FENDER SRV NUMBER 1

WOW! EVEN FOR THOSE OF YOU FAMILIAR WITH THE RATHER QUIRKY "RELIC" SERIES OF FENDER GUITARS, THIS REALLY IS JUST SOMETHING ELSE! CONCEPT MUSIC HAVE ON DISPLAY ONE OF THE RAREST GUITARS IN THE WORLD... AN INCREDIBLE SRV NO: 1 "TRIBUTE" STRATOCASTER.



After years of negotiating, in January 2004, 14 years after his tragic death in a helicopter crash on August 27th, 1990, the Vaughan family finally agreed to commission Fender to produce "no more than 100" exact replicas of Stevie Ray Vaughan's legendary No: 1 Strat... all to be hand made individually by John Cruz who is Fender's finest Custom Shop Master Builder. And it has taken him this long to finish them! Exact in detail right down to digitally weighing each piece of wood and hardware to

measuring the output of each of the three single-coil pickups and the tension of their copper wire (even to the curling of the sticker near the bridge) it is a completely accurate reproduction. Amazing! And for those of you wondering "Why?!". Perhaps it's just because

they can?! Due to the incredible prices being fetched by vintage guitars the 'time machine' relic instruments have been incredibly popular since their inception some 10 years ago and this guitar just takes it to a whole other level.

Only 4 of these Tribute guitars came in to Australia & this is the only one on display. I'm afraid we can't let you play it but you can come in and see it as it will be at Concept for 6 months.

The price?

Auction bids welcome, but be warned... the only other place in the world we know of that you can buy one is Guitar Centre USA... for a mere \$35,000 US!

★ ★ ★

What's Hot

UKULELES! What is it about these humble little things?! Perhaps it's just that they're just SO much fun! Whatever it is we can't seem to get enough to keep up with demand! Starting at just \$25 and available in 6 or 7 different colours they go right up to \$595 for a Martin.

ELIXIR STRINGS Although around twice the price of 'normal' strings, the web coating means they cannot rust so they last 3 to 5 times longer. True!

SIMPSONS GUITAR PICKS. I think we're selling as many of these as jewellery as picks but whatever it is... they're HOT! 6 different versions available!

ULTIMATE GUITAR STANDS unique compact fold-away design suits even odd shaped guitars. Single stand \$45 doubles & triples also available.

IBANEZ SEMI ACOUSTICS due to popular demand, the range of Ibanez retro style 'jazz box' Semi's has expanded dramatically... some even have Bigsby style tremolos. Priced very reasonably they start at just \$795.

FENDER FRONTMAN 212. A great sounding 100 watt guitar combo amp with 2 x 12" speakers and reverb... for \$600? No wonder it's one of our "best sellers". Fender USA tell us it's their best selling amp too. It's a genuine bargain!

KYSER CAPO'S. This Award Winning capo is easily the simplest to use capo on the market and can be taken on & off quickly with one hand. Ease of use and very little tuning distortion make these our best selling capo. R\$39.95.

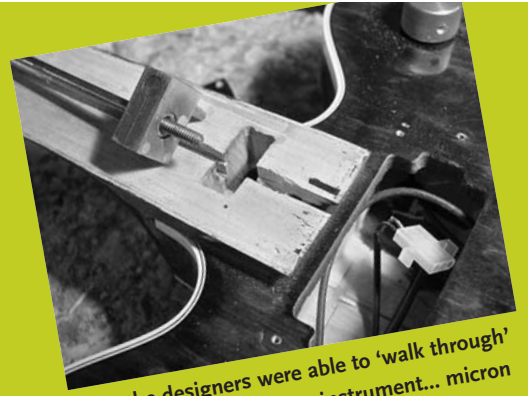
★ ★ ★

DID YOU KNOW?

How do you measure the EXACT internal dimensions of a rare old vintage guitar like a Gretsch 6120... without pulling it apart & completely destroying it?!

This was the challenge facing Fender when they took over the re-production of Gretsch guitars a few years ago. They wanted them to be exactly the same as the originals but how could they possibly accurately measure the many internal struts, bracing & timber thicknesses?

The Answer? They took an old 6120 down to the local hospital and had it cat-scanned!! Simple!



Then the designers were able to 'walk through' the internals of the entire instrument... micron by micron!! The result? A spectacular redesigning of the range that has resulted in some stunningly authentic & awesome sounding reproductions so you really can get that great Gretsch sound... just like the originals!!



DID YOU ALSO KNOW?

How Gretsch came up with the name "Filter-trons" for their pickups? It comes from the fact they were designed to filter out the electronic hum from neon tubes & other electronic noises. Hence: FILTER elecTRONnic. Cool!

TUNING PROBLEMS?

New strings sound so much better than old "dead" strings but sometimes customers tell us they "hate changing strings because they go out of tune so quickly". The answer?

Most important is to make sure you don't wind too much string onto the machine head... otherwise it could bunch up and overlap which means that it will keep tightening on itself for months! 2 or 3 winds around the post is plenty. Then just cut off all the excess length after you have tuned it.

Secondly always 'stretch' your string after they're on... gently pull them up away from the guitar and flex them between your fingers & thumb (being careful not to bend them too much).

Do this and you shouldn't have any more tuning problems. And remember, Concept can always do all this for you... a restring & full service costs just \$25 (plus your choice of strings) and you will get your guitar back feeling & sounding... well, like new!

Extra tip! When you find a brand and gauge of string you like... stick with them! This will also help tuning stability greatly as it means timbers in your guitar can 'settle' into the tension of that particular string. If you want to change the gauge of string you are using, you will usually need to have the truss rod and harmonics adjusted accordingly to counteract the difference.

GRAHAM'S RAVE ★ ★ ★



Concept Music opened in a blaze of glory (not... actually I don't think anyone really noticed!) in July 1980 so it's now been 26 years in the saddle for me... and 5 years here in Wembley. What a journey... and I still love it! Some of you of course will remember back that far and others will only have just joined us so to speak... either way - welcome.

My goal was always to have the sort of shop I'd like to shop in myself and my mantra, of sorts, was (and is and will always be!) to "treat people the way I would like to be treated" which is perhaps just a corny way of rephrasing that old cliché "the customer is always right" but I really do believe that "if you're happy, we're happy".

And what makes you happy? Yes, yes, yes... great prices of course (which is why I have a 'best price' policy) but on top of that, my 26 years in the music business tells people also are really desperate for genuine, friendly, helpful, informed help in choosing their instruments... without heavy sales pressure. That and a great range of gear - which is what I still love and am still committed to.

Hope you like this selection of What's New and What's Hot and tips... please drop again soon - there's always something new to drool over!

Stay tuned!

Graham

Workbench

What's New?

“How often should I change my valves?”

If you own a valve guitar amplifier it's a sure thing you've asked yourself this question. The simplistic answer is “when they stop working” but what does this really mean?

What it means for most musicians is when you come in saying things like “it's been making funny noises” or “it doesn't seem as loud as it used to?”. Both of these comments would make us suspect it's time the valves were looked at... but how do you know before they reach this stage?

An important point to make first up is that valves very rarely “blow” - they actually wear out. In fact it's a bit like guitar strings: brand new ones will always sound best and so, the state the obvious, it's time to change them when they have worn out... but just when is that?

Perhaps a good, if somewhat crude, analogy is to think of the valves in your amp as being somewhat similar to the tyres on your car. What do I mean by that? Simple... how long they last and when they need to be changed is individual and is almost *entirely* dependant on your “driving” habits so to speak. If you're going to play with your amp running at full tilt several hours a day every day of the week then you're going to burn them out very quickly. If on the other hand, if you never get to turn it up past 2 and only use it at home in your lounge room then they will last and last for years... and if you never use them... you guessed it - they'll last forever!

“Heavy” users will probably have to replace their power amp valves (the ‘big’ ones) every 6 months or so whereas “home players” should have them last for many years. Your Pre-amp valves (the small ones) can generally be left alone until they become microphonic (if this is the case they will “ping” if you tap them) or simply fail completely but usually last for years.

Symptoms to look out for that may indicate that it is time to change them are:

- ★ “funny noises” such as crackling or popping
- ★ one or more of your valves starts to glow a very bright cherry red
- ★ no “glow” at all in any of your valves
- ★ loss of general crispness and ‘tone’ - especially top end
- ★ a noticeable loss of power
- ★ unwanted distortion on your ‘clean’ channel
- ★ complete loss of volume along with severe distortion

To look after your valves we suggest you let give them time to warm up before you start playing and also allow them time to cool down before you throw your amp in the back of your car after a gig! Remember they are made of glass and are vacuum sealed so they are even more fragile when they're hot.

And for one final point: to get the most life and tone out of new valves, buying ‘matched pairs’ will help, but most amplifier manufacturers also recommend you have them ‘biased in’ to make sure they are correctly sharing the current and work load and this must be done by a qualified repairer.



Mini Maton

Popularised by Diesel, these rather funky little acoustics, though tiny, are a genuine players instrument and are made to same exacting specs as the rest of the Maton acoustic range. Various models (including 12 string versions) are available from \$950 right up to Diesel's Signature model is \$1800.

Fender 60th Anniversary P & J Bass

Fender Basses are hot hot hot at the moment and the new Limited Edition 60th Anniversary Series from Fender are just making them even hotter! Limited quantities of the P and J basses are trickling through now so if you want to be a part of history you'll need to be quick! USA Series in Sunburst for \$2800 with Ltd Edition case and an awesome Mexican version in Inca Silver for just \$1300 with gig bag. Pre-order NOW or miss out! (Also available in Left Hand)



PRS SE Flame Top

The already popular SE range by PRS has been dramatically enhanced with the introduction of these new “flame top” models. These are the best Korean made electrics we've ever seen and available as an SE version and also as a “single-cut”. Very “gig-able” and starting at around \$1200. Trade-Ins welcome & deluxe gig bag included.



Eric Johnson USA Fender Stratocaster.

Eric Johnson is one VERY particular guy when it comes to his gear. Which all goes to make this the hottest Signature Series Fender we've had since the SRV was released way back in 1992! Certainly ‘top end’ at around \$4000 but wow do you get a whole lotta guitar for that! Do try it...

Eden 1205 “World Tour” Bass Head

With 2 channels & a whole heap of extra functions like solo boost & dual effects loops, the new 1205 head from Eden is a real power house featuring dual 500 watt power amps and can even pump up to 1200 watts bridged mono mode into 2 ohms! New expanded EQ functions and dual 70125 pre-amp tubes also mean it's incredibly warm and versatile... not just loud! Cost? Around \$3700.



Boss BR 600 Digital Recorder

WOW! What else can we say about this latest addition to the Boss Digital recording range?! It's hard to argue with Roland's assertion that this is “The Ultimate Portable Studio”. Featuring 8 track playback with 64 Virtual tracks, 2 XLR inputs, a programmable rhythm composer, COSM effects, pitch correction... and it even has even built in stereo mikes! Smaller than a laptop and amazing quality and great value at around \$695



Korg TM-40 Digital Tuner & Metronome

This compact little unit has an accurate digital chromatic tuner AND an easy to use metronome... all in one! But, unlike other similar units on the market, they can be used at the same time. So, instead of buying both you can now get “2 in 1” for just \$79!

TIP! Have you ever nearly dropped your guitar because your strap came off while you were playing?! This problem not keeps our repairers busy fixing dents and dings, but is also the cause of many an embarrassing moment on stage! While a strap with good leather ends is one way to make sure you won't have this problem, the only way to really guarantee it is to invest in some "strap-locks". There are several brands on the market and some guitars even have them fitted in the factory. Costing between \$25 and \$35 they're not expensive (certainly much cheaper than the cost & inconvenience of a repair!) and are easy to fit yourself or Concept can do it for you. It will make sure you don't "lose it" in the middle of that awesome lead break you were just ripping into and was sounding sooooo hot... until you dropped your guitar!



★ ★ ★

"Sure it's a Shure?!"

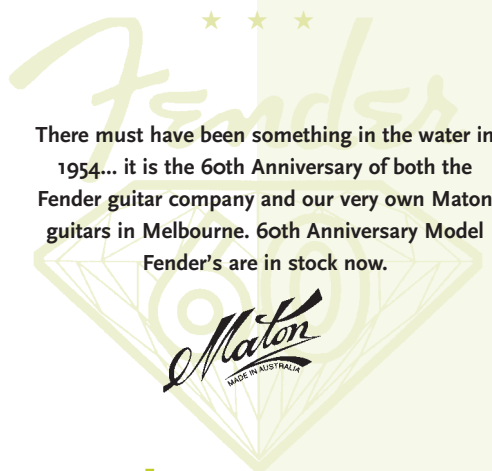
We have had a HUGE response to our warning on fake Shure mikes in our last Newsletter with many, many few people coming in with some tragic stories... paying for a genuine product but getting a cheap, noisy clone. So be warned: they look VERY authentic (right down to having Shure Warranty forms in the box!) but sound awful.

Remember: When you buy any product from Concept Music you can be 100% sure that you are dealing with a Factory Authorised Reseller.

NOW IN STOCK!

- ★ PRS SE & SINGLE CUT FLAME TOPS
- ★ 'HELLO KITTY' FENDER SQUIER GUITARS
- ★ SHURE "WIRELESS GUITAR" SYSTEMS
- ★ ROLAND "MICRO CUBE" BATTERY AMPS
- ★ FENDER "TEXAS SPECIAL" PICKUPS
- ★ TASCAM DIGITAL RECORDERS
- ★ MATON "MINI" GUITARS
- ★ PETERSON GUITAR TUNERS
- ★ BOSS RT20 ROTOSPHERE PEDALS
- ★ D'ADDARIO XL116 11-52 STRINGS

CONGRATULATIONS CONCEPT MUSIC! In Sydney to attend the Annual Fender Dealer Conference last month, Tony & Graham not only had the chance to hand pick some beautiful new Fender, Gretsch & Jackson guitars but also received 2 "Appreciation Awards for Outstanding Achievement" in sales of Jackson and Gretsch! Thank you!



There must have been something in the water in 1954... it is the 60th Anniversary of both the Fender guitar company and our very own Maton guitars in Melbourne. 60th Anniversary Model Fender's are in stock now.

Sorry Girls!

Heart throb staffer and all round nice guy Kilian has tied the knot! Finally scotching all rumours that their Wedding cake would in fact be in the shape of a rare, collectible guitar Effects Pedal, Kilian and Deb were married at Heathcote last month and have just returned from a blissful honeymoon in Fiji. Congrats!



"ain't she sweet?!"

COMING SOON! ★ MARSHALL LTD EDITION HENDRIX STACK! ★ GRETSCH WHITE FALCON ★ YAMAHA TRB 5 & 6 STRING BASSES ★ FENDER 60TH ANNIVERSARY TELECASTER ★ JACKSON DINKY EMG HARDTAILS ★ SQUIER "OBEY" TELECASTERS

★ ★ ★

24 Months Interest Free Available

"Want it but haven't quite been able save enough to buy it?!"

Why not buy it now anyway? With just 20% deposit you can buy just about any new instrument from Concept Music and pay it off over 24 months and pay no interest! Interested? Concept Music has application forms that mean, with GE approval, you won't have to wait any longer than you have to own your dream guitar. Ask us in store. It's a great way to "have your cake.... AND eat it!"

★ ★ ★

coolwebsites

Got a cool Website you think other's might enjoy? Tell us! Here's a couple of great ones... www.guitargeek.com... www.beatlesite.info

★ ★ ★

MUSOLINKS

Did you know that Concept Music's web site features a service called MusoLinks? This popular service lets you place "Wanted" and "Available" Ads for musicians and has helped many people find other Muso's to jam with... and best of all, it's FREE! Simply go to www.conceptmusic.com.au and go to MusoLinks to place your own Ad.

★ ★ ★

★ ★ ★
NEXT ISSUE:
"How to build a pedal board"