

[00:00:00] **Jarek Zaba:** Stuff. Okay. Um, so this is Jarek Zaba for the AMP Kingston Project from Creative Youth looking at art, music, and pop fashion heritage in the Kingston Borough. And beyond. Uh, today is Thursday, the May the 11th. And I'm with Peter and Derek Tagg um, both of which are played, uh, with the local band, the Trudy, since the seventies.

[00:00:19] **Jarek Zaba:** Um, and Peter was also a founding member of Cardiacs in 77, or Cardiac Arrest, I think they were at the time. Is that right?. Yeah. Yeah. Uh, Peter and Derek, do you mind, uh, Peter, first do you mind just stating your name for the tape, uh, and your date and place of birth, if that's alright?

[00:00:34] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah, Peter Tagg. Uh, Born in Southfields on the 23rd of April, 1959.

[00:00:41] **Derek Tagg:** Uh, yeah. Alan Derek Tagg I was born in Chiswick. On 3rd of June, 1963.

[00:00:47] **Jarek Zaba:** Perfect. Do you prefer Alan or Derek

[00:00:49] **Derek Tagg:** Everyone calls me Derek,

[00:00:50] **Jarek Zaba:** Right. Yeah. Yeah.

[00:00:52] **Derek Tagg:** But soon as you asked me my name, I thought I'd give you it.

[00:00:54] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah. No, no. Good to, good to have what's on the birth certificate. Um, yeah. So I [00:01:00] guess, uh, the first question I tend to ask people, uh, across this project is just about their relationship to this area.

[00:01:06] **Jarek Zaba:** Um, your early sort of years, were you, were you brought up in as, as Kingston or did that come later in life?

[00:01:13] **Peter Tagg:** Well, we used to live in Southfields and uh, we moved to New Malden when I was about eight. So Derek would've been about four then. Uh, and then lived in the borough ever since then. Really?

[00:01:24] **Derek Tagg:** Yeah. Yeah. Um, moved to Worcester Park, didn't we?

[00:01:28] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah, yeah. New, more then to Worcester Park.

[00:01:31] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah.

[00:01:32] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah,

[00:01:32] **Derek Tagg:** I moved back to New Malden

[00:01:33] **Peter Tagg:** yes.

[00:01:36] **Jarek Zaba:** And, and what are your sort of early memories of this area? Was there a fondness for it? Did you, did you like sort of, uh, this, this

[00:01:43] **Peter Tagg:** Absolutely. Yeah, definitely. The, um, you know, when you're a school child and you really quite young, you only kind of really know the local area in a way.

[00:01:52] **Peter Tagg:** But then we used to go to Kingston shopping on Saturdays, which was always pretty exciting. Uh, and New Malden was a good town for shopping as well [00:02:00] Then. Uh, as was Worcester Park actually, which, um, you know, some of the sort of smaller towns don't really have good shopping now.

[00:02:07] **Jarek Zaba:** Mm-hmm.

[00:02:07] **Peter Tagg:** But, uh, no it was, it was a nice place to grow up.

[00:02:10] **Peter Tagg:** Really nice.

[00:02:12] **Derek Tagg:** Yeah.

[00:02:13] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah.

[00:02:13] **Derek Tagg:** Um, I, I, I disagree with that. And there was always loads of kids everywhere cuz there were loads of schools.

[00:02:17] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah.

[00:02:18] **Derek Tagg:** So there was always loads of people to hang around with and, you know, I, I noticed very early that loads of people could play instruments. So and so that was always kind of part of growing up here.

[00:02:31] **Derek Tagg:** Just the fact that there were so many people who wanted to play and do different things. Even when you were like 10, 11, there was lots of stuff going on, wasn't there?

[00:02:39] **Peter Tagg:** There was. So, yeah.

[00:02:41] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah. I mean, um, yeah. So let's talk about music and sort of early memories of music. I mean, uh, uh, which of you was the elder brother again?

[00:02:48] **Jarek Zaba:** Sorry. Yeah, that's you. Yeah. Um, Yeah. Peter, when did you first sort of become aware of music? Uh, when did it first start playing a part in your childhood?

[00:02:58] **Peter Tagg:** Oh, well, we've got, uh, older brothers and sisters,
[00:03:00] so they, you know, always used to play sort of the sort of chart music at the time. Uh, so that was in, in the sixties really.

[00:03:06] **Peter Tagg:** And, uh, so that was always in the house really. But when I first started, uh, getting interested in my own kind of music, if you like, was, uh, T. Rex really.

[00:03:17] **Jarek Zaba:** Okay.

[00:03:17] **Peter Tagg:** Around about then,

[00:03:18] **Jarek Zaba:** How old would you have been then?

[00:03:19] **Peter Tagg:** Uh, well that, when would that have been sort of like 71, would it been, or like something like 71, 72, or maybe even 70.

[00:03:28] **Peter Tagg:** So about 11,

[00:03:30] **Jarek Zaba:** yeah.

[00:03:30] **Peter Tagg:** 11, 12.

[00:03:31] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah. And what, what was it about T. Rex that sort of appealed to you?

[00:03:35] **Peter Tagg:** It just seemed really different, really exciting, uh, just, just Top of the Pops as well, was worth watching then. Uh, but that, that really sort of, It seemed to be a change, uh, around about that time from what had gone before.

[00:03:51] **Peter Tagg:** I thought.

[00:03:52] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah, yeah,

[00:03:54] **Derek Tagg:** yeah. For me, being a bit younger, I always liked all the sort of things he used to listen to. And then, um, [00:04:00] I can't remember where we were, saw a copy of Damned Damned Damned in the second hand shop for 50 pence just in the window of this second hand r- and I bought it. And that for me really.

[00:04:12] **Derek Tagg:** Just made me think, oh, better start playing my guitar a bit more and sort of trying to get on really.

[00:04:17] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah. I mean, when did you first start playing instruments or when did you first get an instrument?

[00:04:21] **Peter Tagg:** Um,

[00:04:23] **Derek Tagg:** Mum could play.

[00:04:25] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah. Well , our mum played guitar, uh, you know, sort of sort acoustic, sort of folky stuff.

[00:04:30] **Peter Tagg:** She used to go for guitar lessons and sort of meet up with friends and stuff. Uh, and, our brother-in-law did as well, didn't he? Uh, and uh, so that was, but I got my drum kit. I think, would it been about 1974?

[00:04:46] **Derek Tagg:** Probably.

[00:04:46] **Peter Tagg:** I think it was about 1974. And, uh, I don't, my friend Chris Curtis, he told me, So he thought I'd make a good drummer for some reason.

[00:04:56] **Peter Tagg:** I, I don't have no, I no idea where he got that from. And then he, [00:05:00] but he had a pair of drumsticks in his room and he told me

how to sort of do sort of a basic beat on that. And he said, oh, he picked that up really quick. And for some reason it went from there really.

[00:05:09] **Jarek Zaba:** Right.

[00:05:09] **Peter Tagg:** So I kind of quite got into the idea of becoming a drummer and, uh, yeah.

[00:05:14] **Jarek Zaba:** So that's, so, so that idea came from someone else. It wasn't you, it wasn't you that, that just was attracted to drumming for some reason?

[00:05:20] **Peter Tagg:** Not until he said that. No. I'd never really thought about it. Yeah, I dunno why he had a pair of drum- well, he used to play bass in the band actually, uh, with, um, he was in a band with Tim Smith, uh, who, you know, later formed Cardiac Arrest with, um, yeah.

[00:05:35] **Peter Tagg:** So cuz they were all part of the same crowd. Uh, anyway, so we got a drum kit and, uh, didn't know how to play it, didn't know anything really had to, but my brother Colin, my brother Colin, he was, uh, he played, uh, snare drum in the ATC. Uh, but also a friend of his, uh, a guy called Lindsey Broadbridge. He had the drum kit and Colin, he had to play drums a bit really, didn't he?

[00:05:59] **Derek Tagg:** Yeah. [00:06:00]

[00:06:00] **Peter Tagg:** So, uh, he showed me, in fact, in fact the drum kit we got was, I think it was between us originally, wasn't it? I can't remember. It was, I think it was our drum, that's it. It was mine and Colin's drum kit. So, uh, not, not entirely sure about that now. Uh, but he showed me, he showed me a few things and got me started playing really.

[00:06:15] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah.

[00:06:16] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah.

[00:06:17] **Jarek Zaba:** And for you, Derek, what was your

[00:06:19] **Derek Tagg:** Uh, well, I started playing his drums quite a lot cuz I. I like the noise. Yeah. Um, and all that. And then your mate, Chris had a guitar for sale for 4 quid, didn't he?

[00:06:26] **Peter Tagg:** Yes, he did four pounds

[00:06:28] **Derek Tagg:** And I was about 12 or 13, I can't remember. And um, so I remember buying that cuz me and Peter realized you couldn't have a band with two drummers in it.

[00:06:36] **Peter Tagg:** Well you could

[00:06:37] **Derek Tagg:** or we could be. It wouldn't be very good. Um, and I started learning how to play that. And then your mate Chris got me playing drums in his band.

[00:06:45] **Peter Tagg:** He did, yeah.

[00:06:46] **Derek Tagg:** Um, and I did that till I was about 16. And I was actually sort of starting to get quite, oh, I thought I was starting to get quite good.

[00:06:54] **Derek Tagg:** Anyway, um, and then that all fell- that all split up and we decided to form a band with me [00:07:00] playing guitar and Ralph singing. So, um,

[00:07:04] **Peter Tagg:** well that was after.

[00:07:05] **Derek Tagg:** Yeah.

[00:07:05] **Peter Tagg:** Well that's going on a bit because that must have, so it

[00:07:07] **Derek Tagg:** Sorry jumped a bit

[00:07:07] **Peter Tagg:** That's 79 then?

[00:07:09] **Derek Tagg:** Yeah.

[00:07:09] **Peter Tagg:** By then because well, mind you, you probably started playing before that, didn't you?

[00:07:13] **Peter Tagg:** Because from 77 to 79 I was in Cardiac Arrest, so.

[00:07:16] **Jarek Zaba:** Mm-hmm.

[00:07:17] **Peter Tagg:** So that's when we formed Trudy, wasn't it?

[00:07:19] **Derek Tagg:** Yeah.

[00:07:20] **Peter Tagg:** But I don't know. I mean, you were playing guitar before that, weren't you?

[00:07:22] **Derek Tagg:** Yeah, I used sort of played both.

[00:07:24] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah. Yeah.

[00:07:26] **Derek Tagg:** Really.

[00:07:27] **Peter Tagg:** Because you, I mean, Derek and Ralph, uh, Ralph used to be in Cardiac Arrest as well, but he used to, um,

[00:07:35] **Derek Tagg:** pretend to play a saxophone.

[00:07:36] **Peter Tagg:** Well, mainly he was dancing, wasn't he really?

[00:07:37] **Derek Tagg:** Yeah.

[00:07:38] **Peter Tagg:** Uh, or, you know, sort posing with a saxophone, uh, which he played a bit. Uh, but mainly he didn't play it. And, uh, So I think he wanted another outlet. So Derek and Ralph was started writing songs while he was still in Cardiac Arrest, didn't you?

[00:07:53] **Derek Tagg:** Mm-hmm.

[00:07:54] **Peter Tagg:** And uh, yeah.

[00:07:56] **Peter Tagg:** So then when I left, uh, Ralph left at the same time and that's when we [00:08:00] sort all formed band together.

[00:08:01] **Derek Tagg:** Yeah.

[00:08:02] **Jarek Zaba:** So in these early years when you're playing, uh, your drums and your guitar, um, are you, what, what, what's your sort of, what, what are you taking inspiration from? Is it T. Rex or is it, um, things you're seeing live?

[00:08:16] **Jarek Zaba:** Is it things you're hearing on the radio?

[00:08:18] **Peter Tagg:** Well, by the time, by the time I was in, uh, Cardiac Arrest, I mean, that was 77, we started that and, uh, sort of punk had sort of started in 76. That was quite a big influence for that at the time. But it was actually, um, I didn't really write any of the music for that.

[00:08:35] **Peter Tagg:** Uh, Tim, uh, Tim Smith that is, mainly wrote the songs, uh, all the music really. And, uh, I mean, yeah, his influences are really wide cuz he really liked a lot of progressive music and, uh, bands like Henry Cow and Egg and uh, gotta be careful, Gong. Uh, so he, you know, there was a lot of influences from that. [00:09:00] Uh, he, he also loved The Who and.

[00:09:03] **Peter Tagg:** Um, sort of, um, a Man Who Sold the World by David Bowie. Yeah. He had a lot of influences.

[00:09:09] **Derek Tagg:** He'd buy Ramones albums, wouldn't he?

[00:09:11] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah. Yeah.

[00:09:12] **Derek Tagg:** Copy em and play em.

[00:09:13] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah.

[00:09:13] **Derek Tagg:** So in fact, he used to

[00:09:14] **Peter Tagg:** Devo

[00:09:15] **Derek Tagg:** The Brat and Lobotomy, didn't he?

[00:09:16] **Peter Tagg:** We did. We did. Yeah. Uh, so there was a lot of influences from all, all over the shop really.

[00:09:23] **Jarek Zaba:** Mm-hmm. Yeah.

[00:09:25] **Jarek Zaba:** And in terms of Kingston, um, when did you first sort of, uh, become aware of any venues or live music in the area? Uh, was it when you started playing yourself or did you see it as a, as a punter first, um, before you started started?

[00:09:40] **Peter Tagg:** No. Yeah. No, I used to go to gigs before that, um, uh, in Kingston. Um, I'm not really sure what the first gig I went to in Kingston was really, but, uh,

[00:09:49] **Jarek Zaba:** I mean, not necessarily Kingston, the town, but the whole borough, you know, including, including Surbiton and Tolworth. Any of these places?

[00:09:55] **Peter Tagg:** Well, most of,

[00:09:56] **gege:** mostly in Kingston

[00:09:56] **Peter Tagg:** gigs we would've gone to, would've been in Kingston.

[00:09:59] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah.

[00:09:59] **Peter Tagg:** In the town [00:10:00] itself, I think. Uh, but I, I remember seeing, um, Tim and a band at Surbiton Assembly Rooms before we started Cardiac Arrest, um, which was, they used to put on quite a few gigs on there actually. And we used to go see, um, bands at the Kings, uh, Kingston Poly.

[00:10:16] **Jarek Zaba:** Yep.

[00:10:16] **Peter Tagg:** You know, um, mainly in the, uh, Penrhyn Road Main, the main bit.

[00:10:21] **Peter Tagg:** But they used to have bands in

[00:10:23] **Derek Tagg:** Knights Park used to put them on. Canbury Gardens.

[00:10:25] **Peter Tagg:** Canbury Gardens as well, I think. And I think some, uh, what was known then as Gypsy Hill, they used to sometimes put things on up there, I think.

[00:10:31] **Derek Tagg:** Yeah. Not so much.

[00:10:33] **Peter Tagg:** Uh, not, I think they did at times. I'm not sure. I didn't go to any there.

[00:10:36] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah, I think I've heard of some, some music up there.

[00:10:38] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah. Yeah.

[00:10:39] **Derek Tagg:** They had like the Dolphin Hotel.

[00:10:41] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah.

[00:10:42] **Derek Tagg:** Um, places like that. Grove Tavern always had no music, didn't it? On the Cambridge Estate?

[00:10:46] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah. The Grove Tavern, Cambridge Estate. And then, uh, well, uh,

[00:10:50] **Derek Tagg:** the Dolphin, the Swan Mill Street.

[00:10:52] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah.

[00:10:53] **Derek Tagg:** They were all sort of, The Grey Horse

[00:10:54] **Peter Tagg:** Oh the Swan. Yeah. Well, the Grey Horse early.

[00:10:56] **Peter Tagg:** I mean, I dunno if they always had sort of live music
[00:11:00] during the week, but they always had the jazz. It was mainly a jazz, uh, venue at one point, I think.

[00:11:05] **Jarek Zaba:** Mm-hmm.

[00:11:05] **Peter Tagg:** Uh, before they started putting on, uh, you know, other types of music as well.

[00:11:10] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah, yeah. I've, I've certainly heard that the Grey Horse was known as a, as a jazz venue.

[00:11:14] **Peter Tagg:** Um, and the Kaleidoscope in Kingston.

[00:11:16] **Jarek Zaba:** Oh, I've not come across that one.

[00:11:17] **Derek Tagg:** Yeah.

[00:11:17] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah. Okay. Well, well that was the first Cardiac Arrest gig. Uh, it was, um, it was a sort, was it hostel really?

[00:11:23] **Derek Tagg:** Yeah. Run by the church hostel,

[00:11:24] **Peter Tagg:** John Bunion, the church or something.

[00:11:26] **Derek Tagg:** Yeah.

[00:11:26] **Peter Tagg:** Uh, and, uh, But they used to have a, a late night, uh,

[00:11:31] **Derek Tagg:** Drinking bar downstairs.

[00:11:32] **Peter Tagg:** Well, it, it was, it wasn't alcohol, was it? It was food and coffee and stuff, I think. I think so. Uh,

[00:11:39] **Jarek Zaba:** where was it?

[00:11:40] **Peter Tagg:** Well, um,

[00:11:41] **Derek Tagg:** Near where Tiffin Boys is..

[00:11:42] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah. Tiffin Boys. You go around the corner, if you're come from the bus station, from station towards Tiffin boys go in the corner on that one way bit

[00:11:49] **Peter Tagg:** that

[00:11:49] **Derek Tagg:** big building in there,

[00:11:50] **Peter Tagg:** a red brick building on the corner.

[00:11:52] **Jarek Zaba:** Okay.

[00:11:53] **Peter Tagg:** And, uh, it was open after the pubs and they let bands playing there. Yeah, it wasn't, it wasn't a big place. It [00:12:00] was just on the floor. There's no stage or anything, uh, on the floor with whoever was there.

[00:12:03] **Derek Tagg:** I remember seeing you there, Cardiac Arrest.

[00:12:05] **Peter Tagg:** Yes. Yeah.

[00:12:06] **Derek Tagg:** And The Outsiders played there as well, didn't they?

[00:12:08] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah. Yeah.

[00:12:09] **Jarek Zaba:** And of, of, of these sort of various venues you've mentioned, did you, did you have any particular favourites? Were there ones that you were regularly at or was it just sort of following?

[00:12:17] **Peter Tagg:** Well, Kingston Poly used to put on big, quite well known acts, you know, quite so they had big bands on there.

[00:12:23] **Peter Tagg:** Um,

[00:12:25] **Jarek Zaba:** Anyone you particularly remember seeing there?

[00:12:26] **Derek Tagg:** Supercharge.

[00:12:28] **Peter Tagg:** Oh yes. Supercharge.

[00:12:29] **Derek Tagg:** Do you remember Supercharge?.

[00:12:30] **Jarek Zaba:** I don't,

[00:12:30] **Derek Tagg:** no.

[00:12:30] **Derek Tagg:** What was his name Alby?

[00:12:32] **Peter Tagg:** I dunno.

[00:12:33] **Derek Tagg:** Oh, I can't remember.

[00:12:33] **Peter Tagg:** I dunno. I saw the Enid there as well.

[00:12:35] **Derek Tagg:** Yeah. You saw the Enid

[00:12:36] **Peter Tagg:** And, uh, Carol Grimes.

[00:12:39] **Derek Tagg:** Yeah.

[00:12:40] **Peter Tagg:** And the London Boogie Band

[00:12:41] **Derek Tagg:** I didn't go to any of those.

[00:12:43] **Peter Tagg:** And uh, I think they were called Wild Horses, which is,

[00:12:46] **Derek Tagg:** Oh I remember that.

[00:12:48] **Peter Tagg:** Scott Gorham from Thin Lizzy and, uh, the bass player from, uh, some other band, was it Jimmy Bain or something? I can't remember what the other band was. Yeah. But they, they were sort of quite well-known bands really. Uh, Revillos. Saw them, [00:13:00] didn't we?

[00:13:00] **Derek Tagg:** Yeah,

[00:13:00] **Jarek Zaba:** yeah.

[00:13:00] **Peter Tagg:** That was later on

[00:13:02] **Jarek Zaba:** and it was, was it quite a big, uh, venue? The, the Poly like in terms of capacity of, of people and um, was it sort of a big

[00:13:09] **Derek Tagg:** It was the main hall.

[00:13:10] **Jarek Zaba:** The main hall in

[00:13:10] **Peter Tagg:** It was the main hall upstairs. Yeah.

[00:13:12] **Derek Tagg:** It's got a balcony outside it. You can see or, those.

[00:13:14] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah, it is, it was, it is big.

[00:13:16] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah.

[00:13:16] **Peter Tagg:** Um,

[00:13:18] **Derek Tagg:** but even Knights Park was quite big, the hall there, wasn't it? It was like the refectory, they'd close half of it off wouldn't they? Put the stage up.

[00:13:25] **Peter Tagg:** Yes, they would. Yeah.

[00:13:26] **Derek Tagg:** Um, Me and my mate, Dave saw Motorhead were playing at Canbury Park and um, we were only about 12 or something.

[00:13:34] **Derek Tagg:** So we went along and uh, yeah, I remember they, they were on quite a small stage, so you had to go upstairs for it. It was on the first or second floor.

[00:13:42] **Peter Tagg:** Oh, right.

[00:13:43] **Derek Tagg:** Can't remember. But they let us go in and then kicked us out and they realised how old we were.

[00:13:48] **Jarek Zaba:** Oh, right. I see. Right.

[00:13:49] **Derek Tagg:** It was about 30 pence to get in. They gave us a money back, but that was, um, really early. That was Larry Wallis, Lucas Fox, and Lemmy

[00:13:56] **Jarek Zaba:** did you, did you get to see much of the gig before you got kicked out?

[00:13:58] **Derek Tagg:** They let, no, they [00:14:00] actually pulled us out as the band were coming on.

[00:14:02] **Jarek Zaba:** Oh,

[00:14:03] **Peter Tagg:** but didn't they let you see one song?

[00:14:05] **Derek Tagg:** He let us,

[00:14:05] **Peter Tagg:** the door,

[00:14:06] **Derek Tagg:** he let us stand by the door and see one song.

[00:14:09] **Jarek Zaba:** Well I guess that's something.

[00:14:10] **Derek Tagg:** This guy, he really worried about it. You, I dunno why they let us in really

[00:14:14] **Jarek Zaba:** yeah.

[00:14:14] **Derek Tagg:** We were obviously like 12, you know, or whatever.

[00:14:19] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah.

[00:14:19] **Derek Tagg:** So

[00:14:20] **Jarek Zaba:** someone on the door got into trouble that night?

[00:14:22] **Derek Tagg:** Uh, probably not

[00:14:24] **Peter Tagg:** Well things were a bit

[00:14:26] **Derek Tagg:** looser then weren't they?

[00:14:27] **Peter Tagg:** Less strict in the seventies.

[00:14:28] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah,

[00:14:29] **Peter Tagg:** yeah,

[00:14:29] **Jarek Zaba:** yeah, yeah.

[00:14:30] **Peter Tagg:** In that respect.

[00:14:31] **Jarek Zaba:** And, um, I mean, you've mentioned Tim a couple of times as, as, as obviously you know, uh, he was the front man of, of Cardiacs. I mean, do you, do you recall when you first met him and the context in which you,

[00:14:42] **Peter Tagg:** At school.

[00:14:42] **Jarek Zaba:** Oh, right, he was at school.

[00:14:43] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah, he was, um,

[00:14:44] **Jarek Zaba:** which school did you go to?

[00:14:45] **Peter Tagg:** Fleetwood in, uh, Chessington. It's, uh, the site of Chessington com, uh, Chessington Community College is there now.

[00:14:51] **Jarek Zaba:** Mm-hmm.

[00:14:52] **Peter Tagg:** And, uh, I think he would've been a couple of years younger than me. Um, so he was there and I [00:15:00] think cuz we both had long hair, that's why we started talking to each other.

[00:15:04] **Jarek Zaba:** Right.

[00:15:04] **Peter Tagg:** Cause it was just sort of like, yeah.

[00:15:06] **Peter Tagg:** And uh, so I just remember talking to one day in the playground. Yeah. And uh, so he was there, but Derek was at Fleetwood as well. Um, four years, below weren't you? But also, um, a couple of, um, people that were in Cardiac Arrest, they weren't in the first lineup when there was four piece, uh, lineup, but there's, later on we got, went to a six piece lineup and that was Ralph and Colvin Mayers, Ralph Cade and Colvin Mayers they were at Fleetwood as well.

[00:15:34] **Jarek Zaba:** Mm-hmm.

[00:15:34] **Peter Tagg:** But by that time, by the time we formed the band, we'd all left. But none, none of us were at school anymore.

[00:15:39] **Jarek Zaba:** Right Yeah.

[00:15:40] **Peter Tagg:** You might, you might have been, Derek ?

[00:15:41] **Peter Tagg:** I would

[00:15:42] **Derek Tagg:** still have been at school. Yeah.

[00:15:42] **Derek Tagg:** Yeah

[00:15:42] **Peter Tagg:** you'd have still been there

[00:15:44] **Jarek Zaba:** so was it, um, but uh,

[00:15:45] **Peter Tagg:** Derek wasn't actually in Cardiac Arrest, but did perform a number or two, uh, with the band on stage.

[00:15:53] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah.

[00:15:53] **Jarek Zaba:** Honorary member

[00:15:54] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah.

[00:15:56] **Jarek Zaba:** Um, and so was it sort of unusual for you to have long hair at your [00:16:00] school at that, at that time? If you and Tim sort of spotted each other?

[00:16:03] **Peter Tagg:** Uh, we probably had long hair a bit later than everyone else, or no, no, it wasn't, it wasn't that it was longer than everyone else.

[00:16:12] **Jarek Zaba:** Right.

[00:16:12] **Jarek Zaba:** Particularly long hair. Hair,

[00:16:13] **Peter Tagg:** particularly. Long hair.

[00:16:14] **Jarek Zaba:** Right.

[00:16:15] **Peter Tagg:** Long hair was quite fashionable then. Yeah.

[00:16:17] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah.

[00:16:17] **Peter Tagg:** But it was, yeah, particularly long. Yeah.

[00:16:19] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah. Yeah. I mean, yeah. I'm just sort of get, trying to get a sense of the, the fashion of the times. Um, so this is, is this before punk, uh, or is this

[00:16:28] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah, that would've been, yeah,

[00:16:28] **Jarek Zaba:** yeah, yeah.

[00:16:30] **Jarek Zaba:** So what, what sort was, was it sort of denim and was, was it still a sort of continuation of sixties fashion or. Do you recall much about

[00:16:38] **Derek Tagg:** You had an Afghan, didn't you?

[00:16:40] **Peter Tagg:** Well, it depends. It depends which group of people you're in really. Um, because the, yeah, I mean there was things like tank tops and Oxford bags for guys and, uh, maxi skirts and uh, midi skirts and what have you.

[00:16:54] **Peter Tagg:** But the thing is then if you are in a slightly different group of people who weren't particularly fashionable, you might have had an [00:17:00] Afghan coat and, uh, yeah.

[00:17:02] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah.

[00:17:03] **Peter Tagg:** And yeah, once some. Yeah. Not necessarily things that seen in fashion magazines.

[00:17:09] **Jarek Zaba:** Yes, yes. And you had one of those, is that what you were just saying?

[00:17:12] **Peter Tagg:** The Afghan coat yeah, yeah,

[00:17:13] **Jarek Zaba:** yeah,

[00:17:14] **Peter Tagg:** yeah, yeah.

[00:17:15] **Derek Tagg:** Who used to sew the triangles

[00:17:17] **Peter Tagg:** They really smelled when they got wet.

[00:17:19] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah.

[00:17:19] **Peter Tagg:** They were terrible

[00:17:20] **Derek Tagg:** thought, weren't they?

[00:17:21] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah.

[00:17:22] **Derek Tagg:** Who it used to sew the triangles into his flares to make them even more flared.

[00:17:26] **Peter Tagg:** Oh yeah. Yeah. You could make your flares bigger by sewing triangles into them at the bottom.

[00:17:30] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah.

[00:17:31] **Jarek Zaba:** Um, by the way, I just recalled that we were talking about venues. Uh,

[00:17:34] **Peter Tagg:** yes.

[00:17:34] **Jarek Zaba:** But we didn't mentioned the, the Toby Jug did you ever go to the Toby Jug?

[00:17:36] **Peter Tagg:** No.

[00:17:37] **Jarek Zaba:** No. Interesting.

[00:17:38] **gege:** Uh, which I'm really disappointed about cuz uh, I don't dunno why I didn't go cuz we lived in Worcester Park, so it was just one stop on the train.

[00:17:45] **Jarek Zaba:** Well, I think

[00:17:46] **Peter Tagg:** Malden Manor station, you know,

[00:17:48] **Jarek Zaba:** I mean I think possibly by the time that you were around its sort of glory years as a venue, were kind of, were kind of over cuz it was

[00:17:54] **Peter Tagg:** Well, um, I, no, I could have gone there. There
[00:18:00] would've been bands like Ultravox played there and

[00:18:02] **Jarek Zaba:** Oh right. Okay.

[00:18:03] **Peter Tagg:** You know, Stranglers would've played there and uh, I've been old enough to go to that.

[00:18:07] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah.

[00:18:08] **Peter Tagg:** Well, it might not have been, but I'd have been old to get in.

[00:18:10] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah, yeah.

[00:18:11] **Peter Tagg:** You know,

[00:18:11] **Jarek Zaba:** not officially.

[00:18:12] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah. Depending what the policy was then.

[00:18:14] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah.

[00:18:14] **Peter Tagg:** So, I dunno why. We never went. But then I think that, um, probably finished soon after that.

[00:18:21] **Jarek Zaba:** Mm-hmm.

[00:18:22] **Peter Tagg:** So,

[00:18:23] **Derek Tagg:** but it stayed open as a pub, didn't it?

[00:18:25] **Peter Tagg:** Oh, yeah. Stayed open

[00:18:25] **Jarek Zaba:** Stayed open as a pub all the way to,

[00:18:27] **Peter Tagg:** but I've got no idea why, there was some pretty good bands there and we never went to see them.

[00:18:31] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah. Yeah, it stayed, it stayed open as a pub all the way to like 99, 2000 and then it was demolished in 2001. But, um, but yeah, it stopped being a, a music venue at some point in the seventies, I think.

[00:18:42] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah.

[00:18:42] **Jarek Zaba:** Um, I think they did, they transitioned towards sort of disco, uh, and then they, and then they tried a couple of other iterations where they were a sports pub and um, yeah.

[00:18:51] **Jarek Zaba:** Snooker bar at one point. I think so, yeah, it had a few different. A few different sort of rebrands. Um, but yeah, just sort of going
[00:19:00] back to, to, to you meeting Tim at, at school.

[00:19:03] **Peter Tagg:** Yes.

[00:19:03] **Jarek Zaba:** I mean, I think Tim became quite well known as quite a, you know, a, a bold and eccentric kind of front man.

[00:19:10] **Peter Tagg:** Yes.

[00:19:10] **Jarek Zaba:** Um, was he, was he, was he clearly a bit of a character at, at school? Uh, was that sort of performer aspect of him evident, um, from his personality?

[00:19:23] **Peter Tagg:** No, I don't think so.

[00:19:25] **Derek Tagg:** He was fairly quiet, wasn't he?

[00:19:27] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah.

[00:19:27] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah.

[00:19:27] **Derek Tagg:** He sort of kept himself to himself in a small sort of clique of friends. He'd hang around with Calvin, Ralph, Debbie Parker. And Theresa and stuff, wouldn't he?

[00:19:36] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah. Yeah. I mean, he was friendly, he wasn't, he wasn't, when you say he was fairly quiet, he was not, uh, sort of like really?

[00:19:43] **Derek Tagg:** He wasn't running around the playground shouting at people

[00:19:45] **Peter Tagg:** no, no.

[00:19:46] **Derek Tagg:** He sort of just hung around with his friends,

[00:19:47] **Peter Tagg:** but he was certainly sort of friendly enough and sort of,

[00:19:49] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah

[00:19:49] **Derek Tagg:** he was funny,

[00:19:50] **Peter Tagg:** not shy or anything like that particularly. But

[00:19:52] **Derek Tagg:** he was really funny to talk to, wasn't he?

[00:19:53] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah, absolutely. He had a great sense of humour. Yeah. And interesting to talk to as well. Yeah.

[00:19:59] **Derek Tagg:** Yeah. Cause [00:20:00] he liked so many different things and he could go in his house and. He had a great record collection, didn't he?

[00:20:05] **Peter Tagg:** Oh, amazing.

[00:20:05] **Derek Tagg:** And all this sort of thing.

[00:20:07] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah.

[00:20:07] **Derek Tagg:** And he had loads of instruments. I remember he, he could sort of play anything. He had like flutes and recorders.

[00:20:13] **Peter Tagg:** He was just an incredibly musical person.

[00:20:14] **Derek Tagg:** It was keyboards and he, and it was all crammed into this tiny little box room. Do you, I remember going in there once, he had this Marshall on a 4x12 and the, the room was like the width of a bed and the width of the door. If you see what I, you sort of had to squeeze in, but this great big Marshall I don't know whose it was, it was Chris's I think, weren't it?

[00:20:35] **Peter Tagg:** I think it was.

[00:20:37] **Derek Tagg:** And he'd switch it on and he couldn't even sort of get it past zero cause he had to keep it nice and quiet. It was just like a little whisper.

[00:20:44] **Jarek Zaba:** But he had, he had many instruments. He was one of these sorts of people that could just pick up any instrument and

[00:20:48] **Derek Tagg:** Yeah he could sight read music. Um, I dunno if he taught himself or

[00:20:54] **Peter Tagg:** I think, I think he did.

[00:20:55] **Derek Tagg:** Um, And a lot of these tunes, he'd, he'd score them, wouldn't he?

[00:20:59] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah. Well, when [00:21:00] we, when, when we were talking about forming this, uh, Cardiacs well, the band, uh, I said, well, do you write any music then? Cuz you know, obviously we had no songs and I knew he

could play guitar. Well, in fact, I thought we were gonna, I thought he was gonna be the bass player.

[00:21:15] **Derek Tagg:** He could play the drums as well.

[00:21:16] **Peter Tagg:** I didn't actually know he could play guitar. I just knew he could play bass at that point. Well, I suppose I did know he could play guitar, but, uh, yeah. And then he just pointed to this huge stack of manuscripts he'd scored. So I don't, I don't think we ever played any of those, but yeah, he could write music.

[00:21:29] **Jarek Zaba:** Wow I wonder where those manuscripts are now.

[00:21:32] **Peter Tagg:** I dunno. Yeah, I don't know what was on them. I don't, they,

[00:21:34] **Derek Tagg:** he used to make Super 8 films, him and Mark, didn't they?

[00:21:37] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah. Yeah. Well, he was very, uh, creative.

[00:21:39] **Derek Tagg:** He, he was really creative. They

[00:21:40] **Peter Tagg:** just generally, actually, he

[00:21:41] **Derek Tagg:** drawing cartoons and stuff.

[00:21:42] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah. Yeah. So you said he, he played in bands before Cardiac Arrest?

[00:21:49] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah. He was in, um, well, the thing is, I mean, some of these. Sort of bands, you know, don't necessarily always do very much. Uh,

[00:21:56] **Jarek Zaba:** no. They can be very quick, quick projects and they come and go. Yeah.

[00:21:59] **Peter Tagg:** So he was in a [00:22:00] band with uh, a guy called, uh, Jim Lee who was from Fleetwood and another guy called Chris Curtis.

[00:22:06] **Peter Tagg:** So Jim Lee was a guitarist and Chris was a bass player and Tim was a drummer then. And uh, yeah, I dunno what happened to that.

[00:22:16] **Derek Tagg:** What, his drumkit?

[00:22:17] **Peter Tagg:** Well, the, the band, I don't actually remember them. I, I dunno whether, whether they ever did much. Um, and then, um, then he was writing some, uh, stuff with, uh, Jim Lee after.

[00:22:29] **Peter Tagg:** Uh, Tim started playing bass. Uh, so they got a couple of bits of music, but that was about that. But then, then I went to see him. He was in, uh, he said he was doing a gig and it was with a guy called Adrian Borland, who was later on in a band called The Sound. And before that The Outsiders.

[00:22:44] **Jarek Zaba:** Mm-hmm.

[00:22:44] **Peter Tagg:** He was playing guitar.

[00:22:45] **Peter Tagg:** Tim was playing bass.

[00:22:46] **Derek Tagg:** Is it Bruce

[00:22:47] **Peter Tagg:** and Bruce Bisland, who uh, Absolutely brilliant drummer who uh, later on sort of joined a band called Weapon who, uh, uh, part of the new wave of British heavy metal. I think [00:23:00] they would've been that, wouldn't they Derek?

[00:23:01] **Derek Tagg:** Think so

[00:23:02] **Peter Tagg:** and uh, but now he plays drums for The Sweet uh, Bruce Bisland.

[00:23:06] **Peter Tagg:** He's a brilliant drummer. And uh, Tim was a great musician. And Adrian Borland was a great guitarist, wasn't they?

[00:23:12] **Derek Tagg:** They were doing weird things. They were doing sort of Stooges covers and it was really kind of odd cuz it was so out of context what Tim would normally.

[00:23:20] **Peter Tagg:** Yes.

[00:23:20] **Derek Tagg:** Sort of be doing, but, and Adrian was great.

[00:23:22] **Derek Tagg:** He could do all that stuff really well,

[00:23:25] **Jarek Zaba:** but did so, did so did Tim say to you, we should, we should form a band?

[00:23:29] **Peter Tagg:** No. No.

[00:23:30] **Jarek Zaba:** How did, how did Cardiacs or Cardiac Arrest first, first become a band?

[00:23:33] **Peter Tagg:** Well, um, so I went to see that this band, uh, uh, Surbiton Assembly Rooms. Uh, and uh, anyway, they did the gig and it was brilliant.

[00:23:42] **Peter Tagg:** And, uh, then I was talking to sometime later, I dunno if it was that night or, You know, later in the week or whatever and asked when they were playing again and he said, well, we are not, it was just a one off. So I said, well, can we form a band like that then?

[00:23:58] **Jarek Zaba:** Ah, so it was your idea.

[00:23:59] **Peter Tagg:** Well, [00:24:00] w- my idea to form a band with Tim, but yeah, I mean that's, but um, anyway, he didn't say anything cuz.

[00:24:09] **Peter Tagg:** If Tim wasn't keen on anything, he wouldn't necessarily say no, he just wouldn't say anything it, so I just thought, yeah. And, uh, anyway, I think I might have said it two or three times more and, uh, nothing ever happened. And then I don't dunno what happened, something happened, uh, because then phoned me up one day and said, well, we, we are forming a band then.

[00:24:30] **Peter Tagg:** Uh, but Tim was gonna play guitar and, uh, his brother Jim was gonna play bass and a guy called, uh, Mick Pugh was gonna be the singer. Uh, I had met Jim cuz he was Tim's brother, but I dunno if I'd met Mick Pugh by then. Can't really remember, if I'm honest with you. Anyway. And, uh, then we formed a band, which was nothing like the band that he'd been in with Adrian and Bruce, you know, but, uh, yeah, and that was how, that was how that started.

[00:24:59] **Jarek Zaba:** And [00:25:00] how, how, where did the name come from and how, how come Cardiac Arrest later became Cardiacs?

[00:25:04] **Peter Tagg:** Uh, well that wasn't our first name. It was The Filth. But that's only cuz we hadn't thought of anything else. So I don't think it was ever intended to be,

[00:25:15] **Jarek Zaba:** that was a placeholder.

[00:25:15] **Peter Tagg:** Don't think a permanent name.

[00:25:17] **Peter Tagg:** But that was what we were called when we did our first gig. And then I think in, probably by the time of the second gig, someone somewhere I came up with name suggestion, Cardiac Arrest, and I think. I think it was a friend of Mick Pugh's girlfriend. I think it's someone she worked with.

[00:25:33] **Jarek Zaba:** Okay.

[00:25:33] **Peter Tagg:** I don't know, but I remember Mick Pgh suggesting it, but I later found out that it wasn't his idea.

[00:25:39] **Peter Tagg:** So yeah. Anyway, so that's what we called ourselves.

[00:25:43] **Jarek Zaba:** And then the, the, the Cardiac Arrest just become Cardiacs because it was just a bit of a,

[00:25:47] **Peter Tagg:** well, that was after I left. So after I left in 1979, they still were called Cardiac Arrest for. They certainly did that first cassette album, didn't they? Uh. Did they do two under that name?[00:26:00]

[00:26:00] **Peter Tagg:** I'm not sure. Uh, and at some point they decided to change it to Cardiacs.

[00:26:04] **Jarek Zaba:** Right.

[00:26:05] **Peter Tagg:** But that was after my time, so I

[00:26:06] **Jarek Zaba:** Sure.

[00:26:07] **Peter Tagg:** I, I assume they kind of thought it sounded better.

[00:26:11] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah. Yeah. Yeah. Um, and you said that's, so you said the first, the first ever gig for, uh, Cardiac Arrest, that was The Kaleidoscope one you said.

[00:26:21] **Jarek Zaba:** Is that right? Yes. Yeah. Yeah. Uh,

[00:26:23] **Peter Tagg:** two there.

[00:26:24] **Jarek Zaba:** Right. But

[00:26:25] **Peter Tagg:** I'm not sure I, I'm not sure if there was a third one. I've got an idea there might have been, but I don't know. I know we definitely did two

[00:26:32] **Jarek Zaba:** I'm really intrigued by those c-, it's rare now that I come, someone says a name of a place that I haven't come across yet, but that one, that one's absolutely new to me.

[00:26:40] **Jarek Zaba:** So, um, yeah, I'll have to have to see if I could find out more about The Kaleidoscope

[00:26:44] **Peter Tagg:** in, on the second one. That was Adrian Borland wasn't it? Was that The Sound? The second one that supported us,

[00:26:49] **Peter Tagg:** It was

[00:26:49] **Derek Tagg:** Adrian and James Drumming, I dunno, who was playing bass.

[00:26:52] **Peter Tagg:** Oh right, okay.

[00:26:53] **Derek Tagg:** So,

[00:26:53] **Peter Tagg:** yeah, I dunno, I dunno if there was any, Other band for the first one, but the second one, one of [00:27:00] Adrian Borland's bands played with us, they supported us there.

[00:27:02] **Jarek Zaba:** So what, what other venues would you have played in these very early years?

[00:27:05] **Peter Tagg:** Uh, Chessington Youth Club.

[00:27:08] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah,

[00:27:09] **Peter Tagg:** which was, yeah, quite something really. Um, yeah, there was fights on stage from the audience and, uh,

[00:27:15] **Jarek Zaba:** What fights from the audience that spilled onto stage.

[00:27:18] **Peter Tagg:** Yep.

[00:27:18] **Jarek Zaba:** Right. Not, not fight. You weren't fighting them.

[00:27:20] **Peter Tagg:** No. And uh, do you remember those really heavy, R. White's lemonade bottles? The glass ones before everything went into plastic, there was these, so one of them came flying through the air, smashed on my drum kit. That was a bit unexpected. Yeah.

[00:27:37] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah. So the youth of Chessington were clearly a bit lairy back then.

[00:27:41] **Peter Tagg:** Then we played at, um, I think it was called Bushy School.

[00:27:46] **Peter Tagg:** We played at a school in Raynes Park.

[00:27:47] **Derek Tagg:** Raynes Park High School, weren't it?

[00:27:48] **Peter Tagg:** Was it Raynes Park High School? We played there and um, the Grove Tavern.

[00:27:55] **Jarek Zaba:** Yes.

[00:27:55] **Peter Tagg:** Which is the one Cambridge Estate

[00:27:57] **Jarek Zaba:** yeah.

[00:27:58] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah. They had lots of bands on

[00:27:59] **Derek Tagg:** They had a great hall. [00:28:00]

[00:28:00] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah, tell me about the cause cuz it's a venue. It a venue that no longer exists. Um, is it,

[00:28:05] **Peter Tagg:** Had a proper stage , a bit small.

[00:28:06] **Jarek Zaba:** Was was it a pub that had a venue or was it just specifically a music venue?

[00:28:09] **Derek Tagg:** It was a big hall outside.

[00:28:10] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah, it was a pub with a, with a attached hall wasn't it?

[00:28:13] **Derek Tagg:** And there was a small serving hatch from the bar into the hall.

[00:28:15] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah.

[00:28:16] **Derek Tagg:** About, sort of four feet wide.

[00:28:17] **Peter Tagg:** It was quite a big pub. Wasn't

[00:28:18] **Derek Tagg:** Yeah,

[00:28:19] **Peter Tagg:** The actual pub. It was quite big.

[00:28:20] **Peter Tagg:** But then the hall was really, really quite big actually.

[00:28:23] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah,

[00:28:23] **Peter Tagg:** yeah, yeah. Uh,

[00:28:24] **Derek Tagg:** and you used to get, used to get quite big bands coming to play there. Dangerous Girls and groups like that when they had their singles coming out.

[00:28:31] **Peter Tagg:** Yes. Yeah.

[00:28:32] **Derek Tagg:** Um, or what seemed to be bigger bands at the time, if you see

[00:28:35] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah, sure, sure.

[00:28:36] **Derek Tagg:** Um, and they had a lot of jazz as well, didn't they, on Sundays and stuff. Again.

[00:28:42] **Peter Tagg:** They used to have jazz bands playing in the bar, didn't they?

[00:28:44] **Derek Tagg:** Yeah.

[00:28:44] **Peter Tagg:** At the same time as the gigs out the back actually. Yeah. So

[00:28:47] **Jarek Zaba:** Oh right. Multi venue.

[00:28:49] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah. I remember one day, yeah, one of our gigs, the, uh, jazz drummers, jazz band's drummer didn't turn up. So one of our friends just sat in with him. Which is [00:29:00] quite unexpected.

[00:29:01] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah. I didn't know he couldn't. Yeah. Uh, anyway, so where was that, Grove Tavern? Um,

[00:29:07] **Derek Tagg:** The Dolphin was pretty good. Had a good, good room. Didn't it, I remember seeing that.

[00:29:12] **Peter Tagg:** That did, the dolphin did have a good room.

[00:29:13] **Derek Tagg:** I remember seeing Akay there a few times.

[00:29:15] **Peter Tagg:** Right.

[00:29:15] **Jarek Zaba:** Did you ever play there?

[00:29:16] **Peter Tagg:** No, I never played there.

[00:29:18] **Jarek Zaba:** The Dolphin is that, uh, that was Kingston town

[00:29:21] **Peter Tagg:** Fife Road fi.

[00:29:22] **Jarek Zaba:** It was Fife Road. Yeah, that's what I was thinking

[00:29:24] **Peter Tagg:** Back entrance to Bentalls Centre.

[00:29:26] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah.

[00:29:26] **Peter Tagg:** Uh, but Cardiac Arrest would've played in, we've played in Guildford at Wooden Bridge Hotel. Um, Not sure,

[00:29:34] **Jarek Zaba:** but it's still, it's still very much lo local in the early years.

[00:29:36] **Peter Tagg:** Well, Stonehenge Festival.

[00:29:38] **Jarek Zaba:** Oh, yeah.

[00:29:39] **Peter Tagg:** Um, and, uh, the, uh, Seven Vale Festival, we played another festival there

[00:29:48] **Jarek Zaba:** and out of interest,

[00:29:49] **Peter Tagg:** we got, we got those via Here and Now, we became friendly with Here and Now.

[00:29:53] **Derek Tagg:** Yeah. Keith used to do it, didn't he?

[00:29:54] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah,

[00:29:55] **Derek Tagg:** that's 79 Stonehenge Festival, wasn't it?

[00:29:57] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah, yeah, yeah. So [00:30:00] they, they, they sort of, you know, put us on those two or arranged it first, you know.

[00:30:05] **Jarek Zaba:** Um, and, you know, in your head at the time, were you thinking, you know, you wanted to become a musician as a career or was it just a bit of fun, uh, sort of hobby?

[00:30:15] **Peter Tagg:** Oh, no, I've loved to have done as a career.

[00:30:16] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah,

[00:30:17] **Peter Tagg:** absolutely.

[00:30:18] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah.

[00:30:18] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah.

[00:30:19] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah. And do you think Tim was thinking in the same, same way?

[00:30:22] **Peter Tagg:** Yes. Yeah.

[00:30:23] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah. Yeah. Um, and the music itself, I mean, I, uh, I asked Julian, at Bacchus, uh, uh, because I knew he knew you guys, um, and, and, and the, the sound of Cardiacs and, uh, Cardiac Arrest. I asked him if he could describe what the, the sound was, and he struggled very much cuz he said it's such a, a unique, sort of, distinct thing.

[00:30:48] **Jarek Zaba:** I mean, how would, how would you describe the sound in those early years of, of Cardiac Arrest?

[00:30:54] **Peter Tagg:** Well, when we first started, it was much more sort of punk influenced, I'd say. Um, but [00:31:00] before I left, it really started changing actually. And uh, uh, I think a lot of the foundations of where it went were there at that point, although I'd say they got further developed, didn't they?

[00:31:12] **Peter Tagg:** After I left.

[00:31:13] **Derek Tagg:** Oh, much better,

[00:31:13] **Peter Tagg:** you know, by some degree. Yeah. Um, but, uh, I just, I just remember saying one day because Tim told me he'd written another song. I said, can we try to do something more unusual? Cuz I thought it was getting a bit, sort of stuck in a bit of a, a little bit of a rut. And yeah, I don't think I said it very well though.

[00:31:40] **Peter Tagg:** I said, will it be the same as all the others? Which didn't go down that well. I, he went, well, he went a bit quiet and, uh, anyway, so, uh, so I did sort of, you know, suggest, you know, trying to move the sound in a different direction, but he really, uh, obviously agreed with it at some point because then he really started, [00:32:00] you know, really started, uh, doing, uh, stuff that was quite different.

[00:32:03] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah.

[00:32:04] **Peter Tagg:** You know, becoming more adventurous,

[00:32:06] **Jarek Zaba:** experimental.

[00:32:07] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah. Yeah.

[00:32:08] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah.

[00:32:09] **Derek Tagg:** Yeah, definitely. Um, and he was developing all the time. He went from not really being a guitarist to being really good in about six months. I've got tapes at home and you can just hear the change in him. And he, he's one of my favourite ever guitarist, actually, seriously, even, even to this day.

[00:32:29] **Derek Tagg:** Cuz you could just watch him and he, he, it seemed, Being a guitarist, you can't always get your fingers to do what you're thinking. And it just seemed he could, you know, and he could do all these really flashy, fast things, really free flying stuff. And it was just brilliant, wasn't it once -

[00:32:42] **Derek Tagg:** yeah. He

[00:32:43] **Peter Tagg:** made it look so effortless as well.

[00:32:45] **Derek Tagg:** Yeah.

[00:32:46] **Jarek Zaba:** And, um, so what made you decide to, to leave Peter?

[00:32:50] **Peter Tagg:** I don't know really. So you, you, I dunno. Um,

[00:32:56] **Jarek Zaba:** Was was, was there any sort of friction in the band at the time or [00:33:00] were, were you just not, not really. Um, was it just your own personal decision?

[00:33:05] **Peter Tagg:** I dunno, I think maybe somewhere along the line people just had different ideas about how we sh how, how, how we should do things.

[00:33:17] **Peter Tagg:** And when you're kind of that age you just think, oh, I dunno if I wanna do it that way. And uh, that was about it really.

[00:33:24] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah.

[00:33:24] **Peter Tagg:** It just, There was no, there was no, nothing really happened. It's just, and you know, we stayed friends and worked together quite a lot in different ways afterwards doing gigs together.

[00:33:34] **Peter Tagg:** And Tim produced our stuff didn't he? And, uh, co-wrote songs with us. So,

[00:33:39] **Jarek Zaba:** I mean, did, did The Trudy come along sort of very quickly afterwards?

[00:33:42] **Peter Tagg:** Yes.

[00:33:43] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah,

[00:33:43] **Peter Tagg:** yeah,

[00:33:43] **Jarek Zaba:** yeah.

[00:33:44] **Peter Tagg:** Pretty, well within a couple of months we'd sort of got back together and, uh, I think within, within about, uh, six months, we went and recorded an lp.

[00:33:55] **Peter Tagg:** Which seemed, I'm not entirely sure we were ready,
[00:34:00] but we, we'd written 11 songs. Well, no, we wrote eight songs. We'd written, no, we decided to call, we'd written a load of songs and just thought, oh, that's enough to make a record. And, uh, but we actually got together with, um, uh, some friends of ours and so did a split record with, uh, us on one side and them on the other, that the Magnificent 7.

[00:34:19] **Jarek Zaba:** Right.

[00:34:20] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah.

[00:34:20] **Derek Tagg:** It was a triumph of enthusiasm over ability. Wasn't it?

[00:34:23] **Peter Tagg:** That's that's how I would, yes, I'd agree with that. Yeah. Yeah.

[00:34:27] **Jarek Zaba:** So did you bring your brother on board immediately with The Trudy?

[00:34:30] **Derek Tagg:** Well, me and Ralph were already doing things.

[00:34:32] **Jarek Zaba:** Oh, right.

[00:34:32] **Peter Tagg:** Yes.

[00:34:33] **Derek Tagg:** And so then Peter wasn't doing anything with Cardiac Arrest anymore, so that was made sense to bring him in.

[00:34:41] **Derek Tagg:** And um, our friend Chris knew a girl called Sue Smallwood. Uh, cause he knew her brother and she had a bass. So we just thought, well here we go.

[00:34:49] **Peter Tagg:** Oh, I'd seen her playing, uh, a gig in the, um, Grove Tavern.

[00:34:54] **Derek Tagg:** Oh, right. Actually with Pork.. She

[00:34:56] **Peter Tagg:** With Pork. Yeah. And, uh, so, um, [00:35:00] yeah, I remembered her from that. And did, but.

[00:35:04] **Peter Tagg:** I don't know. Was it Chris who suggested that she could play bass first?

[00:35:07] **Derek Tagg:** Yeah. Chris. Chris Harvey.

[00:35:08] **Peter Tagg:** Chris. That's Chris White from the Magnificent 7. A different,

[00:35:11] **Derek Tagg:** have you heard much about Chris?

[00:35:13] **Jarek Zaba:** No. No.

[00:35:13] **Derek Tagg:** He's really was quite pioneering in the area. Him and his acoustic guitar going around, finding places to play. You'd always see his posters.

[00:35:24] **Derek Tagg:** He'd make these little A4 posters. I'm playing here doing this.

[00:35:27] **Jarek Zaba:** Chris White was it?

[00:35:28] **Derek Tagg:** Yeah. Chris White. Um, the band Magnificent 7.. I recently worked on a retrospective of all his songs with his brother.

[00:35:37] **Jarek Zaba:** Right.

[00:35:37] **Derek Tagg:** Um, put 'em together, didn't we? An album, put an album out.

[00:35:40] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah.

[00:35:41] **Derek Tagg:** Um, his brother was David M. Allen and he produced The Cure and The Sisters of Mercy and people like that.

[00:35:45] **Derek Tagg:** Um, yeah. And it was Chris who suggested it, wasn't it?

[00:35:49] **Peter Tagg:** Oh, what, suggested Sue?

[00:35:50] **Derek Tagg:** yeah,

[00:35:52] **Peter Tagg:** right.

[00:35:53] **Derek Tagg:** Sorry. Not him. Chris suggested Sue, Jane, um, Yeah. And then we just went and recorded this [00:36:00] album and then thought perhaps we better go and play somewhere.

[00:36:04] **Peter Tagg:** Well

[00:36:04] **Derek Tagg:** we got a gig at Snoopy's, didn't we?

[00:36:06] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah, there was a, there used to be a really good venue in Richmond, which I know is outside Kingston.

[00:36:11] **Jarek Zaba:** Oh, that's fine. That's fine. Yeah,

[00:36:12] **Peter Tagg:** It was called Snoopy's and it was in part of a comb- it's called The Castle. They had a thing called the Bierkeller. I'm not sure what went on in there really. Um,

[00:36:18] **Derek Tagg:** broken his accordion.

[00:36:19] **Peter Tagg:** Was it? Accord- yeah. And then there was, um, Brollies which, um, Uh, was a big sort of venue. And then Snoopy's which was a sort of bar venue on the side, wasn't it?

[00:36:30] **Derek Tagg:** Yeah.

[00:36:30] **Peter Tagg:** But, uh, and I think they used to have a, didn't they have a club there that might have been Brollies called Cheeky Pete's or something?

[00:36:36] **Derek Tagg:** Yeah, Cheeky Pete's was in that building, but

[00:36:37] **Peter Tagg:** in that building, I'm not sure where, but uh, that might have been earlier. But Snoopy's, they put on lots of, uh, bands on, you know, that were sort of quite well known on the national circuit there.

[00:36:48] **Jarek Zaba:** Right, right.

[00:36:48] **Peter Tagg:** But it didn't last that long. It seemed to last well,

[00:36:52] **Derek Tagg:** I think he'd been going, I think it was a venue that was open in the sixties.

[00:36:55] **Peter Tagg:** Oh, was it?

[00:36:56] **Derek Tagg:** He used to get like The Rolling Stones.

[00:36:57] **Peter Tagg:** Wasn't called - that Snoopy's then though, was it?

[00:36:59] **Derek Tagg:** No, but it was [00:37:00] all same building, castle old castle complex.

[00:37:02] **Jarek Zaba:** But this was one of your early gigs as The Trudy.

[00:37:05] **Peter Tagg:** That was

[00:37:07] **Derek Tagg:** First one, weren't it?

[00:37:07] **Peter Tagg:** That was our first gig. Yeah. I think it was our, I think we did our first gig there and our second gig.

[00:37:12] **Jarek Zaba:** But you'd already been recording at this stage. Is that what you're saying? That you, that, that you sort of, you sort did it the other way. You did it the other way round

[00:37:17] **Peter Tagg:** We recorded an album first. Yeah. Yeah.

[00:37:21] **Jarek Zaba:** Uh, yeah,

[00:37:22] **Peter Tagg:** of course.

[00:37:23] **Jarek Zaba:** Um, and, um, did you, were you working towards a very distinct sound? Was there a genre that you were particularly interested with The Trudy or

[00:37:31] **Peter Tagg:** No, we, we just did whatever we felt like doing, which, which was really quite

[00:37:37] **Derek Tagg:** interesting.

[00:37:38] **Peter Tagg:** Oh, yeah. It, it, yeah. What if we. Yeah, we had no genre.

[00:37:43] **Peter Tagg:** We thought we just, uh, did whatever we felt like. And, uh,

[00:37:48] **Jarek Zaba:** was it very different to playing with Cardiac Arrest?

[00:37:52] **Derek Tagg:** Well, I couldn't really play,

[00:37:53] **Peter Tagg:** I think. Yeah, it was, uh, it wasn't, [00:38:00] um, yeah, it's a bit more rough and ready at first, certainly, but that, I quite like that. I, I listen to that now and I kind of like, it's got a certain innocence.

[00:38:11] **Peter Tagg:** And naivety and uh, yeah. And uh, just like, uh, the whole idea of just we wanna do that, so we'll do that then with no idea or thought about whether anyone else might like it or even being concerned, whether they might really, cuz we just, we liked it.

[00:38:29] **Jarek Zaba:** Well, you, uh, you were formed in 70- 79. 79, is that right?

[00:38:34] **Jarek Zaba:** And you're still going now?

[00:38:35] **Peter Tagg:** Yep.

[00:38:36] **Jarek Zaba:** So that's 44 years, is that right?

[00:38:39] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah.

[00:38:39] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah. Yeah. That's, that's, uh, that's impressive longevity.

[00:38:42] **Peter Tagg:** Well, we did stop for about 10 years.

[00:38:44] **Jarek Zaba:** Right.

[00:38:45] **Peter Tagg:** Uh, but, uh, yeah,

[00:38:46] **Jarek Zaba:** but still, still that's, you know, uh, clearly you must be doing something right. If you've managed to, to keep going for such a long time.

[00:38:53] **Derek Tagg:** Well, we haven't given up.

[00:38:55] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah. We, yeah. Something right for yourselves at the very least, you know, something that you enjoy about it. [00:39:00] Clearly

[00:39:00] **Peter Tagg:** we haven't realised yet that we're not gonna make it. That's the thing.

[00:39:04] **Jarek Zaba:** Is it, is the lineup today uh, the same as it was back then?

[00:39:08] **Peter Tagg:** No.

[00:39:08] **Jarek Zaba:** You've gone through a few changes.

[00:39:10] **Derek Tagg:** Well, we did nearly

[00:39:12] **Peter Tagg:** well.

[00:39:14] **Derek Tagg:** Sue came back and did, um,

[00:39:16] **Peter Tagg:** yeah,

[00:39:16] **Derek Tagg:** the last record. Same joe last and played bass last.

[00:39:19] **Peter Tagg:** Well, we got new,

[00:39:19] **Derek Tagg:** it was me, you and Sue.

[00:39:20] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah. New mini album coming out. And Sue, who was our first play bass player playing on that. And uh, uh, Jon Bastable, who um, used to play with us in the eighties. He's playing bass on some tracks and what have you.

[00:39:32] **Peter Tagg:** So we, uh, yeah, there's been quite a lot of people through the band. Derek and I have always been in it. Melissa, our singer, now. Apart from the period where we didn't do anything for about 10 years. She's been with us since about 1988,

[00:39:46] **Derek Tagg:** something like that. Yeah.

[00:39:48] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah. And uh, but you know, a lot of musicians, we still work with people that, you know, been in the band, you know, go way back really.

[00:39:56] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah. Yeah. Um, I mean, in terms of how the [00:40:00] band has evolved, I mean, were you playing the same venues over, over all these years? Have you, have, you did, did, did you sort of shift more towards recording over time or,

[00:40:09] **Peter Tagg:** We don't do gigs anymore. Uh, we don't really have a full band as such. And, uh, I think, uh, we're more interested in, uh, recording songs now really. Uh, cuz it, it's difficult finding time to sort of, you know, be in a band full time. Committed to doing gigs and what have you. Uh, but uh, no, over time we, um, we, we did play stop playing sort of, you know, reasonable reasonably big venues, uh, in the sort of late eighties, didn't we?

[00:40:42] **Derek Tagg:** Yeah,

[00:40:42] **Peter Tagg:** early nineties.

[00:40:43] **Peter Tagg:** Uh, so we used to headline The Marquee and, uh, do big- and Ulu, which was a big sort of venue then, and, and do, uh, supports at quite big places like Astoria, uh, and, um, Well, it was called the Town & Country Club? Is it [00:41:00] The Forum now?

[00:41:00] **Derek Tagg:** I think so,

[00:41:01] **Peter Tagg:** yeah. Up in Kentish Town

[00:41:03] **Derek Tagg:** and we had like KOKO as well. It's KOKO now.

[00:41:05] **Derek Tagg:** It was Camden Palace

[00:41:06] **Jarek Zaba:** Oh yeah. I remember

[00:41:09] **Derek Tagg:** KOKO.

[00:41:09] **Derek Tagg:** It was good, but when we started off playing, it would be The Grove Tavern the Grey Horse, places like that, The Swan.

[00:41:15] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah. Well, I mean, and the other thing is a lot of these venues no longer exist, you know?

[00:41:20] **Peter Tagg:** No.

[00:41:20] **Derek Tagg:** The Swan building's still there.

[00:41:22] **Jarek Zaba:** Well, The Swan is, um, is currently being used by the, uh, the School of Art.

[00:41:26] **Derek Tagg:** Oh, is it?

[00:41:26] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah. Yeah. The, I was in there not, not long after starting this project, and I knew about The Swan being like an old rock and roll venue, um, and um,

[00:41:35] **Peter Tagg:** yeah, way back in the sixties.

[00:41:36] **Jarek Zaba:** The sixties, it was, it was a band called The Impalas.

[00:41:39] **Peter Tagg:** Yes. Yeah, I've heard about them.

[00:41:40] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah.

[00:41:41] **Derek Tagg:** And the pot man was a guy called Winston.

[00:41:43] **Jarek Zaba:** Yes,

[00:41:44] **Derek Tagg:** he worked at the dump and, uh, he was a bit of a local legend.

[00:41:47] **Jarek Zaba:** And, uh, and someone else has spoken to me about Winston. Yeah,

[00:41:50] **Derek Tagg:** well, I remember when Elvis, um, they, they were on strike at the local depot in New Malden uh, the dump thing.

[00:41:57] **Peter Tagg:** Oh right.

[00:41:57] **Derek Tagg:** And, uh, Thames News came down to interview
[00:42:00] someone, and Winston was on the picket and I asked him this greatly long, convoluted question and he just went, Elvis is king.

[00:42:06] **Derek Tagg:** And they showed it. It was brilliant. They actually showed it to close the programme, you know.

[00:42:12] **Jarek Zaba:** Um, but yeah, the, um, yeah, they, they sort of have like, uh, art studios and exhibition space in there now, so,

[00:42:17] **Derek Tagg:** You see how,

[00:42:18] **Jarek Zaba:** but it, it is interesting to go in there cuz you can, I can picture it kind of as a, as a venue.

[00:42:22] **Derek Tagg:** Well, the band's played out the back.

[00:42:24] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah.

[00:42:24] **Derek Tagg:** You had this sort of curved bar at the front and then you went down this little corridor to the back.

[00:42:27] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah,

[00:42:28] **Derek Tagg:** back room.

[00:42:29] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah. But that was, yeah, that was, I was gonna sort of move on to sort of Ki- you know, we're talking this time period now, seventies, up to present day. Um, I mean, how would you describe the Kingston music scene back then in the, in the seventies?

[00:42:42] **Jarek Zaba:** Um, and I guess, how would you say it's changed over, over time?

[00:42:46] **Peter Tagg:** Well, it was, it was really vibrant. There'd be, uh, music every night of the week somewhere in

[00:42:52] **Derek Tagg:** It was exciting. Yeah.

[00:42:52] **Peter Tagg:** And in fact often a choice of music.

[00:42:55] **Derek Tagg:** Yeah. Two or three bands playing every night.

[00:42:57] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah. In different venues.

[00:42:58] **Derek Tagg:** Yeah. You could [00:43:00] always, and at the weekend you could go from venue to venue to venue and see different bands and stuff.

[00:43:04] **Derek Tagg:** It was really, really interesting.

[00:43:06] **Jarek Zaba:** Do you think that was cuz Kingston was just home to a lot of musicians or, you know, it was just a lot of young people were here.

[00:43:13] **Peter Tagg:** I, I dunno, I dunno if it, it was particularly unique to Kingston or not Cuz didn't really, uh, that's where we went out.

[00:43:23] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah.

[00:43:23] **Peter Tagg:** So I wouldn't really know whether that happened

[00:43:26] **Jarek Zaba:** everywhere. Yeah.

[00:43:27] **Derek Tagg:** Well there weren't so many places in Wimbledon and things like that.

[00:43:30] **Peter Tagg:** No, there weren't so many places in Wimbledon actually.

[00:43:31] **Derek Tagg:** Um,

[00:43:32] **Peter Tagg:** Not that I- and I don't, and although Richmond had Snoopy's and its castle thing, when that went, I don't think there was much there, was there? Or was there?

[00:43:40] **Derek Tagg:** Not really. And the other thing about Kingston is it's such a big draw for the whole of

[00:43:44] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah,

[00:43:45] **Derek Tagg:** the whole of Southwest London sort of thing. People coming from miles, you, you get people coming in from Hayes and places like that, wouldn't you? You know, you'd always meet someone at these gigs come from sort of around Heathrow Airport or something. People coming in from Weybridge and places. You [00:44:00] know, people were traveling cuz it's easy to get to Surbiton station and walk in and

[00:44:04] **Peter Tagg:** that's true.

[00:44:04] **Derek Tagg:** All of those sort of things. And the buses were always really good.

[00:44:07] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah.

[00:44:07] **Derek Tagg:** So maybe that was something to do with it, I don't know.

[00:44:10] **Jarek Zaba:** And as the seventies sort of shifted to eight eighties and then nineties, did you, did you notice a change, um, did it sort of start to become more about nightclubs and that sort of thing?

[00:44:20] **Jarek Zaba:** Or do you think it was still pretty, pretty similar?

[00:44:24] **Derek Tagg:** In, in the eighties. It was, there was still a lot going on musically.

[00:44:26] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah.

[00:44:27] **Derek Tagg:** Um, definitely in the early nineties the clubs started becoming more common, um, cuz where Bacchus was that used, I can't remember what the pub was called, but they used to be a club there, Jesters didn't there.

[00:44:37] **Jarek Zaba:** Jesters, yeah.

[00:44:38] **Derek Tagg:** That was really good. Um, and you could go in there and hear loads of new records. It was, it was always quite a good place to go and sort of see what was coming up, if you see what I'm saying.

[00:44:46] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah.

[00:44:47] **Derek Tagg:** Um, And then they, then it did start just becoming a bit more club like. Cuz the Grove Tavern went first, I think closed down sort of quite quickly. And then the Dolphin Hotel

[00:44:57] **Peter Tagg:** It did go quite early, didn't it?

[00:44:59] **Derek Tagg:** And then The Swan [00:45:00] closed.

[00:45:00] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah.

[00:45:01] **Derek Tagg:** Um, and suddenly there were just less places to play. And so,

[00:45:09] **Derek Tagg:** People started going more for the clubs I think. Cos going to see bands was also always really fun.

[00:45:13] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah. And at some point they stopped having bands on at Kingston Poly.

[00:45:17] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah.

[00:45:17] **Peter Tagg:** Not quite.

[00:45:17] **Derek Tagg:** Oh, oh. Was that after The Revillos? When that really massive, horrible fight.

[00:45:21] **Peter Tagg:** There was a horrible fight there.

[00:45:22] **Derek Tagg:** It was terrible. People.

[00:45:23] **Peter Tagg:** So I dunno, I don't dunno

[00:45:24] **Derek Tagg:** At Kingston Poly Yeah. The Revillos played in there, isn't it?

[00:45:27] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah. And

[00:45:28] **Derek Tagg:** Nightmare fight.

[00:45:28] **Peter Tagg:** Finished up early, didn't it? I dunno. I dunno whether that was the reason it happened because I- didn't we play there after that. I think we did.

[00:45:35] **Derek Tagg:** I'm not sure if it was after or before, we were supposed to be supporting The Sweet

[00:45:39] **Jarek Zaba:** oh right.

[00:45:39] **Derek Tagg:** And um,

[00:45:40] **Peter Tagg:** oh yeah.

[00:45:41] **Derek Tagg:** And uh, we got there and they said, oh, they can't come now. They're not coming.

[00:45:45] **Peter Tagg:** So you're supporting Bad Manners instead.

[00:45:46] **Derek Tagg:** So you, you're supporting Bad Manners. Yeah,

[00:45:47] **Jarek Zaba:** Oh right.

[00:45:48] **Derek Tagg:** Okay. You know, and uh, then we were just about to go on. They said, don't go on yet cuz Bad Manners are stuck in a traffic jam and can't get here.

[00:45:57] **Derek Tagg:** So they delayed us going on, didn't they?

[00:45:59] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah, they said. [00:46:00] Yeah, you're the headline now.

[00:46:02] **Derek Tagg:** Yeah. Yeah. So, right. You're gonna have to go out there and headline this so we, okay. So we went out and started playing and it was all going quite well, really, wasn't it? Suddenly about halfway through the

set and I felt this tap on my shoulder and I looked around and it was their guitarist going, can I use your guitar?

[00:46:17] **Derek Tagg:** I was like, what? And um, so I just took my guitar off and gave it to him and sort was walking off and looking around thinking, hang on. And the drummer was asking you if he could use your drumkit and-

[00:46:26] **Peter Tagg:** yeah. Somehow. And sort of merged into Lip Up Fatty or something, didn't it?

[00:46:30] **Derek Tagg:** It did,

[00:46:31] **Peter Tagg:** yeah. With- by them,

[00:46:32] **Derek Tagg:** our band carried on playing with their members, slowly replacing and, um, we had these two dances, didn't we?

[00:46:39] **Derek Tagg:** Pauline and, Pauline and Maria, and they just carried on dancing through their set for the rest of it. It was a really ni- really funny thing. And they were really good fun afterwards.

[00:46:47] **Peter Tagg:** They were. They didn't play for long though, did they? Cuz again, it was quite late by the time it happened.

[00:46:50] **Derek Tagg:** Yeah, I think they knew.

[00:46:51] **Jarek Zaba:** And this is at the Poly, was it?

[00:46:52] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah,

[00:46:53] **Derek Tagg:** yeah, yeah, at Penrhyn Road.

[00:46:53] **Jarek Zaba:** Right. Bad Manners were sort of a pretty big big name were they?

[00:46:57] **Derek Tagg:** Yeah. No, they were having big hits [00:47:00] at the time or,

[00:47:00] **Jarek Zaba:** yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah. Interesting.

[00:47:03] **Derek Tagg:** But that was really funny afterwards cuz we all, they were all laughing about it and the guitarist was going, I don't like your guitar mate

[00:47:10] **Jarek Zaba:** that's, yeah, that's, I've not heard that one before. Sort of a band replacing another band member by member.

[00:47:15] **Derek Tagg:** But it was me. I dunno why it was me first, I just thought, Alright. I dunno, I dunno what I thought was gonna happen. So,

[00:47:22] **Jarek Zaba:** um, yeah, I think in terms of the Pol- I mean I think it's the case with a lot of universities.

[00:47:26] **Jarek Zaba:** They stopped, I dunno if student unions stopped sort of getting the funding that enabled them to book big bands or, you know, I think something, something changed in the way student unions worked in general universities.

[00:47:38] **Derek Tagg:** Sorry.

[00:47:39] **Jarek Zaba:** No, I was just gonna say, I think universities just in general sort of stopped having

[00:47:42] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah.

[00:47:42] **Peter Tagg:** Cuz we used to do loads of university gigs.

[00:47:44] **Derek Tagg:** Yeah. Travelled out.

[00:47:46] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah. I think it was quite common. Yeah.

[00:47:47] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah.

[00:47:48] **Derek Tagg:** But Knights Park had big bands playing as well, didn't they? In that bar?

[00:47:51] **Peter Tagg:** Yes.

[00:47:52] **Derek Tagg:** The sort of bigger up and coming bands would play there. And the bigger draws would be at Penrhyn Road.

[00:47:56] **Jarek Zaba:** We know of the, of the big names cuz you know obviously Kingston Poly became [00:48:00] Kingston Uni in 92, I think it was.

[00:48:02] **Jarek Zaba:** That's when they got university status and uh, we know Radiohead played there not long after that, but they're sort of the last of the, the big names, as it were, was sort of around the, the early nineties, so Yeah. Yeah. But, um, but the Poly's something I wanna do a lot more research into, so, um, so

[00:48:18] **Derek Tagg:** always music there, wasn't there, every week.

[00:48:20] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah,

[00:48:20] **Derek Tagg:** ev ev seriously, every Friday or Saturday, I can't, can't remember which particular night they did it on. And they always had reasonably big bands, didn't they?

[00:48:27] **Peter Tagg:** They did, and they'd set up those beer pumps in the bit downstairs.

[00:48:31] **Derek Tagg:** Oh yeah. They would, wouldn't they,

[00:48:32] **Peter Tagg:** yeah. And they're always mucking around. And you always got all type.

[00:48:36] **Jarek Zaba:** How long have you known

[00:48:37] **Peter Tagg:** A pint of froth isn't it?

[00:48:38] **Jarek Zaba:** How long have you known Julian who runs Bacchus? Did you did, did, was it from before bacchus was, was was his thing.

[00:48:46] **Derek Tagg:** Julian used used to run, he used to do a sort of punk night in the Fighting Cocks which is another place that he used to have bands, um,

[00:48:54] **Jarek Zaba:** and still does yeah

[00:48:55] **Derek Tagg:** Julian, I dunno, quite what he was doing. He had his two pasting tables and some decks. [00:49:00] And, uh, he just used to go and play singles in the Fighting Cocks

[00:49:03] **Jarek Zaba:** Right.

[00:49:04] **Derek Tagg:** I might be underselling him now. I dunno. But that's kind of what it seemed like. You know what I mean?

[00:49:09] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah.

[00:49:09] **Derek Tagg:** Um, and then all of a sudden he was doing this 2001 disco tech, cuz he loves sort of, he loved all The Beegees records and all that sort of thing at the time.

[00:49:18] **Derek Tagg:** And so he'd do his 2001 in there as well. Um, there was two or three places he used to play, I can't remember which, which ones the other ones were, and then all of a sudden, one night, He was playing in Bacchus he did a little announcement, said, oh, cuz Bacchus before that had been part of the, whatever that pub was, I mentioned earlier, I can't remember.

[00:49:37] **Jarek Zaba:** Jesters. Yeah. Yeah.

[00:49:38] **Derek Tagg:** And then it was a wine bar for a little while and then it was, uh, you could get lunch in there. At lunch.

[00:49:43] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah. It wasn't a club, wasn't it?

[00:49:45] **Derek Tagg:** No, it wasn't a club. It was just all a bit strange in there and suddenly he was in there with the - with his partners sort of setting it up and it became a really good place to go for quite a long time actually.

[00:49:56] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah. Yeah. Yeah. I mean, it's interesting, cuz I
[00:50:00] interviewed, um, Nigel Clark from the band Dodgy who started, started off there. And, uh, it always made me, uh, just curious. Just the idea of bands in Bacchus is quite curious.

[00:50:09] **Derek Tagg:** Oh we played there, it's a nightmare.

[00:50:10] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah.

[00:50:10] **Derek Tagg:** Like playing an old toilet, you know? Right. All the sound bouncing off the tiles everywhere and,

[00:50:15] **Jarek Zaba:** Well,

[00:50:16] **Derek Tagg:** you got the tiled floor and the low ceiling and it was really hard to get sound.

[00:50:19] **Derek Tagg:** Sorry.

[00:50:20] **Jarek Zaba:** I was gonna say, just getting your kit down there must have been a nightmare as well. You know, it's a tiny little basement that yeah. Um, yeah. With hardly any room in it. Did you get your drum kit down there?

[00:50:29] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah,

[00:50:29] **Derek Tagg:** yeah, yeah.

[00:50:30] **Peter Tagg:** We supported Nik Turner there.

[00:50:31] **Derek Tagg:** We did.

[00:50:32] **Peter Tagg:** First off, didn't we? Uh, from Hawkwind.

[00:50:34] **Jarek Zaba:** Right.

[00:50:35] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah.

[00:50:35] **Jarek Zaba:** Huh.

[00:50:36] **Peter Tagg:** Nik Turner's Galaktikos, wasn't it?

[00:50:38] **Derek Tagg:** I think so. Yeah.

[00:50:39] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah,

[00:50:40] **Jarek Zaba:** yeah.

[00:50:40] **Derek Tagg:** Um, it wasn't actually a nightmare when you were playing, it was just sort of setting up and trying to get the sound and you thinking, oh my God. And then you're just standing on this slippery tiled floor trying not to fall all over while you're doing it.

[00:50:51] **Jarek Zaba:** And um, you know, Bacchus is still going today. Um, I mean, of Kingston today, do you think, you know, the opportunities are

[00:51:00] more limited for, for live musicians now? Um, do you think it's, or do you think it's just evolved with the times sort of thing?

[00:51:06] **Derek Tagg:** Well, is that still the club out at the back of the Grey Horse?

[00:51:08] **Derek Tagg:** Was it the Ram Jam?

[00:51:10] **Jarek Zaba:** Ram Jam Club?

[00:51:11] **Peter Tagg:** Yes.

[00:51:11] **Derek Tagg:** Is that still there?

[00:51:12] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah, I think so.

[00:51:12] **Derek Tagg:** Um, Julian would still put people on at Bacchus. My son and my daughter go and see bands at PRYZYM so there is still stuff going on. But with decline of pubs.

[00:51:21] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah. Well, Banquet Records putting on a lot of bands, aren't they? Big, big acts as well.

[00:51:25] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah.

[00:51:26] **Derek Tagg:** But with the decline of pubs, obviously music has to decline with it because that's your main easy place to play. They've got a big hall out the back and they're not too fussy about who they put on.

[00:51:36] **Peter Tagg:** Well, the Oak

[00:51:36] **Derek Tagg:** they never used the,

[00:51:37] **Peter Tagg:** is it, uh, uh, was, is it called, uh, down Richmond Road? Is it called the Oak Tavern or is it the Oak?

[00:51:42] **Peter Tagg:** I don't know.

[00:51:43] **Jarek Zaba:** I think, I think I know where you mean. Yeah. Yeah. Just on the way towards Richmond.

[00:51:46] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah.

[00:51:46] **Derek Tagg:** He used to be the British Oak, didn't it?

[00:51:48] **Peter Tagg:** Yes. Yeah.

[00:51:49] **Derek Tagg:** They have bands on in there sometimes. Um, but yeah, it, it's just by default, it's the nature of the modern world, isn't it? Clubs are closing.

[00:51:57] **Derek Tagg:** There's

[00:51:57] **Peter Tagg:** fewer places to play.

[00:51:58] **Derek Tagg:** Venues are closing down. [00:52:00] Pubs are going,

[00:52:01] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah. Yeah. Um, And then sort of just sort of, uh, reflecting back onto how big the Cardiacs became because, um, I, you know, they, um, uh, they would go on to sort of play quite big venues, um, and, and sort of have a bit of a cult, cult following. Is that how you describe it?

[00:52:22] **Derek Tagg:** I wouldn't say it was necessarily a cult following, they had a big following. They could sell out the Astoria and places like that and, the tours would be equally big venues. So I, I don't really think cult's quite

[00:52:33] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah.

[00:52:33] **Derek Tagg:** Fair. No. Do you see what I'm saying?

[00:52:35] **Jarek Zaba:** Doesn't do it justice. Yeah.

[00:52:36] **Derek Tagg:** We played with them quite a lot at some points, wouldn't we?

[00:52:39] **Peter Tagg:** Yes, we did. Yeah.

[00:52:40] **Derek Tagg:** Um, no, and they, he, every time he went to see him somewhere different, there'd be people from the last show. Sorry about my voice, it's going.

[00:52:48] **Jarek Zaba:** That's alright.

[00:52:49] **Derek Tagg:** Um, there'd be people from the last show and I remember going to see him after you left, you saw, and you just watched it build. You know, they were just constantly building and [00:53:00] getting better and better and better.

[00:53:01] **Derek Tagg:** And Tim was getting better at being Tim, if you see what I'm saying in the front. Um, but they played a lot with Here and Now. Um, they started playing massively with Here and Now and that was a really good way for them to build up their following cuz Here and Now would just play kind of really strange places.

[00:53:20] **Derek Tagg:** But the whole point, that was the whole point of them, wasn't it? You just getting what you see here, and now, this is it.

[00:53:25] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah.

[00:53:25] **Derek Tagg:** Have you interviewed anyone from them?

[00:53:27] **Jarek Zaba:** From Cardiacs?

[00:53:28] **Derek Tagg:** No, from Here and Now.

[00:53:28] **Jarek Zaba:** Oh, from Here and Now, sorry. Uh, no, no, no, I haven't, no.

[00:53:30] **Derek Tagg:** Dean would probably be worth talking to,

be worth talking to Dean or Keith. Definitely. Cuz they would've been around

[00:53:36] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah.

[00:53:36] **Derek Tagg:** In the music scene before us kind of thing.

[00:53:38] **Peter Tagg:** Oh yeah, cuz Here and Now gave us, uh, when I was in Cardiac Arrest, their support slot with them in Leeds.

[00:53:44] **Jarek Zaba:** Mm-hmm.

[00:53:45] **Peter Tagg:** Uh, which is, yeah, that was really exciting actually.

[00:53:48] **Peter Tagg:** That was the first big gig. Well, the sort of biggest gig I did with Cardiac Arrest was, yeah, cuz this pub in Leeds.

[00:53:57] **Peter Tagg:** And um, I just [00:54:00] remember playing, you couldn't see the audience at all cause the lights were really bright on the stage. And that was the first time I remember experiencing that and had no idea whether people liked it or not. And we finished the first song and they went mad.

[00:54:11] **Jarek Zaba:** Really?

[00:54:11] **Peter Tagg:** It was just, yeah, it was quite, that was really exci really exciting actually.

[00:54:14] **Derek Tagg:** But, Wimbledon Theatre put a lot of bands on as well, didn't they?

[00:54:17] **Peter Tagg:** They did.

[00:54:18] **Derek Tagg:** We supported Stray there, I dunno if you remember Stray they were one of these big seventies

[00:54:21] **Peter Tagg:** And Here and Now again.

[00:54:22] **Derek Tagg:** And Here and Now. Yeah,

[00:54:23] **Peter Tagg:** yeah.

[00:54:23] **Derek Tagg:** One of these big sort of seventies rock groups there. So they used to do quite lots of things. And there was a little club under Wimbledon Theatre as well, wasn't there?

[00:54:31] **Derek Tagg:** Or a couple of doors along

[00:54:34] **Peter Tagg:** The William Morris Club was further down

[00:54:36] **Derek Tagg:** No, that was right down the end end, wasn't it? That little place under Wimbledon Theatre we used to play.

[00:54:39] **Peter Tagg:** Uh, we played Tiffany's.

[00:54:41] **Derek Tagg:** Yeah, that was

[00:54:42] **Peter Tagg:** The night club there.

[00:54:42] **Derek Tagg:** Yeah.

[00:54:43] **Peter Tagg:** Oh, that was further along.

[00:54:44] **Derek Tagg:** Oh, was it? Okay.

[00:54:45] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah.

[00:54:46] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah. And, um, Tim passed away a few, a few years back.

[00:54:50] **Jarek Zaba:** Was it, um, after, I think it was quite, quite a long period of illness. Is that right?

[00:54:54] **Derek Tagg:** Yeah,

[00:54:55] **Peter Tagg:** yeah,

[00:54:55] **Jarek Zaba:** yeah, yeah. Um, and is it right that there's a sort of unfinished final [00:55:00] album of, of Cardiacs that, uh,

[00:55:02] **Derek Tagg:** apparently they're finishing it.

[00:55:03] **Jarek Zaba:** Right. Okay.

[00:55:04] **Derek Tagg:** So you might not wanna put that out. Actually, I was talking to,

[00:55:07] **Jarek Zaba:** I know I won't put,

[00:55:08] **Derek Tagg:** I, was I talking to Mark the other day and he said they're looking at it cuz apparently there's quite a lot of it done

[00:55:12] **Jarek Zaba:** right.

[00:55:13] **Peter Tagg:** Well, this, this,

[00:55:14] **Derek Tagg:** sorry,

[00:55:14] **Peter Tagg:** what, what was said was that basically all the, um, instruments were finished.

[00:55:19] **Jarek Zaba:** Right.

[00:55:20] **Peter Tagg:** And it was awaiting the singing.

[00:55:22] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah. I mean, how, how, how do you sort of just reflect on, on Tim's legacy? Um,

[00:55:27] **Derek Tagg:** I wouldn't be playing guitar without him. He was really encouraging. Um, No matter how bad it was, he would sit there and suffer it and then talk to me afterwards and all these sorts of things.

[00:55:39] **Derek Tagg:** Um, and I think there's a lot of people who wouldn't be doing things if it wasn't for him. I really don't.

[00:55:44] **Peter Tagg:** Well, they definitely convinced, um, lots of bands, there's no doubt about that. Um,

[00:55:49] **Derek Tagg:** well Blur cited them, didn't they?

[00:55:50] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah.

[00:55:51] **Peter Tagg:** A lot of bands have openly, you know, said, so actually, um, there's this, there's a lot of [00:56:00] great music there.

[00:56:01] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah.

[00:56:01] **Peter Tagg:** In Cardiacs really.

[00:56:03] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah.

[00:56:04] **Peter Tagg:** Um,

[00:56:06] **Jarek Zaba:** yeah,

[00:56:06] **Peter Tagg:** they, they did seem to be when they, you know, doing their sort of, they seemed to be on the up, didn't they again?

[00:56:13] **Derek Tagg:** Mm-hmm.

[00:56:14] **Peter Tagg:** I thought

[00:56:15] **Derek Tagg:** we saw 'em at the Astoria

[00:56:16] **Peter Tagg:** came out

[00:56:17] **Derek Tagg:** before it closed, didn't it?

[00:56:18] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah.

[00:56:18] **Derek Tagg:** And that, that was, that was the start of quite a big tour or part of quite a big tour they were doing.

[00:56:23] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah.

[00:56:24] **Derek Tagg:** And I just remember it was amazing that the girls with the bass drums on stage and

[00:56:29] **Peter Tagg:** Oh, it was incredible.

[00:56:31] **Derek Tagg:** It was just a really fascinating show to watch. And

[00:56:34] **Jarek Zaba:** so visually as well as musically sort of thing.

[00:56:36] **Derek Tagg:** Yeah, because they had extra, they had like, uh, all these bass drums all over the stage and I just remember

[00:56:43] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah.

[00:56:43] **Derek Tagg:** And people

[00:56:43] **Peter Tagg:** coming back and singing and what have you.

[00:56:45] **Derek Tagg:** Yeah,

[00:56:45] **Peter Tagg:** yeah, yeah. They'd taken it to a sort of slightly different place for that tour hadn't they?

[00:56:50] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah. Interesting. Um,

[00:56:52] **Derek Tagg:** and we stayed in touch with him a bit when he was ill didn't we, we saw him and stuff.

[00:56:56] **Peter Tagg:** Hmm.

[00:56:56] **Derek Tagg:** And, uh, yeah.

[00:56:59] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah. [00:57:00] Yeah. Must have been, must have been a big loss as well.

[00:57:02] **Jarek Zaba:** Um,

[00:57:04] **Derek Tagg:** well, I've known him since I was 11. Yeah, you've known him. Yeah. So, yeah.

[00:57:09] **Peter Tagg:** Well, he, he received an honorary doctorate, didn't he?

[00:57:11] **Derek Tagg:** He did,

[00:57:12] **Jarek Zaba:** did he?

[00:57:12] **Peter Tagg:** From, um,

[00:57:14] **Derek Tagg:** Edinburgh. Oh, see, Edinburgh Music.

[00:57:18] **Peter Tagg:** Well, we went to the event in Salisbury, didn't we?

[00:57:21] **Derek Tagg:** Yeah.

[00:57:21] **Peter Tagg:** But, um, Uh,

[00:57:23] **Derek Tagg:** I've still got my ticket for it.

[00:57:24] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah,

[00:57:25] **Derek Tagg:** Music Consor-. What are they called?

[00:57:29] **Derek Tagg:** But yeah, he got this doctorate and I'm sure he was the only person from Fleet,

[00:57:32] **Jarek Zaba:** The Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, apparently.

[00:57:34] **Derek Tagg:** Yeah. I'm sure. He was the only person from Fleetwood to ever get a doctorate, and he was probably the most eli- least likely

[00:57:39] **Peter Tagg:** well, Tim, Tim was unable to go and receive it, so Jim went on his behalf and, uh, received the doctor on behalf of Tim.

[00:57:46] **Peter Tagg:** But then, uh,

[00:57:47] **Derek Tagg:** they did a smaller test

[00:57:48] **Peter Tagg:** some months later. The, um, Would it be the principal of the, uh, Conservatoire?

[00:57:54] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah. Or the Vice Chancellor or whatever it is. Yeah.

[00:57:57] **Peter Tagg:** Flew, came down to Salisbury to award it to him
[00:58:00] personally.

[00:58:00] **Jarek Zaba:** Oh.

[00:58:01] **Peter Tagg:** Uh, an event they had in, um, uh, it was, I don't, it was an amazing building in Salisbury wasn't it?

[00:58:07] **Derek Tagg:** Near the cathedral, wasn't it?

[00:58:08] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah.

[00:58:08] **Derek Tagg:** Yeah. In the grounds,

[00:58:09] **Peter Tagg:** which was, uh, quite something really.

[00:58:11] **Derek Tagg:** There's clips of it on YouTube.

[00:58:13] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah. Yeah. I'll, I'll look it up for sure. Um, well I think I've, I've, we've covered a lot of ground and I've taken up quite enough of your time.

[00:58:20] **Derek Tagg:** Uh, I haven't finished yet.

[00:58:21] **Jarek Zaba:** Well, you, you, yeah.

[00:58:22] **Jarek Zaba:** I mean, if there is anything, if there is anything that you think we haven't covered that you think is, uh, is relevant to all this chat, um, feel free to, to say

[00:58:31] **Derek Tagg:** no. I think you, you probably check out The Sound. Adrian Borland, Colvin Mayers as well. Definitely Here and Now

[00:58:39] **Peter Tagg:** Other bands. Yeah. Other bands from that time.

[00:58:40] **Derek Tagg:** Acack were quite a big draw at the time.

[00:58:42] **Jarek Zaba:** Mm-hmm.

[00:58:43] **Peter Tagg:** Oh yeah.

[00:58:43] **Derek Tagg:** They do quite a lot on YouTube. Um,

[00:58:46] **Peter Tagg:** Bands at Kingston Rugby Club in Chessington.

[00:58:49] **Jarek Zaba:** Oh, right.

[00:58:49] **Peter Tagg:** They put bands on there, saw Acack there.

[00:58:51] **gege:** Yeah.

[00:58:51] **Peter Tagg:** Yeah. Is that called Kingston Rugby Club at Chessington there?

[00:58:55] **Derek Tagg:** I'm not sure what it's called actually.

[00:58:56] **Peter Tagg:** I think it is.

[00:58:57] **Derek Tagg:** Um, there's definitely some other bands you should check [00:59:00] out

[00:59:00] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah.

[00:59:00] **Derek Tagg:** Um, that you might not have heard of. That's why I'm sort of saying.

[00:59:03] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah. Well, I mean, yeah, I, I think there's, there's so many bands for me to discover. Um, and also you've given me some new venues to look into as well, so.

[00:59:10] **Peter Tagg:** Right.

[00:59:10] **Jarek Zaba:** Kaleid- Kaleidoscope. Um, I'm definitely gonna gonna look into, um, but yeah, yeah, no, really appreciate

[00:59:17] **Derek Tagg:** the building's still there. I dunno what it is now. I dunno if it still is the Kaleidoscope?

[00:59:21] **Peter Tagg:** No, I don't think it is. Yeah, I think the church moved from what I read.

[00:59:27] **Jarek Zaba:** Yeah. No, I'll definitely, definitely look into it. But, um, yeah. Thank you guys so much for your, for your time.

[00:59:32] **Peter Tagg:** Thank you.