

# It's only rock 'n' roll but I like it...



Inspired by Neil Murray, the Travers Smith Braithwaite banking partner who achieved chart success last month with 'Come on England', the Back page has pulled together its dream all-star lawyer band. They've each enjoyed their 15 minutes of fame – although some seem a little hazy on the details.

**Lead guitar/vocals:**  
**Dave Fenton, in-house counsel, Musicians Union**  
**Rock 'n' roll credentials:** The man behind The Vapors' nu-wave hit 'Turning Japanese', Fenton's musical pedigree is assured. This seminal '80s tune spent ten weeks as Australia's number one, while reaching a credible number three over here. Fenton's highlight? 'My radio alarm waking me up with my very own song.'



Despite Fenton taking a year out from law to pursue pop superstardom, The Vapors struggled to replicate their early success and later split.  
**LB says:** After being discovered by Paul Weller's dad, it's a shame that The Vapors had only a whiff of fame.

**Guitar/vocals:**  
**Neil Murray, Travers Smith Braithwaite**  
**Rock 'n' roll credentials:** Murray spent much of June riding high in the charts with 4-4-2's 'Come on Eileen'-inspired 'Come on England'.



Although the festival season is upon us, Murray explained why the band had not made

a law firm, you don't really have time to tour or play festivals,' he confirmed.  
'Rumour has it that they played the song in the dressing room before the Swiss match,' he added proudly.

Travers' senior partner Christopher Bell admitted: 'It hasn't been a big thing for us – just a little mild amusement and light-hearted banter. I can't say I've heard it and I don't watch *Top of the Pops*.'

**LB says:** A welcome injection of glamour for those crazy kids at Travers.

**Guitar:**  
**Nick Towle, Crowell & Moring**  
**Rock 'n' roll credentials:** Lead singer of Beast in the '70s, which played at seminal rock venues The Marquee and the Music Machine. The band released a single which 'didn't get anywhere' despite being played by radio legend John Peel. 'We were sort of prog rock,' Towle recalls. 'It was the right music, wrong time; punk destroyed us.'



**LB says:** Towle's obviously got an eye for a PR opportunity – his fellow Beast guitarist was formerly with Ugly Rumours, Tony Blair's

**Bass guitar:**  
**Roger Shoemith, Lawrence Graham**  
**Rock 'n' roll credentials:**



Shoemith played gigs 'probably in the '70s' with Crispian St Peters, a legendary character who scored a top-ten hit on both sides of the Atlantic in 1966 with 'The Pied Piper'. The pair also played with Merseybeater Billy J Kramer in Kent's rock capital, Sittingbourne.

**LB says:** Shoemith is a little sketchy on the exact details of his stardom – including the decade – making him perfect for the spaced Keith Richards role.

**Drums:**  
**Christopher Harrison, Herbert Smith**  
**Rock 'n' roll credentials:**



Currently earning a crust as a partner in Herbies' real estate team, Harrison was a stand-in drummer for the Harrow School band that went onto become Manfred Mann.

Harrison's decision to pursue a career in law meant that he missed out on such