

BURB song ...

Hamptons: The Best Thing About London Town (Is Me And You) ...

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review JJ ...

You know about 'English' music, don't you? There's English as in 'mad for it', English as in 'seaside whimsy', English as in 'getting it together in a cottage in the country' and so on. Well, this is English as in 'bed-sit reminiscences', and it's a little gem of instant nostalgia. Flash-back with narrator, lyricist and sole proprietor Neil Murray as he recalls nights in with his lady and nights out with the lads played out against a backdrop which certainly included Big Ben and St. Pauls, with probably a Waterloo Sunset thrown in for good measure.

Imagine the soundtrack, too: *[Brian Ferry](#) and - slightly bizarre, this - the Bonzo Dog Band, punctuated with the sound of the ree-bop saxophone. Or, if you're of a more sporty inclination, I suppose, a Reebok saxophone.

Anyway. Most of us have been there

'... put me on a bus to where the dance goes on forever'

**No it wasn't, no it wasn't, it was from Dire Straits' 'Twisting by the Pool'. What an idiot. Neil also points out there's a reference in there to "all tomorrow's parties" (Nico). I have to confess that one went right over my head, but then for most of the working day my head's on the flight-path to Stansted anyway. It is a full-time job keeping up with the cultural and musical references in Hamptons' songs, and enormous fun. More of this, as they say, later ...*



at some point but didn't put it this well. *The Best Thing About London Town* steams along at ninety miles per hour, managing to sound musically a little like the surfin' Barracudas at their most hectic, but the *feeling* is more like the Freshies (remember the Freshies?) with Chris Sievey at his best, or the Squeeze of 'Up The Junction'. And it's wonderful, endearing, poignant, and, as I

said, very very English.

So, keep both ears open for this bunch of merry warblers as they spread a little happiness with a touch of harmless insanity ... hopefully, they'll be at a venue near you shortly. Meanwhile, visit the Hamptons' web-site, check out the sound of *London Town* by clicking *[here](#), listen to them on *BURBS Radio (until the programme changes, of course) or contact Neil for details of availability (contact details on web site, which you can get to from BURBs - of course!).

Definitely my kind of track, and my kind of band. Yours too.

JJ Arnold

**Please note: BURBsRadio has now changed beyond all recognition, but you will still get to hear the Hamptons on regular occasions. For those of you who like to keep a track of these things - the URL is: <http://www.burbs.co.uk/radio>*

**Now a high-quality mp3 version of the track, ie much better than it used to be!*