

My Euro 2004

Neil Murray
Lead singer
with 4-4-2



We're just completely blown away by being at number two and tonight we're on Top of the Pops. It's been quite a couple of weeks.

In terms of a story it's all been quite magical really. The guy who wrote the song, Steve Fox, is the nephew of the original Dexy's Midnight Runners drummer John Bottrill, but he's not a singer or a musician or anything.

Steve had this song written and was just surfing away on the internet and found the British underground rock bands site www.burbs.co.uk. He talked to Barry Ratcliffe from the site and that is where we came in. Four of the eight members of 4-4-2 are from my band The Hampsons and everyone was happy to do the song, apart from our drummer, who's Scottish.

We are just a bunch of unknown guys so when Gut Records got involved they couldn't really promote us as a band — it's not like we're Travis or anything and none of us is exactly Robbie Williams.

Then TalkSport picked up the tune and immediately exposed us to all their listeners. They had to get special permission to play the song as they don't play music, so being the only one they could play was quite a bonus. To start with they were saying it was Mike Parry (the breakfast show presenter with Alan Brazil) singing but on Monday morning all was revealed.

It's a great song really — a great party song — and I think that's why it has been so well received. But it's not a song everyone can sing — you just try hitting that top note. I think mums and dads have been buying it and, you know, you're in Woolworths and it's £1.99 so people are thinking, "I may as well buy that."

It's all a bit of fun and that's

all it should be. We will all carry on after this, so if it offered us a platform that would be brilliant but no one's going to give up their day job.

We thought the result from the French game would hit the sales but the whole country has got behind the song. I'm thinking that if England get to the final I'm going to argue strongly that 4-4-2 should do the half-time entertainment.

Our appearance on Top of the Pops should go down well. We're the first act on and for the video we've got footballs flying all over the place. I had to hang on to my mike stand just to stay safe with footballs bouncing off Page 3 models' heads. It was great fun.