

June 2010

Hello again! Boy am I glad to see you. You didn't know it but for the past three weeks, you have been held hostage by my old computer. I wasn't sure I'd ever see you again. It was a struggle, but finally, thanks to my IT guru Kim, the old computer spat out all your names and addresses. Whew! I've learned my lesson and its name is BACKUP.

Anyway enough of my problems, I wasn't sure there'd be a June issue, but here it is!

### Guitar Show Wrap



The VASE team had a good time at the Guitar Show last month. It was a time to catch up with old friends and acquaintances and make a few new ones. The VASE stand was a popular one with folks dropping by to check out the VASE gear. Over the two days, the whole VASE team made it in to meet and greet. Above are Noel Bourne and Gary Broadhurst.



We had some help putting the VASE gear through its paces: Lecia McPhail-Bell, Vic Kena and Ron Delbridge had an appreciative audience.



Your editor with Richard Faint above



Graeme Whitehouse at right

For more on the show go to the VASE web site: [www.vase.com.au](http://www.vase.com.au)  
Check out the Official VASE Forum and see the videos posted there by Phil Mailloux

### Rave On

Denis Semchenko, Geared Editor of RAVE Magazine, Brisbane's leading street magazine dropped by recently to have a look around and a talk with Matt Fairhurst who is handling the marketing for VASE. He's written an article for the latest issue of RAVE and it's also featured on their web site. Check it out: <http://www.ravemagazine.com.au/content/view/21402/191>



Denis Semchenko caught up with Matt at the recent Guitar Show. If you look closely you can see Matt and VASE team members above, wearing the (very) limited edition Trendsetter 60 shirts which will be available for purchase in the near future.

### Out and About With VASE

Here're some photos of James Gillard on stage at the recent Lee Kernaghan gig at Southbank Piazza.

Thanks to Ray Maguire for these.



The recent Caboolture Urban Country Music Festival featured, in addition to some other big names in music, some VASE rigs. Thanks, PITT, for these shots.



### FEEDBACK

Thanks once more for your continuing feedback. We're hearing from you via email and through the website. I haven't checked out the web Forum yet on and give some suggestions, ask your questions and hook up with other VASE enthusiasts.

Nick has gotten on to the VASE web site Forum with an interesting proposition, see his note below and Gra's initial response. Given the fact that many of the units were custom made to customer's needs complicates the process but it would be fun to try and come up with a bit of a time line.

Hi all, Could a thread be started on the different models/changes in say, grill cloth, knobs etc. I think a lot of people would find it useful to be able to date approx when their old Vase was built. Nick 62

Not a bad idea mate. It's not really an exact science but there's some rough ideas when can come up with by looking at the reference stock. The best way to get a very rough date is to look at the date stamped on the transformers. Obviously it's a transformer manufacture date but the general vibe is you could assume the amp to be around the date, probably no more than a year after the transformer date. Regards, Gra.

Hi There,

I have a 100w Trendsetter head, and two column cabinets (3 x celestions each cab) which I am told were made custom for a Normie Rowe tour of Europe...?

Can you please confirm if this is true? and could you also give an estimation of what they might be worth...?

I've had them for nearly 10 years and bought them from a luthier/guitar tech who had a shop in Sydney's Northern Beaches.

The whole rig is in beautiful condition and is always kept in it's original black and white striped vinyl covers.

Any info you might be able to provide as to the history of my much loved set-up would be great, as I've been hard-pressed to find anything like it, or any info about vintage VASE gear here in Sydney. Cheers, Daniel.

Hi Daniel

In the seventies the 100watt and 120 trendsetters rigs with two columns [loaded with 3 X Celestion Greenbacks] were quite common. In fact many Brisbane bands used this configuration I purchased a new 120 trendsetter head with two columns in 1970 we also have one here now at the factory [100watt & two columns] We have some photos of Normie and The Playboys they don't show any rigs like yours. However that is not to say they didn't have one. Please send us some photos and some words and we will include it in our newsletter also send us your shirt size and we will send you a vase t-shirt oh and address please.

Finally if the rig is in pristine condition value could be \$1500-\$2000 Best regards, Harry

Hi...love your work and for the initiative to prolong the longevity of an Austrlain icon. In saying that, do have any leeds and/or 'bits' to prolong my 'Dynabass'???

I have had the circuits, transformer etc tested, replaced capacitors and tubes and now require an 'on/off/standby' switch (it shorts out when operated...'scarey")the knob is perfect...need the switch??? Similarly, require a suitable volume pot (it has a surge point in the mechanism...again "scarey")the knob is perfect Would appreciate any help/leeds...I am in the Gold Coast...cheers Bruce

Hi Bruce,

Thanks for your kind words.

We don't really have any special bits although we can supply pots, vinyl and grill cloth to owners of original VASE products. The power switch is a tough one though. We have gone for a two-position switch on the re-issue Trendsetter because of the difficulty in sourcing a suitable 3-position switch. Let me know the value on your volume pot and we'll send you one. The only issue may be the shaft length, we'll discuss it here and see if it will work for you. Need your address as well. All it will cost is some photos of your amp. Regards, Graeme Whitehouse



That's all for now! We'll be back in July with more news and pictures. We have quite a few new subscribers from the newsletter sign up at the Guitar Show. Unfortunately, some of the email addresses were indecipherable. If you hear anyone grumbling that they haven't received a copy, ask them to sign up on the web site. Past issues are available for download there, too.

Bye for now, Carol  
[carol@vase.com.au](mailto:carol@vase.com.au)