



October 2014

Hello Trendsetters! Welcome back to another month of VASE updates. A new venue for the live music scene in Brisbane is being launched, ME the Band rocks on in New York and Switzerland, we catch up with Tim Gaze, the guitarists' guitarist and share some reader input. Paul Holland shares Social Media info. Oh, I almost forgot. Happy Halloween!

New Live Music Venue



John Collins, former Powderfinger bassist visits VASE headquarters in preparation for his new venue's first

There's a buzz about the new live music site opening in Newstead.

Triffid, an 800 person capacity hall is in one of the former WWII hangars near the community's Gasworks complex, filling a much needed niche for this size venue.

John Collins, Powderfinger's bassplayer is at the helm. The Launch is Saturday November 8, with Melbourne 9 piece band Saskwatch opening.

The plan is for the club to initially focus on music but eventually expand to film or art events.

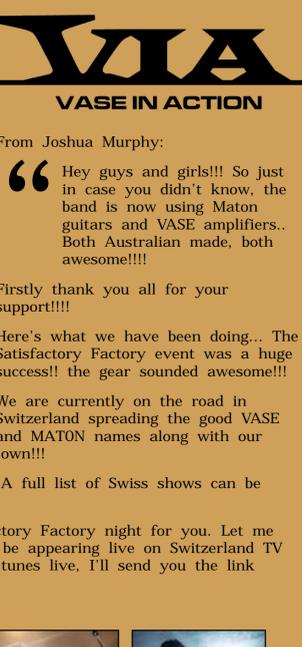
VASE is on board with the backbone in the main room as well as out in the Beer Garden.

Located at 7-9 Stratton Street, Newstead, the Triffid should be a welcome addition to the live music scene!



The VASE backstage has been delivered and is ready for action!

Following the November opening of **Triffid**, there is a great line up scheduled for the remainder of the month. See Screamefeeder Presents, Paul Dempsey, Stonefield, and the Trouble with Templeton, in the weeks to come. Check Triffid's Facebook link above for dates and times.



The Berlin based Melbourne band ME is on the rock again. In Switzerland then New York, this is truly VASE in Action!

VIA VASE IN ACTION



Sound check for the night's gig in Bern at Rossli bar!!! #meband #metheband #switzerland #bern #rossli

From Joshua Murphy:

“ Hey guys and girls!!! So just in case you didn't know, the band is now using Maton guitars and VASE amplifiers.. Both Australian made, both awesome!!!!

Firstly thank you all for your support!!!!

Here's what we have been doing... The Satisfactory Factory event was a huge success!! the gear sounded awesome!!!

We are currently on the road in Switzerland spreading the good VASE and MATON names along with our own!!!!

A full list of Swiss shows can be found at www.metheband.com

Here are some quick pics from the Satisfactory Factory night for you. Let me know if you want any in high res. We will be appearing live on Switzerland TV on Wednesday the 8th and will play some tunes live. I'll send you the link when we have one.

Hope everyone is doing well!!!! Talk soon!!!!



Pics by Marie Chatard - <http://www.mariechatard.com/>

Gig Guide

We know you are out there gigging and we'd like to give you a plug. Here are some of the folks who have let us know where they could be seen playing through VASE in November:

November 1	Dirty Dukes	D'Agular Pub	7:30
November 1	Tundra & Salvadardings	Triffid	7:00
November 8	Saskwatch The Creases	Triffid	7:30
	Mt Warning		
November 14	Dirty Dukes	Ricks Garage	7:10

VIP

VASE INSIDERS PROFILE

Born with a guitar in his hands? Not quite but almost. Playing since about age 11, Tim Gaze was by 16 the lead guitarist for Newcastle's band Tamam Shud. It was the beginning of a long and illustrious career. Admired by fellow musicians, Tim is often cited as being one of the best guitarists ever to come out of Australia.

Labelled a prodigy, said to have exacting energy and technique, called proficient and skilled, the accolades abound. We're not going to repeat all the history, it's been well documented. Check out <http://addictedtonoise.com.au/brand-on-the-run-music-from-the-soundtrack-of-the-film> for an article from October 2013 and <http://www.allmusic.com/artist/tim-gaze-mn000197274/biography> for a brief biography.

What we are going to focus on here is Tim's sound experience. Here in his own words is Tim's Australian Amp journey:

“ When I started playing electric guitar in 1965 I had no idea that some of the things that I found out about then would still be a big part of my life now. When my dad, Richard (who had a long history in radio) twigged that it might be a great idea to get the TV repair guy to add a jack input to the back of the PYE Radiogram, that was the bee's knees for me. That meant I could play along with the records over and over and it would sound cool - good on you Dad - hope I can do the same kind of stuff for young Ollie (pictured with Tim at left). I guess you could call that the beginning of my experience with Australian amps and valves.



When my first band Wheatstone Bridge started in 1967, I didn't have an amp, but our bass player said he could build one for me - a 40watt valve amp with a 4 x 12" speaker cabinet - heaven. This amp was totally hand made with all manner of parts and the speaker box had chicken wire (no kidding) over the front instead of grille cloth - classy. I played quite a few school dances using that amp and there was also a 'fuzz box' made by the other bass player Stephen Cooper who took over. Wild! What a time for innovation, and of course you don't realize how much of that was going on until you get time to reflect back and think about exactly what was taking place.



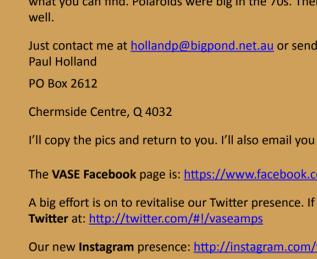
Tim in Tamam Shud and in a more recent shot

When I started with surf band Tamam Shud in late 1969, I was still using that amp, but decided it was time to take the step to something more 'pro', so my next Aussie amp experience was with a 'LENARD' 150 watt guitar amp with 2 x 4 x 12" cabs. It made that SG Custom sing like a bird when I got it going right - and bloody loud to boot. Ended up only using the one cabinet most of the time though, guess I wimped out, (unlike Lobby and Thorpie who regularly belted out through 400 watt Strauss valve amps) but it was bulky enough for me, and the band started talking to me again.

There were quite a few great Oz amps around back then - Wasp was another one I seem to remember being pretty popular. Goldentone was another - yep, had one of them for a while, and of course there was VASE. In reality, I guess I didn't really know that much about amp sounds back then - I just knew I liked the way you could drive a sound out of them and get 'em cranking, and singing with some great feedback.

They say what goes around comes around and with that I'm very glad to say that it certainly rings true in this instance. When word got to me through Jason Castle that I should go round and say g'day to Harry at VASE amps because he was keen to have a chat, I didn't waste any time. It seems that since the **Kalings Lute** days Harry had been a bit of a fan, so it was great to go meet and have a yak about all that is amps, guitars, music and life. When Harry told me that VASE was planning to release a new line of amps you couldn't keep a lid on the mounting excitement.

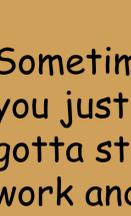
That was great news to my ears, and even though my history and connection with VASE up until this point had been to play through a few Trendsetter amps here and there (but more recently with Cotton, Keays and Morris), I was all ears because I had always enjoyed the sound of these formidable amps. When it was suggested that I take the prototype of the new 18 watt 'onesetter' combo out for some test runs, I jumped at the chance. As I thought, it stood up live and in the studio with great results. And that's up against the usual Fender and Marshall suspects, vintage or no. I loved it and can't wait to get it back for some more show after they finish 'doing the hoodoo they do'. The album will also showcase the sizzling sound of VASE amps.



Gabe Gilbert and Canon or GGC, one of Tim's current projects

I guess what I'm saying here, is that you get out what you put in, and after spending some time now with the good folks at VASE and seeing how they think and approach the way they look at stuff, I can only see positive outcomes all the way along with the projects ahead, and I for one am glad to be around what's going on. I look forward to catching up with folks out there at gigs or online, and thanks to VASE, things have never sounded better. Fabbo.

* While Tim may not have had the typical VASE experience early on, his Lenard amp was a close cousin. Prior to opening his own company, John Lenard Burnett was apprenticed to Tony Troughton at VASE. Read more of Lenard history [here](http://www.vase.com.au).



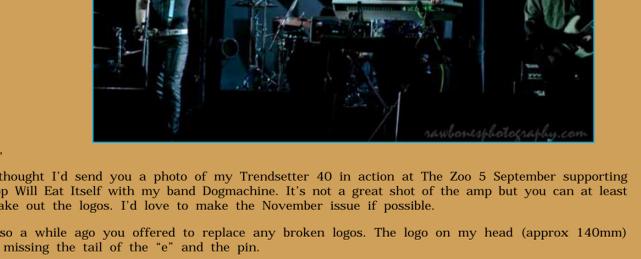
VASE in Social Media

Creativity Well Managing Director and Principal Consultant, Paul Holland, has had significant experience in the private and public sectors as an executive manager, company director, educator, business coach, media producer, and interaction designer. He is a musician, VASE Board Member, past and present VASE owner and keeps up to date on Social Media.

Even though they were posted on our Facebook page on 29 September I can't go past highlighting a couple of the greatest pics I've seen from Sixties Australian Rock - the Easybeats in full flight with a VASE backbone. You can just hear "Friday On My Mind" blasting through those rigs. Just stunning images and a great reminder of our brand's history in Australian Rock.



Another reminder of the recent spread of the VASE brand came through a series of pics and stories again on our Facebook page. The first was an image of the Ben Eaton Trio and bass player Chris Gilbert with his VASE gear and T-Shirt.



This was followed by posts on the ME band in Europe and the great news of the new music venue Triffid, which will feature a VASE backbone. Both stories are featured elsewhere in the newsletter.



Now this pic of the backbone before delivery (to Triffid) was posted on our other big news of the month - finally, courtesy of GT, we have an **Instagram** page. We'd really like you to help us populate it with all the great action that's taking place in the VASE world at present.

A few good images up already. Here's Simon Horsford taking delivery of his Trendsetter 60 Deluxe amp with matching 312 cab. All in Great White with Black Grille Cloth. Stunning unit.



Follow us on Instagram and contribute at [vaseamps](https://www.instagram.com/vaseamps)

Keep your contributions coming in. I always put in a reminder that we can scan old slides and negatives if you have them. They will be returned along with digital copies for your archives. Have a rummage around and see what you can find. Polaroids were big in the 70s. There must be thousands of those instant snaps around as well.

Just contact me at hollandp@bigpond.net.au or send them to: Paul Holland PO Box 2612 Chermide Centre, Q 4032

I'll copy the pics and return to you. I'll also email you digital copies.

The **VASE Facebook** page is: <https://www.facebook.com/VASEAMPS>

A big effort is on to revitalise our Twitter presence. If you tweet, follow us and contribute. Follow us on **Twitter** at: <http://twitter.com/HI/Vaseamps>

Our new **Instagram** presence: <http://instagram.com/vaseamps>

Let us know your thoughts direct on FB and Twitter or at info@vase.com.au

Keep your smart devices charged and ready to shoot when you're out and about.

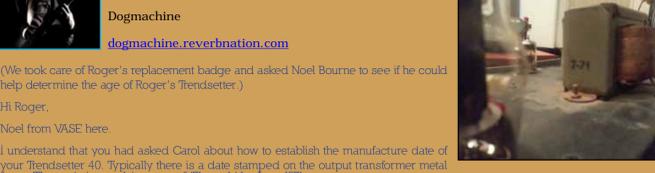
Cheers, Paul

Sometimes you just gotta stop work and play!

Paul Holland



FEEDBACK



Hi,

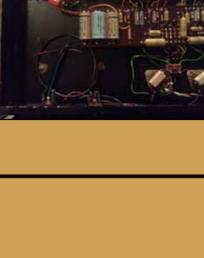
I thought I'd send you a photo of my Trendsetter 40 in action at The Zoo 5 September supporting Pop Will Eat Itself with my band Dogmachine. It's not a great shot of the amp but you can at least make out the logos. I'd love to make the November issue if possible.

Also a while ago you offered to replace any broken logos. The logo on my head (approx 140mm) is missing the tail of the "e" and the pin.

Also is there any way of finding out when and where my amp was made. It has 4052 stamped on the back.



Cheers,
Roger Menso
Dogmachine
dogmachine.reverbnation.com



(We took care of Roger's replacement badge, and asked Noel Bourne to see if he could help determine the age of Roger's Trendsetter.)

Hi Roger,

Noel from VASE here

I understand that you had asked Carol about how to establish the manufacture date of your Trendsetter 40. Typically there is a date stamped on the output transformer metal frame. The code is month/year e.g. 6/71 would be June 1971.

You may be able to see the date code on side of the output transformer if you remove the rear vented back panel or if you cannot see it remove the whole chassis by removing the 4 screws on the underside of the headshell and slide the chassis out from the rear.



It would have been manufactured in Brisbane.

Hope this helps.

Cheers,

Noel Bourne

Hi Noel,



Thanks for the info. She's a 7/71 model. Here's a few shots if you're interested. As you can see it's been augmented with 6L6GC tubes and a modified preamp.

It is more than enough for most local venues and sounds sweet.

Cheers, Roger.



Hi Roger,

Glad to be of assistance and thanks for the photos...looks mostly original...nice Yes, the Trendsetter 40 is a nice sounding amp and plenty loud enough.

Cheers,

Noel Bourne

And Finally...



When **Normie Rowe** stopped by this month, he saw the 18 Watt Heads and Combos on the bench. Don't know for sure, but I think he was favouring the Great White Combo with Silver Grille Cloth. In his words: "One for under each arm", his nod to the easy portability of this powerful little package! Stay tuned!

That's all for now. By the time we meet next month we will be able to begin taking your orders for the new 18 Watt rigs. Once again we have to thank you for your patience and understanding. These are truly handbuilt boutique items and they do take time. On the upside, they give a lifetime of enjoyment and performance once they are finally in your hands! Not long now!

Take care, Carol

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