

Making waves

Emo guys are ready for album recording session

TRIO, Finding Emo are preparing to record their first album after less than nine months together.

Scott Parry, Tom West and Johnny Taylor who only formed in January, have played a handful of gigs to date and are through to the next round of the Battle of the Bands at the Vanilla Lounge.

The band have secured an eight day slot in October at Jaraf House recording studios with Tansads singer, John Kettle.

Scott, 23 is the bass player and lead singer.

He said: "Working with John Kettle is going to be so good, he is so enthusiastic about everything.

"Some people who have recording studios are just interested in running a business, but he isn't, he's really keen.

"The album will really be full of energy and it's going to be a little bit cheeky."

The group who say they could be considered as a cross

between Arctic Monkeys and Biffy Clyro are still deciding on a title for the album, although This Could Go Tragically Wrong seems to be a winner.

Scott of Springfield said: "We have been throwing around a lot of suggestions for our album title but we seem to like this because this is something I seem to say before every gig.

"At one point, we wrote loads of songs all at once and then just started playing them without much practise and I just started saying it to the audiences at our shows."

While deciding on the all-important title, the three-piece still have plenty of songs to sift



ALWAYS LOOKING: Trio are still trying to find Emo

through to see which makes the cut.

Scott said: "Our sound has really evolved since we got together, we are more like pop-punk now.

"We feel like we can't really be pigeonholed but, if we are, then so be it, we're just making music because we love it.

"Although we would probably say we are like a mix between Arctic Monkeys and Biffy Clyro.

"We definitely have about three or four songs that we want putting on the album but we also have quite a few other songs that are really different to our current sound.

"They are a real contrast but we think we are still going to include them on the record because it shows people that we can sound different and that we are not just a generic sounding band.

"Then we want to send out the album to lots of different record labels and just get it out there."

The three lads met at Today's Community Church on Pottery Road and despite there being a six year age gap between Scott, Tom and Johnny, the new band work well together with Scott acting as boss when he needs to.

Scott said: "We have all been good friends for quite a few years, and even though the other two are only 17, we get on really well.

"There are times when it's obvious they are younger than me but I never get mad or annoyed because I can be quite daft too.

"I always think back to when I was in a band at 16 with my older brother, I don't want to be bossing them around all the time."

Contrary to what people may think, Finding Emo don't live up to their name, and are not confined to the emo gang.

"We're not depressing or emotional like that at all.

"People might get confused with our name but it's just a cool play on words," added Scott.

Finding Emo's next gig will be at Zanzibar in Liverpool on Friday, September 10.



Mexican adventure lightens the load

WIGAN favourites Victorian Dad Band are back after much-needed break spent recharging their creative juices in Mexico.

After spending five months away from home in Mexico, Dave Rybka and The Victorian Dad Band are back on British soil armed with a barrage of local gigs, a newly recorded EP and the impending release of their new album.

Starting off the busy latter half of 2010 for the Dads was a gig at The Tudor as part of the NXNW Festival.

But this Friday, fans of the weirdly goings-on at The Roaring Psychedelic Octopus club event can catch a glimpse of the six-piece as they headline the club night tonight from 8pm.

Dave Rybka, 29 said: "This is

our second gig in Wigan since we have come back from Mexico and Spain.

"People haven't seen us locally for a while and we want to get back into gigging around this area.

"I have watched lots of my friends play at the Psychedelic Octopus and I can't wait to play their myself, it should be a great night.

"We have got lots of new material to play for everyone.

"We played some new songs at The Tudor and they went down really well."

Get September 16 highlighted in your diary, for that date is not only Mexican Independence Day but also the release date for the Dads' new EP which was recorded while in Mexico.

Husstle chasing down the big prize

GIRL band Husstle have been described as one of the best girl groups so far by X Factor judges.

The band, which features former Winstanley College pupil Alannah Maggs, 18, of Ashton, Carol Mounsey, 29, Jessica Kozi, 25, both of St Helens, and Stacey Camps, 26, from Leeds, impressed all three judges in the London audition, which was aired on ITV on Saturday.

The girls sang The Bangles hit Walk Like an Egyptian and had a clever dance routine to match.

Judge Cheryl Cole said: "Normally we get girl groups that do half-hearted choreography and a little bit of vocals, which is a bit boring, but I found myself enjoying it. It was good. One of the best girl groups that have been on so far."

As all three judges – Cheryl, Simon and Louis Walsh – said yes, the group has got through to the next stage of the competition, and according to national press, they have already made it through



HUSTLE: left to right, Stacey Camps, Alannah Maggs, Jessica Kozi and Carol Mounsey

to boot camp. It has also been reported that Simon Cowell has added another member to the line-up – Sam Grierson – from failed girlband Dice.

This will be Stacey's second attempt

at pop stardom through the show, as she made it to the final eight in the girls category in 2006.

The band, which has a funky urban sound, formed earlier this year.

TAKEAWAY

The Raj

Units A & B, Springfield Garages, Woodhouse Lane, Wigan, WN6 7LW.

TEL: 01942 248617 / 01942 247202

OPEN: Monday to Thursday 5.30pm to 10.30pm, Friday and Saturday 5.30pm to 11.00pm and Sunday 5pm to 10pm.

ORDER: Chicken Madras £5.45, Pilau Rice £2.25, Chips £1.95, Onion Bhajis £2.10, Keema Naan bread £2.45.

TOTAL: £14.20 - 25% discount: £10.65

WAS IT READY? I rang the order for collection and was told it would be 20 minutes. I arrived five minutes early but they still ensured the meal was ready to go.

SERVICE: One of the most friendly you will experience. Staff are always smiling and friendly to both diners and take away customers – they even get the door for you on your way out!

SERVICE: After a long day at work, I ditched the idea of the gym for a nice hot curry. In the long run it probably isn't the greatest decision I'll ever make but in terms of enjoyment it was certainly the right one! I'm a firm believer that a curry has to be hot and while a vindaloo can sometimes seem that one step too far for me, a Madras is perfection – and the Raj do this perfectly. A mixture of spices and a rich taste were to be devoured. The chicken breast was perfect. Many curry houses opt for cheap, processed chicken but the Springfield restaurant does no such thing. I'm usually a curry and rice man myself but on this particular occasion I was a bit more hungry and helped myself to some chips too and it was definitely the right decision. The rice was fluffy and cooked perfectly, providing the perfect bed for the curry. The keema naan bread was perfect. Not done on the cheap, it was stuffed with the meat, ensuring a fulfilling bite and a perfect tool for dipping. It is often said you can judge a good curry house on the way they cook their onion bhajis and if this is the case, the Raj is perfect. A healthy portion size of four, it would be a bit too much for most people but they were just too good to give up to anyone else. To top it all off, the Raj give all takeaway customers 25 per cent off their overall bill.

DECOR: Very authentic giving you that traditional Indian feel. Being a restaurant too, it has to cater for both diners and takeaway customers and it certainly does that. Comfortable sofas with newspapers await those who are collecting takeaways while neatly presented tables are there for those who choose to dine in. It isn't the biggest place in the world but that adds to its character.

PARKING: Free parking at the front of the restaurant, shared with the Co-op store next door. Limited spaces are available though but they are located right up to the door so perfect for those who want to take away.

GREG FARRIMOND