

# JUNIOR BEAT

## NO 1

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# WELCOME...

..... to the Premier Junior Drummer's Club. As this is the first edition of the Club's newsheet, Junior Beat, I'd like to take the opportunity of telling you a little about Premier and the Drummers' Club.

The Company's history goes back over fifty years, during which time we've built up a reputation for quality and reliability that is second to none. Our main aim has always been to keep the customer happy. Our products cover the whole range of percussion instruments — in fact everything from triangles to the colossal B808 outfit (which is the subject of the issue's 'Product Close-Up')

As the drum market has grown we've grown with it. We have three factories in the Wigston district of Leicester and employ over 400 people. In future issues there'll be features on how we make our instruments, and some of the people who make them. We've always been the first with new ideas and products — we even made the first solid body guitar!

The Junior Drummer's Club is another first — its aim is to help and advise you no matter what your musical tastes or background. If you have any problems or ideas let us know — we'll always be glad to hear from you.

*The Editor*

## ON THE LEVEL

**John Coghlan, drummer with Status Quo, talks to Junior Beat about the band's tours and recent recordings.**

*Junior Beat: In the late 1960's the band went through a change of style, how did this come about?*

**John Coghlan:** When the organist left we began to tighten our playing. We started playing in clubs, pubs, etc. Places where there were about 200 people. We started filling these places and our album began to sell. We just kept playing these small places and building up our reputation. Then we played the Reading Festival twice. The first time was with the Faces and the second time we were top of the bill. After that we started going to the States and Australia and things started moving for us.

*JB: When was the first time you went to America?*

**JC:** About 18 months ago. Then the second time was with Fleetwood Mac — except it wasn't the real Fleetwood Mac. It was just an unknown band using their name. They were terrible and the tour was cut short. The third time was with Rory Gallagher, which was the best tour I have ever done in the States.

We have just done a tour of Australia which was amazing; actually we have just picked up a gold disc from over there. Wherever we go we seem to pick up gold discs — except the States; still I suppose the time will come.

*JB: What was your favourite place in America?*

**JC:** Los Angeles. It's where all the bands go. It has got an extremely long beach — in fact the best beach I have ever seen. New York is a great experience, we couldn't even get across the road for traffic!

*JB: Are you planning to tour over here?*

**JC:** Not in fact a tour, but we are doing 4 gigs quite soon which I think are at Stoke, Lancaster, Southend and Bristol.

*JB: You've got a reputation for being a loud band, does this cause you any problems?*

**JC:** Not really. It's not too bad where I am but it must be loud as far as the audience is concerned.

*JB: Do you have your own roadie on stage?*

**JC:** Actually we have got three roadies, who we call Lock, Stock and Barrel. There's also one of their friends who usually stands behind me, but I don't normally need anyone except between numbers, when I am probably sweating and need a drink passing. If I do need anything all I do is signal and there's a roadie there within seconds. One of them operates the mixer and the other two are on stage — one

*Continued overleaf*

John Coghlan on stage





looking after the monitors and the other running about. Everything is organised so that they are hardly needed during a performance unless a microphone falls over or something like that.

**JB:** Have you any plans for a new album or a follow-up to 'Down-Down'?

**JC:** We don't follow singles as such, but we've just done a new album called 'On the Level' which was released on February 14th. The front cover is very unusual. It looks superimposed but it wasn't. The inside cover is full of past experiences on the road, where we've taken pictures of anything or anyone that we found funny.

**JB:** When you're not working do you find time to practise?

**JC:** Not as much I suppose as I ought to. We're working so much that it's good to have a complete break.

**JB:** Do you have any favourite drummers?

**JC:** John Bonham of Led Zeppelin, Buddy Rich and Barry Morgan.

**JB:** Apart from Status Quo, who are your favourite bands?

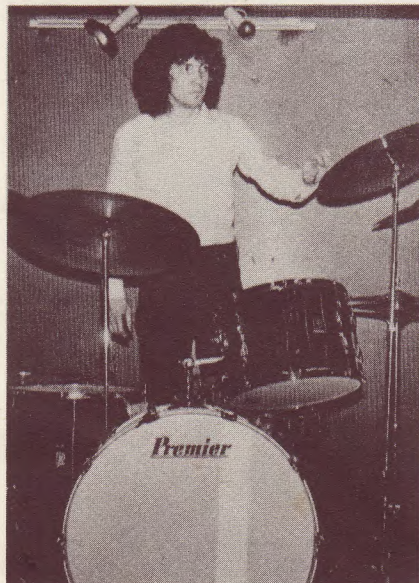
**JC:** I like bands like Them and Van Morrison, and the Pretty Things. I think Ace are an up and coming band.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★  
**Drummer Profile No. 1**

**Stuart Tosh – Pilot**

Stuart, who is renowned as the group's comedian, started his playing career with local bands in Scotland. He was all set to leave for South Africa when he had an offer to join Pilot. He enjoys song writing though he says it is a lot harder than most people would imagine.

Stuart has a custom Premier kit comprising a 24" bass drum, 14" x 10" tom-tom, 18" and 16" floor tom-toms and a 6½" snare.



# PRIZE CROSSWORD

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Here's your chance to win a pair of Premier drum sticks and a copy of the latest Premier 'drum fronts poster'.

The first 6 correct entries will each receive a pair of Premier sticks and the poster, while the next 20 correct solutions will each receive a copy of the poster.

The solution and winners' list will be published in the next issue of Junior Beat.

The competition is open to club members only, and the judge's decision is final. No correspondence can be entered into.

Competition closing date: 31 July, 1975.

**Across**

1. Something to rest your snare drum on.
3. Drummer with the Faces.
7. Where it's . . . . .
8. 'Toy' drummer with Sparks.
10. 'The other great cymbal'!
12. There's a lot of these bands in Scotland.
13. and 5 down Rock band who recently hit No. 1.
17. Foot cymbals!
18. Top number?
19. Nottingham group's curtain material?
21. Tamla-Motown music.
23. Tubular bells.
25. An accident with your cymbal?
28. Hand-drum.
31. Type of metallophone.
32. Sweet drummer with Nazareth.

**Down**

1. A snare drum by another name.
2. When a drummer sleeps?
3. Music originated in New Orleans.
4. "High . . ."
5. See 13 across.
6. and 27 Double-barrelled drum.
9. 'Mad' drummer with Who.
11. Opposite of No.
14. Roxy's drummer.
15. Initials of drummer who's given his name to a Premier outfit.
16. Snare on the inside.
20. Set your sights.
22. Opposite of down.
24. Finish.
26. Drummer's feature spot.
27. See 6 down.
29. Drummer with Ted Heath Orchestra.
30. Former Ten Years After drummer can turn round to be a slippery customer.



# Rock on

Premier drums are featured in these films on current release:

"Stardust" starring David Essex, Adam Faith, and Keith Moon.

"Tommy" starring Oliver Reed and The Who.

"Flame" starring Slade.

"Free for All" starring Adrienne Posta and Showaddywaddy.

Don't try to run  
before you can  
walk



Learning to play percussion instruments can be a lot of fun, but it can also be hard work. If you want to play any musical instrument properly, there is no easy, fast way to do it; you must spend hour after hour learning all the basic 'sticking' patterns (known to all drummers as 'rudiments') and practising in such a way that you develop your technique gradually.

One of the first temptations is to play everything too quickly. Start every exercise slowly; if you make a mistake, stop, and go back to the beginning of the exercise. When you can play the whole exercise without making a mistake, start again a little faster.

Try to have at least a few lessons from an experienced teacher as soon as possible. Without this help you can develop bad habits that will harm your playing.

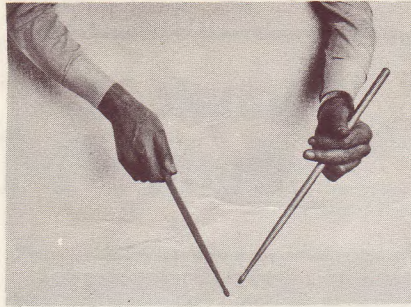
Buy a good tutor (the 'Premier Modern Drum Tutor' is good value for money), learn to read music, and learn all the rudiments.



Premier  
modern drum tutor  
by Eric Little

Premier Modern Drum Tutor

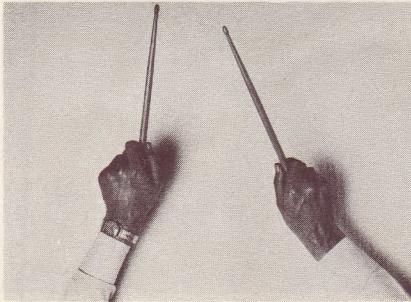
How do you hold your sticks? If you play in a marching band you'll need the 'matched grip'.



Matched Grip

If you play timpani, vibraphone xylophone etc, you'll need the 'timpani grip'.

For a drum outfit it doesn't matter which grip you use. If one is more comfortable than the other use it.



Timpani Grip

## Product Close-up B808

The biggest outfit in the Premier range, featuring the new Lokfast



Junior Beat 3

tom-tom holders, Premier Plus heads and all the best Premier equipment to give you a range and performance you've never experienced before.

- 132 Two bass drums 22 x 17" (55 x 43 cm) fitted with disappearing spurs.
- 2000 Snare drum 14 x 5½" (35 x 14 cm) metal shell.
- 442 Tom-Tom 12 x 8" (30 x 20 cm).
- 433 Two Tom-Toms 13 x 9" (33 x 23 cm).
- 444 Two Tom-Toms 14 x 8" (35 x 20 cm).
- 440 Tom-Tom 14 x 10" (35 x 25 cm).
- 435 Floor Tom-Tom 14 x 14" (35 x 35 cm) 3 legs.
- 436 Floor Tom-Tom 16 x 20" (40 x 50 cm) 3 legs.
- 446 Two floor Tom-Toms 16 x 16" (40 x 40 cm) 3 legs.
- 522 Stand bongoes with stand.
- 392 Two Lokfast holders for twin tom-toms.
- 315 Hi-Hat Lokfast.
- 318 Lokfast floor stand with double holder.
- 313 Snare drum stand Lokfast.
- 314 Four cymbal stands Lokfast.
- 246 Stool (de luxe model).
- 250S Two pedals fitted wood beater (1296).
- 545 Sticks.
- 555 Brushes.

### Recommended cymbals

- 358 Two 18" (46 cm) 5-Star Super Zyn cymbals, crash, crash/ride.
- 360 Two 20" (50 cm) 5-Star Super Zyn cymbals crash, crash/ride.
- 355 15" (38 cm) 5-Star Super Zyn matched pair Hi-hat cymbals. Fitted Premier Plus heads on snare drums and tom-toms.



# Buying/Choosing Your First Drum Kit

Each week we receive many letters from very young and aspiring percussion players, asking our advice before purchasing their first drum kit.

How much? How many drums? What sizes? What colours? What make? Where from? These are the questions that need to be answered because, let's face it, the purchase of your first kit must be absolutely right, otherwise the budding percussionist can be destroyed at the outset.

## HOW MUCH?

We never recommend anyone to spent a lot of money on their first drum kit, even if they can afford it. One has to consider the fact that the drummer concerned may lose interest; therefore do not make too large an investment, because the money will have only been wasted should the interest cease. On the other hand, if your interest does continue, much pleasure can be obtained in adding additional equipment to the basic kit that you have already purchased.

The Olympic 60 outfit retails at around £100.00 and is ideal for beginners. Certainly one should not spend more than this amount.

## HOW MANY DRUMS?

The basic requirements are a bass drum, bass drum pedal, snare drum, snare drum stand, cymbal and cymbal arm or cymbal stand together with a pair of sticks and a pair of brushes. If you can afford the luxury of a hi-hat pedal and cymbals then by all means add these to your drum kit as soon as possible.

## WHAT SIZES?

The ideal bass drum size is either 20 x 15" or 22 x 17". We would suggest the 20 x 15" size for a beginner. The snare drum is very important and a 14 x 5½" wooden shell together with a good snare action. Make sure that the bass drum pedal has a good action, and that the snare drum stand is fairly rigid. If you do decide to add a hi-hat stand, then once again make sure that the action is fairly smooth and silent. Ideally hi-hat cymbals should be size 13" or 14" and a top cymbal size 16" or 18".

## WHAT COLOURS?

The range of drum finishes available on today's percussion market is immense, and these tend to change with fashions of the day. We suggest that you choose a pearl finish. This type of finish seems to go on and on in spite of the other different types of material that are in vogue at any given time. Obviously you will choose the same colour for the snare drum and the bass drum, and this will ensure that your drum kit gets off to a nice clean smart start. In the Olympic range of drums there are at least a dozen different types of finish available.

## Olympic 60 Outfit



## WHERE FROM?

It is rather surprising that there are many young people interested in percussion but do not know their local music store, or because they are fresh to the business are rather hesitant about calling to see the musical instrument dealer concerned.

Music dealers, particularly those specialising in drums, are among the most friendly people you could ever wish to do business with. Premier/Olympic dealers in particular are carefully chosen by our Company for the ability to not only sell drums, but to advise, assist and service all the thousands of Premier and Olympic percussion users throughout the United Kingdom. Please call and see your local music instrument dealer, because if you intend to play the drums for a long time to come, then he can become a very good and useful friend.

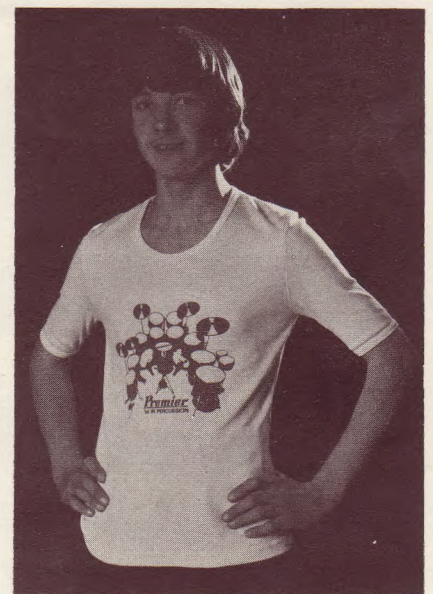
## WHAT MAKE?

There are many fine drums available on today's market. When choosing your first drum kit we suggest that you purchase a well established product. Consider the fact that you wish to add to your drum kit, and that you will require a good back-up service. The Premier Drum Company has been established over 50 years and the Premier and Olympic ranges of percussion are not only value for money but you must also consider the fact that one day you may wish to part exchange your drum kit for a newer model. Premier and Olympic products hold their second hand value very well, and are never difficult to sell.

Brochures, price lists, leaflets, magazines, tutors etc. are always available from your local Premier and Olympic stockist, or alternatively please write direct to the Premier Drum Company for further information.



## Special T-shirt offer



As a special introductory offer to club members a small quantity of "Premier" T-Shirts are available at discount prices.

One size only (Medium)  
30"-32" when new, allow for shrinkage.

## Only £1.10 incl. VAT

Cheques/PO's should be made payable to 'The Premier Drum Co, Ltd.' and crossed.

(Please allow 28 days for delivery)

If you have any problems, photos, ideas, let us know. We're always glad to hear from you. Write to: The Editor, Junior Beat, The Premier Drum Co. Ltd., Blaby Road, Wigston, Leicester LE8 2DF.