



MR PARNES SHILLINGS & PENCE

Presents

His Stable Of Stars

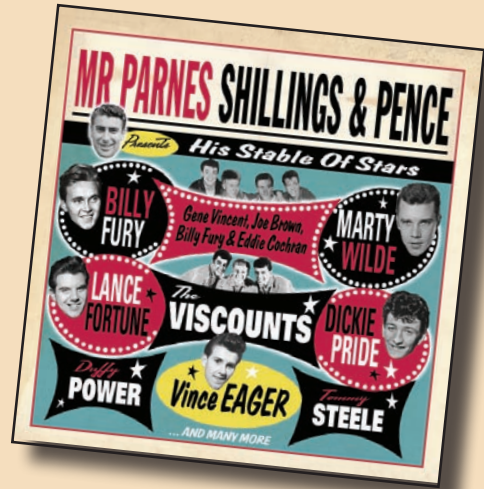
CD1

- BILLY FURY *Halfway To Paradise*
- MARTY WILDE *Tomorrow's Clown*
- LANCE FORTUNE *Be Mine*
- TOMMY STEELE *Handful Of Songs*
- JOE BROWN *Stick Around*
- COLIN HICKS *Wild Eyes And Tender Lips*
- NELSON KEENE *Image Of A Girl*
- DUFFY POWER *Dream Lover*
- DICKIE PRIDE *Primrose Lane*
- VINCE EAGER *Lonely Blue Boy*
- TERRY DENE *A Boy Without A Girl*
- BILLY FURY *Maybe Tomorrow*
- SALLY KELLY *Little Cutie*
- JULIAN X *Sue Saturday*
- MARTY WILDE *Endless Sleep*
- JOHNNY GENTLE *Wendy*
- TOMMY STEELE *Come On Let's Go*
- PETER WYNNE *Chapel Of Dreams*
- JOE BROWN *I'm Henry The Eighth I Am*
- THE VISCOUNTS *That's Alright*
- NELSON KEENE *Teenage Troubles*
- DUFFY POWER *Kissin' Time*
- LANCE FORTUNE *All On My Own*
- VINCE EAGER *This Should Go On Forever*
- TERRY DENE *Geraldine*
- DICKIE PRIDE *Slippin' n' Slidin'*
- BILLY FURY *Turn My Back On You*
- MARTY WILDE *Bad Boy*
- JOE BROWN *Comes The Day*
- TOMMY STEELE *Singing The Blues*
- EDDIE COCHRAN, GENE VINCENT, BILLY FURY & JOE BROWN *My Babe (live)*
- JESS CONRAD *Mystery Girl*

CD2

- MARTY WILDE *Teenager In Love*
- BILLY FURY *Wondrous Place*
- VINCE EAGER *Five Days, Five Days*
- JOE BROWN *People Gotta Talk*
- TOMMY STEELE *Butterfly*
- DUFFY POWER *That's My Little Suzie*
- DICKIE PRIDE *Betty Betty*
- THE VISCOUNTS *Rockin' Little Angel*
- SALLY KELLY *Honey, That's Alright*
- NELSON KEENE *Miracles Are Happening...*
- JOE BROWN *Shine*
- MARTY WILDE *Donna*
- JOHNNY GENTLE *I Like The Way*
- TERRY DENE *Thank You Pretty Baby*
- DUFFY POWER *Whole Lotta Shakin' Goin' On*
- PETER WYNNE *I Need You Close Again*
- BILLY FURY *That's Love*
- COLIN HICKS *Empty Arms Blues*
- SALLY KELLY *He'll Have To Stay*
- LANCE FORTUNE *This Love I Have For You*
- NELSON KEENE *Ocean Of Love*
- VINCE EAGER *Yea, Yea*
- JOHNNY GENTLE *Mack The Knife (live)*
- DUFFY POWER *What Now*
- THE VISCOUNTS *Who Put The Bomb*
- MARTY WILDE *Sea Of Love*
- TOMMY STEELE *Rock With The Caveman*
- DICKIE PRIDE *Fabulous Cure*
- BILLY FURY *Colette*
- JOE BROWN *Darktown Struttin's Ball*
- MARTY WILDE, DICKIE PRIDE & CLIFF RICHARD *Three Cool Cats (live)*
- JESS CONRAD *This Pullover*

FILE UNDER Rock 'n' Roll / Pop / Dance / 50s / 60s / Party



2CD Set RHGB 22

Released October 8th 2012



Generally speaking, success owes everything to good luck and good timing, and Laurence Maurice Parnes was perhaps the classic case of a man being in precisely the right place at the right time. Rock'n'Roll was very much in its infancy in the UK and he had no real competition, therefore there were no 'rules' for him to break. He subsequently became the most powerful man in UK Pop, active as a manager, agent, impresario and music publisher; just about the only area he didn't bother with was records, presumably because artists' royalties in that era were so poor! Due to his spectacular successes, some wag christened him "Parnes, Shillings And Pence" (some sources attribute this to Marty Wilde), a nickname which stuck with him throughout his life.

A wealthy young man, with ambitions to get into the entertainment industry, A small-time management team had hired John Kennedy to drum up publicity for a young singer, Tommy Hicks, whom he'd instinctively realised had genuine star quality, and he wanted to muscle in on the action. Hicks had been underage when he'd signed his original contract - he was still just nineteen - at which point Parnes and Kennedy approached his parents with a new, legal management contract, and took over. Within just a couple of weeks, Tommy Steele was on his way. His first record, 'Rock With The Caveman', was climbing the charts, he'd made his TV debut on Off The Record, he was out on tour with his new backing group, The Steelmen, and Larry Parnes was on a self-induced crash course on how to manage a teenage idol!

Songwriter Lionel Bart had tipped Parnes off about another budding young R'n'R wannabe, one Reg Smith, who was singing in the London clubs using the stage name Reg Patterson. Rightly surmising that you couldn't have a Pop star named Reg, Larry rechristened him Marty Wilde, and so the grooming process began. This time it took a while longer to get a hit record away - but after he charted with 'Endless Sleep' in 1958, he was off and running, registering his biggest hit the following year with 'Teenager In Love'. Parnes' next major discovery was Ron Wycherley, who turned up at a gig in Liverpool to try and peddle some songs to Marty Wilde and stayed to become Billy Fury. Arguably the UK's finest Rock'n'Roller, Bill debuted in January '59 with the exquisite 'Maybe Tomorrow' and registered his career-defining hit in 1961 with 'Halfway To Paradise'. Parnes was promoting package tours, frequently booking headlining artists whom he did not directly manage. The most (in)famous of these was of course the Eddie Cochran/Gene Vincent tour, which ended in tragedy in April 1960 when Cochran died following a car smash on his way to the airport after the final gig of the tour. Finally, whilst Larry never actually managed Jess Conrad, he offered him a contract and also presented him on package tours - and in an unlikely twist to the tale, in 2008 Jess played the role of Parnes in the Joe Meek biopic, *Telstar*



RockHistory.co.uk is an on-going historical project to record the background stories and the anecdotes from the people who participated in greatest British musical explosion that started back in the 1950s and that went on to reverberate right round the world. Tales about the origins of the songs, the roots of the groups and the front of the performers. These CD releases are part of a series of multi-media release that are all linked via the www.RockHistory.co.uk