

# The Michael Armstrong Newsletter



**NOVEMBER 2017**

## **An Introduction From Michael**



Greetings Earthlings! Yes...I am up a tree. November is the finest of all months. For it is the month that I first laid foot upon this planet and set about my plan of world domination. Granted, I'm not quite there with it yet, but all good things come to those who wait, as those of you who are eagerly awaiting the new album will know all too well. Talking of which, as I write this introduction, I can let you know that said album is being mixed and mastered at this very moment! More to follow on that, but let's get back to my birthday. You will all know the famous rhyme that celebrates my becoming - 'Remember, remember, the 22nd of November'. Who could forget? Not you I'm sure. I'll be collecting all your cards and presents from the office on that fine day,

and thank you in advance for your enormous generosity and kindness. You really shouldn't have! Oooh....this is nice - <https://goo.gl/HjTWwp>

## **MY DAD**

A special mention this month to my dad, who also celebrates his birthday in November and this year turns 70 years old. My Dad has always encouraged my music and has travelled to some of the biggest and most horrible holes in England to support me! When I was starting out he bought me guitars, keyboards, and recording equipment by the bucket load. He had a bash at being my manager for a while and bribed venue managers to let my band play (I kid you not). I remember back in the mid-90's we supported Manfred Mann at The Shepherds



Bush Empire (clearly a dodgy deal in itself). As we were unknowns, tickets for our fans (i.e my family and friends) were £3 cheaper than The Manfred's were. The venue manager was over the moon when at the end of the evening he counted that we had managed to pull in some 350 guests of our own! He remained unaware that my Dad had infiltrated the queue outside and sold *our* tickets to Manfred Mann's substantial fanbase, meaning the venue was close to £1k out of pocket! He's kept the faith in me all these years and I had hoped that by now I might be able to pay him back. Maybe this new album will do just that. I hope so. Thanks for everything dad. Happy 70th Birthday. I love you man!

## SONGS FROM THE HUT



This month's request comes from the very lovely Hayley Richardson who asked: -

*I wonder whether you would want to sing this song for me? I absolutely love You're My Favourite Waste Of Time by Owen Paul .... this song always makes me sing out loud where ever I am literally.... it's one feel good, stonkin' great song!!!!*

Of course Hayely, your wish is my command! Just make sure you're not anywhere too public when you watch this and start singing along at the top of your lungs and boppin' away - could get embarrassing for you!!! xx

As you'll see from the video, Lisa my manager, has a connection to this track too...

<https://youtu.be/y1JxmE8-0AM>

As next month is December let's do a Christmas Special Song's From The Hut! Send in the festive songs that you want me to play and maybe I can put together a medley of all your favourites. Usual address for these - [LDAPromos@aol.com](mailto:LDAPromos@aol.com)

## Michael Armstrong's Under The Influence



Episode VII finds me on a very windy beach with a barely audible un-tuneable 3/4 size acoustic guitar. I do like to challenge myself. I'm attempting to pay homage to the legend that is Brian Wilson and his incredible band The Beach Boys. A huge influence on me and my music.

<https://youtu.be/s2nTuRWZJL8>

## The Stories Behind The Songs

'Back To Work' is the sixth track from my debut album 'Michael Armstrong' and has become a firm favourite in the solo acoustic live shows. I was initially very drunk when I came up with the first verse and concept as you'll hear in the video!



The story behind 'Back To Work'.

<https://youtu.be/3PBitWicS8U>

# NEWS



1) I am not a fan of reality TV ‘talent’ shows. I refuse to watch the two main ones on ITV and hold them, and the man behind them, mostly responsible for the terrible decline in the music industry and the lack of ‘real’ talent being given the chance to break through. I don’t blame the contestants, I’m sure many of them are very good, although ultimately treated badly and thrown away when the next series is up and running. Having said that, this past month I’ve been working with the original winner of ITV’s Britain’s Got Talent, Mr Paul Potts, who as it turns out, is a thoroughly decent chap and has become a good pal. However, I do have to question the integrity of the programme makers in this instance. How on God’s

Earth was this man even allowed to enter the competition let alone win it! I mean....after what he did to all those Cambodians.

2) I was taken out to lunch just a couple of weeks ago by the ever charming Mr Shakin’ Stevens (or Shaky to us close friends) and his equally lovely partner Sue. He made a fantastic come back earlier this year with a great album and a single that hit the Radio 2 A-List, which takes some doing, let me tell ya! We had a really long and fascinating chat about the business and I tried my very best to look like I was enjoying the Thai food which had come so highly recommended. We’re getting together again next month and this time he said it’s my turn to choose a restaurant. I hope you like McDonald’s Shaky....?!





3) Last month I told you I'd been working with Lee John from the band Imagination, who sold some 30 million records in their heyday. He's another very gentle and sweet guy with an amazing vocal range and a brilliant new album. I promised a photo, so here it is!

## MIKE WITH A STAR

I think we've probably covered this month's quota in the section above! Wait...what's this...wow....this would make someone a really fine birthday gift - <https://goo.gl/xje9vD>

## FAN LETTERS & PICS

Well, well, well! Look what's turned up in the fan mail this month. It's only legendary musician and producer extraordinaire Warren Bennett! Rumour has it that he is currently putting the finishing touches to what looks likely to be one of the most important, influential, and generally astounding albums of the 21st Century. Once he's finished that, hopefully he'll get on with mine! Ha! A huge thank you to the very lovely Claire Chambers for sending this pic of her and Warren. It made my day when it arrived!





## DEDICATIONS



The debut album 'Michael Armstrong' is available



**NOW at: -**

<http://tinyurl.com/lprn474>

OR HERE: -

<http://www.michaelarmstrongmusic.co.uk/shop.html>

**Remember, Remember the 22nd of November**  
Last minute Gift Ideas Dot Com: - <https://goo.gl/aEJ4WY>