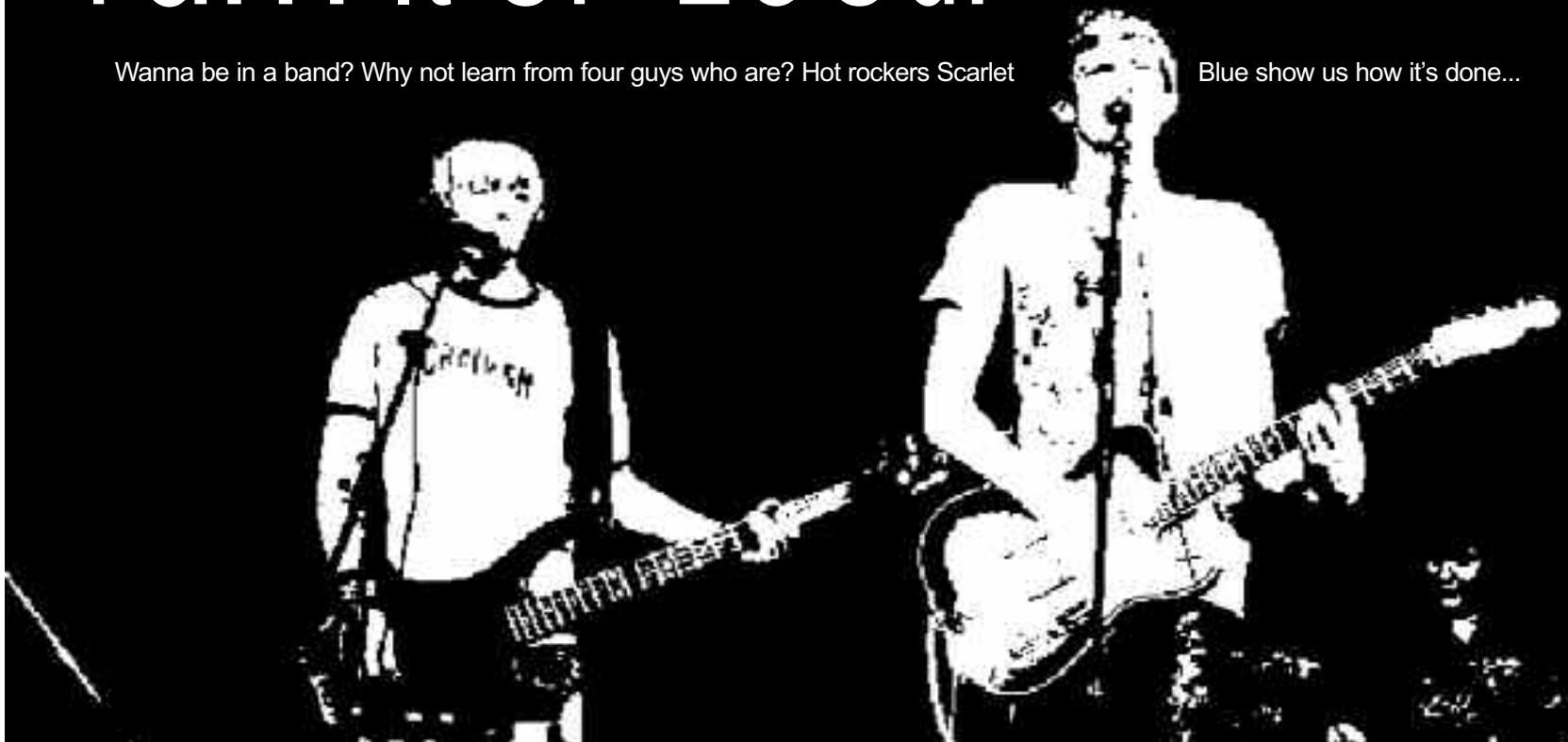


TURN IT UP LOUD!

Interview by Nazrene Hanif
Photography of Scarlet Blue
at W14 by Lauren Russell

Wanna be in a band? Why not learn from four guys who are? Hot rockers Scarlet

Blue show us how it's done...



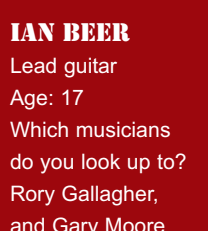
TOM KENDALL

Lead vocals, guitar

Age: 17

Which musician do you look up to?

Dave Navarro



IAN BEER

Lead guitar

Age: 17

Which musicians do you look up to?

Rory Gallagher, and Gary Moore



HUW FOSTER

Bass, backing vocals

Age: 17

Which musician do you look up to?

Flea, RHCP



ADAM MILLEST

Drums, backing vocals

Age: 17

Which musicians do you look up to?

Chad Smith, RHCP, and Carter Beauford, Dave Matthews Band



To many of us, the thought of being in a band is a distant dream. But for Tom Kendall (lead vocals, guitar), Ian Beer (lead guitar), Huw Foster (bass, backing vocals) and Adam Millest (drums) of the band Scarlet Blue, it is a "f***ing amazing" reality. I joined the band from Teddington at their recent Valentine's gig at West One Four in West Kensington, and had a chat about their gigs, their fans, and their future.

Having heard the band at this special gig, I was left taken aback by their crowd-pleasing faultlessness and inspirationally satiating stage presence. In other words, these guys kicked ass. I was enthusiastically told by Huw that performing live is a "buzz" and that they "don't get nervous anymore...just excited" - a sign of true professionalism. I then asked them, 'If you had to invent a genre to describe your music, what would it be called?' This was met by Adam's confident answer, "Alternative Funk Rock", which perfectly sums up the fact that their highly original and diverse sound (with influences from Jane's Addiction, Red Hot Chili Peppers, Led Zeppelin, Jeff Buckley, Bloc Party, and The Rolling Stones) cannot be classified into one single genre. Yes, they are that good.

Scarlet Blue tell me that their best gigs so far have been the most recent "aesthetically" pleasing West One Four gig and Lily Farrell's Charity gig. Of course, it's not all plain sailing; every band has to have a few shaky moments

somewhere. The Scarlet Blue gig at Memu, the band admit (despite the venue being "a very good establishment"), was their worst gig, because, as Adam states, "We were s**t", exhausted from recording their first EP, Rock On (Moderately) beforehand. As with all bands, when performing live, things will inevitably go wrong, and Scarlet Blue have had their share of mishaps. One time, Adam's bass drum almost fell off stage and at another gig; Tom broke two strings whilst performing! And, um, there was that cover of Postman Pat...

Despite this, their loyal fans certainly show their appreciation by turning up to their gigs and then proceeding to either mosh energetically or gaze fondly upon the band members. Certainly, at West One Four, I heard a member of the audience comment, 'I want him' about Scarlet Blue bass player, Huw. When I told him about such adoration, his reaction was one of surprise until Adam joked "he's just in it for the women". But female attention is expected, so my tip for all the single young men out there has to be - go form a band. Then, maybe one day, you will experience the dizzy heights and unbelievable encounters that Scarlet Blue has. Well, keeping in mind the fact that they're a bunch of 17-year-old college boys, they've had a fair few! Their most striking achievement has to be coming 7th out of about 200 bands in Xfm's recent Rock School Competition and, that's not all; they were even interviewed by Christian O'Connell - the