

Bath Arts recently sent along ace reporter Wilson Cochrane to interview Dave of Bath's rising-star band Wadivision, who put us in the picture about their present plans as well as giving us all something to think about regarding the present lack of opportunity for talented performers locally.



WADI VISIONS

Bath Arts: Wadivision is an obscure name to say the least. But would you say it had any particular definitive purpose related to the band's style or image?

Dave: It's got no real significance related to us, but it does mean something.

Bath Arts: What does it mean?

Dave: The 'Wadi' bit means a dry rocky water course and 'vision' obviously means to see. But we are going off the name. We're thinking of having a new name but there's no good ideas for one as yet.

Bath Arts: Rumour has it that Wadivision are causing a stir in the music business. How much of this is true?

Dave: Well we have done a few fairly important gigs where guys from the record companies have come to see us.

Bath Arts: What was their reaction?

Dave: All of them were impressed, a comparatively good reaction. The worst gig we did was the Halloween gig at Evelyn & Owens, because it was our first one. A guy called Dave Massey who writes for Sounds and

Venue gave us a really good review for that gig. I personally wasn't that impressed with the gig. However, he also gave us a really good write-up in Sounds a few weeks after. Since then we've caused a bit of a buzz in London and Dave Massey decided to frequent our other gigs.

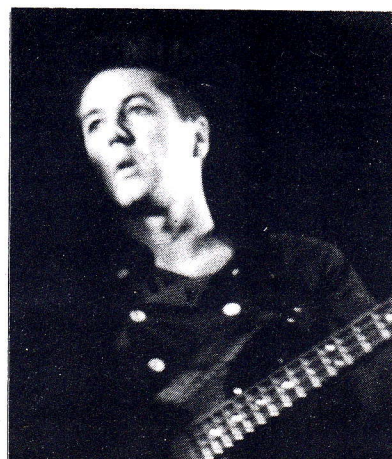
Bath Arts: But have Wadivision broken in on the major companies?

Dave: Yeah, at Chemies, RCA sent a guy down and he was very impressed. Oh and also an agent came along but we've not bothered with him. But the guy from RCA wanted a demo, so we took him one. Arista, London and other companies have also showed interest, but the most significant thing we've done to date in RPM.

Bath Arts: How did it feel being in the spotlight on camera?

Dave: Great. It was the best gig we've done.

Bath Arts: Has all the interest yet manifested itself in the form of a contract?



Dave: Well no. There hasn't been any paper on the table for us to sign but don't forget, we're still in the fairly early stages.

Bath Arts: Well what are your plans for the next few months?

Dave: More gigs, another one at Chemies. I think purely as a warm-up just to keep us from going rusty.

Bath Arts: Don't you think you should break from the Bath niche and move up to the London circuit?

Dave: We will do. I'm meeting Dave Massey tonight. He's not a manager, more of a surrogate manager. There's a possibility of us getting something together with him. He's helping us out at the moment. He's done more favours for us than anyone and at the moment, he's hoping to get us on the Oxford Road Show.

Bath Arts: Has any money materialised?

Dave: No, but Dave Massey is trying to get us some London gigs, as well as Bristol and then hopefully, more record companies will come and see us. We also need to do another demo. When we can come up three really good numbers, or even one, that will impress the major labels.

the sound. The theme is 1920's. I wear a smoking jacket, S G wears a sort of military uniform and the brass are not surprisingly dressed in the typical Glen Miller strain.

Bath Arts: Are you happy with the line-up of the band?

Dave: There are seven of us now, but we want more. What we're looking for is two glamorous girls who are prepared to take part in our act. The whole band is becoming more visual, theatrical and we want to be choreographed. It's just a case of time and working it out.

Bath Arts: Back to rumours, it has been said that Wadivision intend to venture into the business without a manager?

Dave: There's no need to tie ourselves down to a manager at the moment. We only want to be tied down to a record deal.

Bath Arts: But don't you think that a manager and a record deal go hand in hand?

Dave: Not really. I think the most important thing is to get a deal sorted out and then the label will give you some form of management, and as long as you do that through solicitors then no-one can touch you.



Bath Arts: 'Forwards-Backwards' has had a fantastic response. Do you intend to monopolise on this and make it your first single?

Dave: I don't personally think it's strong enough for a single: it's a good song though, and record companies do prefer it to any other number. We're changing our style at the moment.

Bath Arts: How would you describe 'Wadi' style?

Dave: For the last six months, I suppose the closest description would be 'modem pop' but it's a bit too much of a mixture. We haven't really got our 'style' together yet, but I think it's improving now. Dancier, more rhythmic, still within the commercial sound.

Bath Arts: Is there a visual image that the band tries to convey?

Dave: I think we've got the image more together than

Bath Arts: Do you not think that the band dealing directly with the company might create despondence on their side?

Dave: No, it doesn't happen like that. It's quite a drawn-out process. Anyway, we wouldn't want to sign to a manager who takes a larger percentage than the record company.

Bath Arts: Is there any band or artist that you are influenced by?

Dave: Not really. I don't listen to a lot of music, but people do say that I sound quite like David Bowie, my voice just naturally seems to come out like that.

Bath Arts: As a performer, do you consider your music to be an art-form or just good fun?

Dave: Both really. There is some art involved and we certainly are not just pure pop.