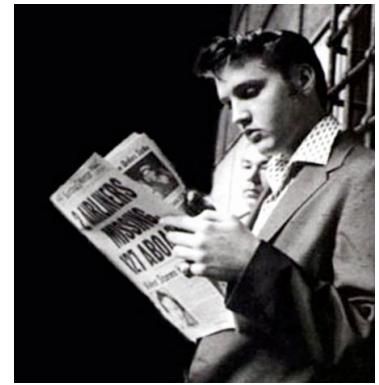




Have you heard the NEWS



"There's Good Rocking Tonight"

Newsletter for

Rock n'Roll Night Success

The Rock n'Roll Night on Friday 15th July was a success again, and although the numbers were not as high as we might have hoped everyone had a great time. I am very glad to report that Garry and his dedicated team on the night raised a grand total of £290 for our Charity Funds, so it will allow us to contribute a little more to whatever our next donation will be. Thank you to all concerned on behalf of Elvis-Aberdeen, it is very much appreciated.

New Venue & Other News

We are still currently assessing new venues for the club due to the upcoming closure of the United Services Club in October, and will try to keep you posted as further information is known.

The club has just invested in a new Projector, due to the recent failure of our previous one. The new one was tested for the first time at the Rock n'Roll Night and it was very impressive, with a better picture quality than the previous model. Hopefully you will all notice the difference at the next Elvis Night!

End of the road for The Hilton?

The Hilton Hotel in Las Vegas will always be associated with Elvis Presley, the man who made more money for the hotel than any other act in history, but news just in shows that the name, The Hilton Hotel will become a thing in Vegas history as the famous hotel name will vanish as of January 1st 2012.

Hilton Worldwide notified the owner of the famed Las Vegas Hilton that it plans to terminate its franchise license agreement by the end of the year. Hilton Worldwide said that as of Jan. 1, its franchise agreement with Colony Resorts LVH Acquisitions LLC, owner and operator of the Las Vegas Hilton, will have been terminated, forcing the off-Strip hotel to give up the Hilton name and loyalty program.

In 1969, Elvis performed 58 consecutive sold-out shows, playing to 130,157 fans. The King broke his own attendance record three times in February 1970, August 1970 and August 1972. Elvis also maintained a residence at the Hilton until December 1976.

Source: www.elvismatters.com



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USA Trip Continued.....

Next Stop Graceland !

Although the next stop on our Memphis day was Graceland itself, I felt reluctant to leave Sun Studio; the contribution it had made to popular music culture cannot be over estimated and one hopes the Memphians who administer the city's business continue to support and encourage it's retention.

I had missed a small section of the Sun tour while I was fulfilling another part of the dream by "cutting a record" in the small recording booth upstairs, so I was allowed to return, alone, to the main studio below. The rest of our tour party had already moved back upstairs to the front reception/shop area and I had that hallowed place to myself for a short while. That eerie, yet privileged experience in the stillness will live with me forever.

I looked again at the desk and typewriter in the old front office and imagined the young Elvis nervously standing in front of Marion Keisker, hoping to catch the attention of Sam Phillips. I walked through the door into the studio itself and, standing on the same worn linoleum tiles that so many famous stars had recorded on, imagined the "Eureka!" moment when Elvis, Scotty, Bill and D J Fontana began to "fool around" between takes, and launched the greatest star the world has ever seen. Was that just my imagination, or was Elvis duetting somewhere in the ether with his own favourite singer, the big O?....all too soon I was brought back to reality by the call to return to the front shop and office upstairs and we were on our way.....to Graceland!!

It is difficult to put into words the feelings of this "loon fae Aiberdeen" as we drove through the famous gates and up the drive to the mansion itself, or the sense of privilege as we walked in the front door of this place that Elvis called home, suffice to say I was somewhat overawed to be there.

The layout and content of the property have been well documented by many writers and observers, and there is no need for repetition here. From the grandeur of the living areas to the opulent 70s décor of the famed Jungle room, and from the swimming pool area to the recreational out buildings and the ranch areas beyond, the estate has been left much as it was when the King was alive. My own personal favourite locations inside the building were the rooms where his countless platinum, gold and silver discs are displayed. I wanted to read all the details in all the cabinets, but such browsing would have taken far too long and needed more than the one short visit we had available to us.

The tour of the estate comes to an end, of course, at the memorial garden, and no Elvis fan can fail to be moved deeply at this last resting place of Elvis, his twin, stillborn brother, Jesse Garon, his parents and his grandmother, Minnie Mae Presley.

It is something I will never forget, and, as the tour bus took us back across the "Boulevard", I reflected on the impression the visit had made on me, and looked forward to boarding Elvis's private jets, walking through his vast and impressive collection of cars and motorcycles and, like a child in a toy shop, wandering through the various souvenir outlets before, all too soon, our own tour bus arrived to take us back to our hotel.

The evening was again, of course, spent in the Beale Street area, dining and listening to more of the sounds of the South and realizing, before we would have to head home to "Blighty", we still had Tupelo and Nashville to visit.

**John Stephen
Dyce
Aberdeen**



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Next Dance: Friday 5th August