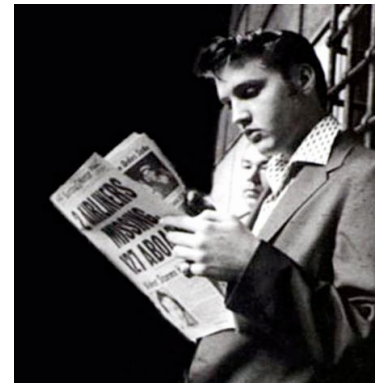


# Have you heard the NEWS



*"There's Good Rocking Tonight"*

Newsletter for members of the Official Elvis Presley Fan Club, Elvis-Aberdeen

## Sad News

It is with a very heavy heart that I have to report on the death of one of our members, Gerrie Lawrie.

For those of you who are not aware of the news, Gerrie had been visiting Memphis for Elvis Week and was reported missing by her family when she did not return home. Sadly, her body was subsequently found in the apartment she had been staying in, and although Police are conducting an autopsy, they say there are no suspicious circumstances.

Gerrie and her partner Roger started coming to the club in the last couple of years and made friends very easily. Gerrie was a fun bubbly woman who I enjoyed talking to very much. Her love of all things Elvis was clear to see, from her frequent visits to Memphis, her memorabilia collection, and even the photos she showed me of her very own waxwork model of Elvis! You may remember some months back the story about Gerrie's trip to Memphis and the gift she received from retired Shelby County Sheriff Gene Barksdale of his Police Badge which we included in our newsletter.

She will be greatly missed by us all, and our thoughts go out to Roger and her family at this most difficult time.

Richard Stables, President, Elvis-Aberdeen

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## Holburn Bar New Venue from January 2011 !

As you all know, we have been hard at work trying to source a new venue for Elvis-Aberdeen. We are now happy to advise you all that from January 2012, we will be relocating to the upstairs function room, at **The Holburn Bar**, at 225 Holburn Street Aberdeen. The Bar is centrally located and has a nicely laid out function room which we hope all the members will be happy with. We visited a few clubs in Aberdeen, and this seemed to be the one that everyone agreed ticked all the boxes. The room is booked up for this year, so the first Elvis night at the Holburn Bar will be on Friday 6th January. There will not be any Elvis nights in November or December due to this change, so therefore hope everyone will join us for a fantastic night on 6th January.

There is one point to stress however. There will be a fee charged to the club for the function room if the bar takings are below a certain level, so we need to try and encourage as many people to attend the Elvis Nights as possible. The future of the club depends on numbers attending, so this cannot be stressed enough.

**Please support the club by attending as many Elvis nights at our new location as possible.**

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## Prestwick January 2012

We are again looking to organise a trip to Prestwick on Saturday 7th January.

The trip will involve an overnight stay, so will probably cost in the region of £50 each including accomodation. (This will be reduced for shared rooms)

I would be grateful if those interested could confirm names by the end of October at the latest, or even at the last Elvis Night at United Services Club on Friday 7th October.

### Lansky Brothers gets historical marker on Beale Street

A Historical Marker was unveiled on Beale Street during Elvis Week this year at the original location of the historic clothing store at 126 Beale.

From leather jackets and pink pants to high collars and gold aviator sunglasses, there's no style quite like Elvis'. "My dad said, 'Elvis would rather shop than eat,' " said Hal Lansky. He was referring to his father, Bernard Lansky, the 84-year-old "Clothier to The King" who outfitted Elvis during his time in Memphis.

Three generations of Lanskys gathered for the ceremony, Bernard, Hal and Hal's daughter, Julie, 23, were honoured for their place in the wardrobes and hearts of Elvis and other local musicians, recognised for influencing the fashion of "The King" and, therefore, the fashion of rock and roll.

"We're celebrating not necessarily Memphis music or Memphis music tradition, we're celebrating a family that has supported Memphis musicians in a very unusual way, a very worthy way," said Jimmy Ogle, chairman of the Shelby County Historical Commission.

More than 200 music-lovers and Elvis fans gathered at 126 Beale, the original location of Lansky Bros. clothing, for the unveiling of its marker as a Shelby County historical place. The business started as an Army-surplus store in 1946, but the elder Lansky and his brother soon began searching for fashions that appealed to their mostly African-American clientele. Attracted to Beale Street for its growing blues and jazz scene, local musicians, including Elvis, eventually found their way to Lansky's, believed to be the first store in Memphis to carry peg-leg pants, Levi's and white-tailed tuxedos.

"I remember when (Elvis) first started out and he was singing with country shows," said George Klein, 76, noted friend of Elvis. "Guys came out with cowboy uniforms but Elvis came out with a black jacket, pink shirt and pink pants and he just stood out like a sore thumb."

It was a bold departure from the fashion of the '50s, when men were not expected to wear pink, said Hal Lansky, 58. But it was a shift toward rockabilly style that Lansky Bros. was happy to facilitate. "Nobody wore black and pink ... but it (became) the colour of the '50s, and we like to take credit for that," he said. "We like to take credit for Elvis wearing that colour."

### Jim Browder

For those of you who visited Memphis in 2007, you may remember our tour guide to Tupelo, Jim Browder.

Sadly Jim passed away on 12th August, whilst giving a tour to fans. He was at the Khang Rhee Institute when he collapsed and sadly died on the way to the hospital. Jim started his tours in 2001 by taking friends to lesser-known Elvis landmarks across the city, including the singer's favorite eateries, hangouts and motor shops. Those places included Mississippi grave sites of Elvis' extended family, making Mr. Browder's tours one of the most historically rich in Memphis, said Tony Gigliotti, 71. Gigliotti owns Marlowe's, a barbecue restaurant near Graceland on Elvis Presley Boulevard that Mr. Browder frequented. "He could really put the things together between Elvis' past and present ... he was such a wealth of Elvis history," Gigliotti said.



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**Next Dance: Friday 2nd September**