

THE KONDORS (1958-1968)

In 1958, brothers David and Bryan Averill of Buerton started recording songs using a Grundig valve tape recorder with a single microphone. With Bryan on lead guitar/vocals, Dave on bass guitar, additional tracks were added using an overdub facility, drums being in the form of a cardboard box with the mike placed underneath. This method of working was restrictive, so it was decided to form a group, and mates from NAGS, namely Peter Jones (piano) and Ken Lee (drums) were recruited, and rehearsals commenced in a first floor function room at the Lord Combermere, Audlem. The first gigs were held there, with a later move to Audlem Town Hall, before gigs were taken further afield. Ken was replaced by Mike Huntbach of Lightwood Green, with Pete also deciding to leave, being replaced by John "Fuzz" Parker (rhythm guitar/vocals), another NAGS mate of Bryans.

Martin Jones from Crewe requested to join the group as lead vocalist, and the band was re-named "Dene Wayne and the Kondors". The band was well known throughout Cheshire, Staffordshire and Shropshire, supporting many well known names of the day such as The Hollies, Russ Abbott and the Black Abbotts, Kenny Lynch, Freddie and the Dreamers, Freddie Starr and the Midnighters and Lucas and the Mike Cotton Sound. At the request of Dene Wayne, Mike was replaced by Keith Billington (drums) from Crewe, but this lineup did not last long as Keith and Dene left to form a professional band called "Dene Wayne and the Exiles", which incidentally was also shortlived. Dave Corn from Wybunbury took over the drumstool, with the band continuing as a four piece until mid 1968, at which point it was disbanded. In January 1970, Bryan and Dave formed the highly successful functions band, "The Dave Bryant Four" which performed its final gig at the Civic Hall, Nantwich, supporting the "Joe Loss Orchestra", on New Years Eve, 1979. SO, WHERE ARE THEY NOW? Bryan still plays today in the St. Chads Church Band in Wybunbury, while Dave has continued playing both bass guitar and electric upright bass since January 1980 through to the present day for stage musicals, variety shows, pantomimes, Scout shows etc. John and Dave (drums) no longer play, but are alive and kicking, and still live in the local area.

RECORDED WORK

In 2006 a CD was compiled entitled THE LOST TAPES by THE KONDORS. Comprising 34 tracks of Sixties songs, with a few composed by Bryan, the tracks feature the latter lineup of the band. Copies can be obtained from Dave Averii on 01270 568334.

Throughout recent years both Dave and Bryan have continued to write and record their songs on modern digital recording equipment, and a list of available CD's can also be obtained by contacting Dave on 01270 568334.