The Walnut Tree

The First Keane Fanzine

Made by users of the Official Keane Messageboard

October 2004

All proceeds donated to St. Michael's Hospice in Battle

http://www.keaneshaped.co.uk/fanzine
Introduction

Hello and welcome to the first Keane fanzine created by the users of the Keane messageboard. Which starts me off quite nicely, if you haven’t already joined, please do. We’re a big community and more than happy to welcome new people. We can be found at www.keanemusic.com. Just click on the link to the forums. In the past year we’ve gotten up to all kinds of things including trips to Amsterdam and a weekend in Cologne. There is also plenty more in store with festivals and other European excursions planned for 2005.

This fanzine was started way back in summer 2004 but finally has made it into print and for this there are a huge number of people to thank, so here goes: Thanks to all the contributers who’s work appears in this here fanzine, namely Nicky tomchaplinfan, Dave oneofthethree, our American correspondant Melinda A, Miss Lisa Sweatband, Anna Maeerjnr, Helen Davis, Jen NCD, Ann U2Queen-Bee, Kate WishingForTheSun, Mrs Rice Oxley and Christopher Flynn, Maria of the great voice and wonderful poetry, Jess rubber_soul, Phoenix Fire, Adam Tudhope, Richard Hughes, Tim Rice-Oxley and Tom Chaplin. Also to thank are those who’ve helped me out with printing, nagging, making things look nice and all that sort of stuff, so cheers to Martin MCGlentworth, Simon Hume, Chris Flynn again. And to those who contibuted but their work could not be fitted into this edition, thanks for your efforts, and hopefully they will feature in a future edition. If I’ve forgotten you, feel free to throw jelly at me next time we meet.

The proceeds for this fanzine will be going to St Michael’s Hospice in Battle. This charity was selected by Richard Hughes so it is a cause close to Keane’s hearts. More information can be found at www.stmichaelshospice.co.uk. We hope that over 50p from the sale of each copy of this fanzine will go to help this cause. Details of the hospice are as follows:

St. Michaels Hospice
25 Upper Maze Hill
St Leonards on Sea
East Sussex
TN38 0LB
t: 01424 445177
f: 01424 720907
info@stmichaelshospice.co.uk
Charity No. 288462

Now that’s out of the way, you can get on with having a read. Hope you enjoy it!

Elaine xxx
Nicky’s Alternative Song Meanings

What is Mr R-O really trying to get off his chest?

This Is The Last Time: I think it could be something to do with cleaning up, as Tom sings about hiding things under the bed, or under the stairs, treading dirt into the carpet, and putting things in the corner.

More Matey: Well how do I put this in a polite form? Basically dirty acts going on in the trees!

Bend and Break: Is a story of sitting on your sunglasses. They have bent and broken, and so everything is a blur when you wear them so all faces look the same.

Everybody’s Changing: After discovering that McVities no longer made Richard’s favourite ‘plain’ chocolate variety of Hobnobs anymore, Richard decided to pen this song due to his anger on the fate of this cruel world.

Your Eyes Open: Tim wakes up after a night on the town (or the beer should I say) and opens his eyes to find the ugliest bird he’s ever pulled in bed with him staring him in the eye with awe.

Sunshine: Keane’s dedication to the RSPCA’s teachings.

Untitled 1: The story of a BBQ gone wrong hence ‘The house on fire’; the meat was ‘cold inside’ and someone accidentally ate the heart of the pig instead of the sausages.

OLD TIM RICE-OAKLEY’S GUIDE TO RAMBLING

“This little copse close my parent’s home is a particular favourite of mine. When I was younger, Tom, Richard and my other chums used to play hide and seek here and we loved it so much I decided to use it in a song. I was always really bad at games at school so whenever I was it, I used to go into the woods and shout out “I can’t see you anymore”. Little did I know that ten years later, I could use this in a song and make grown men and women traipse through mud to relive my childhood. Fools”
Hi, my name is Richard David Hughes

I am 29 years old

I am 6 foot 1 inches tall

My shoe size is 11

I am the most important member of Keane because
"it's all about the drums" (Larry Mullen Jr)

The CD currently in my stereo is
An (I)pod 'poet servant clown queen'
by Alastair Actingsall, our monitors engineer.

The last film I saw at the cinema was
Spiderman 2

The last book I read was
'The blue aftermoon' by William Boyd

The last thing I ate was
A plain bagel with apricot jam (no butter)

The last time I had a weekend off was
a while back, maybe in June

My most treasured possession is
my friend's sunglasses.
What is the first thing that comes into your head when we say:

California sunshine (the real stuff, not the song)

Fran Healy caps

Battle the Abbey

Burger King motorway services

Noel Edmunds saturday nights at home

The Keane board amusement (I noticed yesterday there are over 150,000 messages)

Delete as appropriate (and please be honest!):

I do not own a set of moose pyjamas

I have not kissed the male moderator of the Keane message board

I have not poured beer into my own ear whilst under the influence

I have not loved filling out this questionnaire
Please draw us a self portrait here

(i never liked drawing)

- monet
Keane’s manager Adam gets a Walnut Tree grilling…

Words: Anna, Ann, Helen, Jennie
‘Artwork’: Kate

Who are you, where are you from and what is your official job title?
Adam Tudhope. I grew up in North Yorkshire, spent some time in America and have lived in London since going there for University eight or so years ago. I'm Keane's Manager.

How did you first get involved with working in the music industry?
By managing Keane since the start, but I've always had to have other day jobs to keep me in sandwiches and jeans. For four years, up until Keane were signed by Island - when I quickly got too busy to be doing anything else - my day job was working for a film producer.

Who does your job involve you working with the most? Keane, Island Records, promotion companies or media?
The band first, then Island Records and Interscope Records, and to some extent the other labels around the world: although it's often Universal Records that's distributing Keane's album in any given country, each country's version of Universal Records has its own distinct flavour and set of individuals, just as Island Records does (in fact, in Germany Keane are on Motor and in France AZ for example). I don't talk to media people too much - probably best to keep me on a leash really, god knows what I'd say to the nme people if I ever came across them. If by promotions you mean people that try and get radio stations to play Keane's records, then yes I talk to them a quite a bit. What with all the travelling I and they do I never get enough time to talk to the band though: endless long phone calls trying to get stuff sorted out!
How long have you been working with Keane?
6 years or so.

How did you first meet Tom, Tim and Richard?
Tim was the first person I met the first day I turned up at University. We both did the same degree - Classics - at UCL. On that first day we were pretty bewildered, didn't have a clue where we were supposed to go to sign up for things, and generally wandered around in a bit of a daze. Although Richard went to UCL as well, I didn't meet him or Tom until later.

What were your first impressions of them and have these changed after working and touring with them?
I would say that my first impressions have stayed pretty true really. They seemed to me on first impressions to have in common a few things: they were quite reserved but very friendly people dedicated to music. I still see them that way when I think of them as a group. Though of course I know a lot more about them as individuals now than I did when we first met.

Is it strange to be your friends' manager?
Well this is probably an obvious point, but because of how hectic mine and the band's schedules are we don't see each other as much as I think we'd like to, and I invariably have tons of things to talk to them about relating to the band whenever I do see them. This means that we rarely - if ever - get a chance to just hang out and be friends. It's not ideal, but then we're all doing what we dreamed of so hardly cause for complaint. I feel sure the time will come when we'll be able to have a bit of time to ourselves... I hope so! I would say that me having a personal relationship with the boys is a very good thing in terms of my dealings with the side of the band that they're not interested in so much, the business side. I have more of an instinctive understanding for what their views are and I'm more passionate about not compromising.

Did you have any part time jobs before the band became famous?
I'm not sure we could describe the band as famous could we? I worked for Islington Council in a Mental Health Care Centre, I sold etchings door to door in Richmond, I had my own site-specific theatre company, and then I worked full time as an assistant to a film producer on various British movies. The last one I did with him was Richard Curtis' Love Actually. A very wonderful experience.

Were you ever in a band? Would you like to be in the band?
No musical talent so no and no. I'm more of a behind-the-scenes sort of bloke.

If you could do a band swop (kind of like wife swop) who would you choose and why?
Primal Scream so I could meet Kate Moss? I would have loved to have been in the music scene in the late 60's and early 70's so maybe The Band or Bob Dylan or even Fleetwood Mac. That would have been pretty fun. I met Tom Petty's manager the other day - he's got some stories!
What do the boys argue about most?
Whether Tom should get in-ear monitors or not. He loves to be able to hear the sound that's going out into the audience because it makes it more exciting. The other two say he'd have more freedom to move around and still sing well if he could always hear himself. I'm not getting involved.

What has been your proudest moment as Keane's manager?
Two things: hearing the crowds singing the songs back to the band at the Festivals they've played this Summer and also hearing Rubbernecking on Claire Sturgess' show on Xfm years ago. I sent it to her myself and managed to speak to her on the phone. That was the first time we heard Keane on the radio, we were all gathered round in my flat in London quite late at night drinking beer and getting more and more excited til it came on.

What ambitions do you still have to fulfill with Keane?
I think some people see sales or success spreading from country to country as being like notches on a bedpost (if you see what I mean), and although spreading the word about Keane's album around the world is definitely something I'm into, for me it's not really about 'what's the biggest gig we can play', or 'how many records can we sell'. For me it's about knowing that in everything I do I'm putting the boys in the best possible position to keep making the music that I love to listen to. Sounds a bit corny but it's true. I've always believed that they have great songs, and I want people in twenty years time to look back on a body of work that stretches over several albums of great songs. To be able to say I was involved in that would be fantastic.

Which has been your favourite gig?
The Forum, May 10th '04, the release day of the album, was very special. I got up on a table at the party afterwards and made an impromptu (very bad) speech. It was a wonderful feeling to finally have an album out there!

How do fans react to the band in different countries?
There's something about the band and their music which is very unpretentious, very unironic and very heart-on-sleeve. Everyone I've come across responds in the same way to that kind of emotional honesty. There are plenty of great bands out there who write good songs, and there are plenty of bands out there who do well because they know when to tip a wink, what clothes to wear, who to hang out with and so forth and I don't begrudge them their success but that's not what Keane and me are about, and people seem to get that everywhere we go.

What do you think of the boardies?
Love 'em.

Who has the best facial hair in the world of music? (We say Tim Wheeler!)
The pencil moustache bloke from Franz Ferdinand is quite amusing, but didn't he shave it off? The worst facial hair has got to be Dave Navarro.

Cherry Keane or Mary Poppins?
Mary Poppins gives me the willies. What a do-gooder. Never met Cherry, but let's go for her.
What are your other interests?  
Film-making and seeing the world. I'd play a lot more sport if I had the time - volleyball?

And finally, from your experience, what advice would you give to new bands / artists who want to 'make it' in the music industry?  
Pretty basic really: if you're good, you're good and someone somewhere will find you and take notice of you. Don't feel that you have to move to the big city to make it. Stick to your principles. It's the most idiosyncratic and individual bands/artists that always succeed in connecting with people in the end. Trying to become part of a scene can only homogenize your music. Stay different, don't compromise!

KEANE RARITIES CORNER

Are you sitting on a Keane goldmine? Although Everybody’s Changing was Keane’s first official release, they did put out two CDs on their own Zoomorphic label.

Finding either of these records is nigh on impossible, unless you want to spend over £250 on ebay.

Call Me What You Like was the first Keane CD, which was sold primarily at gigs Keane were playing around London in early 2000. About 500 of these are in circulation and the three track CD includes the title track plus Rubbernecking and Closer Now, neither of which have been re-recorded or released subsequently. The record features Dom on guitar and the songs clock in at five minutes or more. Ebay sales of this item have been £250 or more.

Wolf At The Door followed in June 2001 and there are reportedly only about 50 copies of these made. The CD features a re-recording of Call Me What You Like and an early version of Hopes And Fears track She Has No Time. Tom reportedly doesn’t even own a copy of this such is its rarity. The last one to be sold on ebay breached the £1000 mark, incredible for a three track single.

Other Keane rarities that fetch good money include the original Fierce Panda version of Everybody’s Changing which features the original version of Bedshaped and Allemande (£40) and the limited edition black box sent to 1000 mailing list subscribers to house the 7” singles from the album (£25). Sure to become collectors items are the Dutch 3 cd set of Bedshaped and the 3” cd singles of Everybody’s Changing and Somewhere Only We Know that were released in the UK in July 2004. Happy hunting!
A Weekend with Keane
by Melinda Walker Argel

Much like the first time I went to see Travis, I didn't know what to expect from this little band called Keane. I knew that I loved the album. The songs on there so poignant. Some hopeful, some melancholy, but all of them uplifting in their own special ways.

But I wondered, how will they come across live? Will they sound just like the record, or will the songs come alive, in a new and exciting light, when performed right before my eyes and ears.

Happily, I was able to find out. Keane played two shows in Southern California that I was able to attend.

September 11th, 2004
The Avalon, Hollywood, CA
Support, The French Kicks

I arrived to the venue at about 5:45PM. My friend had gone to the Virgin Megastore performance and signing earlier that day, I was unable to attend in person because I was working, but my dear friend Veronica did call me and let me listen over the phone. She then went straight to the venue and was 5th in line, holding space for me. Bless!

The venue had a strict no cameras rule, but where there's a will, there's a way! I committed to doing photos and show reviews for The Walnut Tree prior to going to these shows, and I was not going to let y'all down! So I stuffed my Sony Cybershot into my bra, and they were none the wiser.

They let us in a little bit after 7PM and I made my way to the front of the stage. Dead center. This is, really and truly, the best place to watch a show from. The French Kicks came on at about 8PM and played a good 45 minute set. Full of energy and great music, they were delightful.

But when Keane, tonight's main attraction, came on stage, I started to shake a little bit. They opened the set with my favorite song from Hopes and Fears, which is Can't Stop Now. With the first keys struck by Tim, I was won over. Any doubt I had about how they would sound live was shattered in a matter of seconds. Their energy was just so raw and ferocious.

Tom, as a frontman, is astounding. I was expecting a very still performance. Beautiful, but still, and endearing. What he gives while on stage is a gift to those of us who watch him. His voice is soft, angelic, but he can belt out the harder songs with such force that I was surprised and completely enamoured. His movements on stage are wonderful as well. He moves with the music, and the energy within him as he performs these wonderful songs is so strong that it seemed to just envelope me.
Richard is a character on stage. His drumming is perfection. He makes it look very easy, and is incredibly fun to watch. Slightly bobbing his head to the music, and continuously smiling while playing. It was a complete and utter joy to watch him play.

Tim is very intense. He plays the piano harder than anyone I've ever seen. You can tell he's off in a whole other place while playing on stage. It's just incredible to witness. The songs he's written are so incredibly personal that it must be very cathartic for him to play them on stage.

My favorite moments of the performance were of course Can't Stop Now, Snowed Under, She Has No Time, This Is The Last Time, and Bed Shaped. It was the first time I'd ever heard On A Day Like Today, which Tom told us we don't have on our copy of Hopes and Fears so we should go download it illegally off of the internet. It's a lovely perfect song.

After the show we attended the meet and greet. Was very sad because my friend fell down the stairs in the balcony and sprained her ankle really badly. As we went through the line Tom said "Hey, I saw you singing along in the front row, I remember your T-Shirt." (AN/DY in the AC/DC logo.) Told Richard that H&F is the most brilliant record I'd heard since The Man Who to which he said WOW. When I got to Tim I said, "Are you the writer?" He replied yes, and I told him that To The End Of The Earth was my absolute favorite Keane song. He said "We didn't play that tonight." I said, "No, but I will be in San Diego tomorrow!" I held his hand tightly during this exchange. I hope he didn't find that offensive, I just really feel very close to this album.

My first Keane show was so amazing... Nothing could have been better, right?
Wrong. Today was a most perfect day. While it started off with Veronica telling me her ankle was in too poor of shape to be able to attend, she did tough it out. She iced it, wrapped it, and bought a cane, which we quickly dubbed "The Keane Cane". My Husband also decided to go with us, and my friend Brenda came along as well. So with three Keane converts by my side, I drove the 100 miles from LA to San Diego.

Immediately went nuts when seeing the venue. We were the first to arrive, so we grabbed some lunch and then got in line. Had a peek or two inside and nearly died. No barrier. Stage waist high. Held about 400 people. Is this a dream?

Tom dashing in and out of the bus, left him be for the most part, but the third time he walked by I finally did say hello and asked him how the trip was from LA. "Got pulled over," was his response. Tim was also wandering about, but I didn't want to bother him because I didn't really know whether or not he was busy. He did come and start talking to some other fans in line so I gave him a small set of photos that I'd taken the night before. Spoke for a while about the record and stuff like that. He was very kind to come over and meet my husband, brenda, and say hi to Veronica, who I kept calling the cripple. Introduced him to the Keane Cane and he got a good kick out of that. Suggested we get them all to sign it. So he picked it up and took time writing "The Keane Cane" out in bubble letters. Then signed. Bless! Gave Richard a birthday card (a few days late, but he was in Portland on his birthday!) and he was very thankful. So gracious, these lads are. He also signed the Keane Cane. Got Tom to sign it as well a bit later. Very funny.

The time came to be let inside, and there we were. Actually sitting on the stage while waiting for the French Kicks. I cannot believe how small this place was.

When Keane finally came onstage, it was amazing. The energy tonight surpassed the LA show by 100 percent, which I couldn't believe. The setlist was the same as the night before. But the intensity was just more than I'd ever dreamed.

The band was so close to the audience. This is the way ALL shows should be. The crowd was completely crazy for them. It was just amazing. From Can't Stop Now, the band went into everybody's Changing, Your Eyes Open, Sunshine, Bend and Break, (which was particularly AMAZING this night) We Might As Well Be Strangers, Snowed Under, (the crowd went crazy for this one, though I'm not sure they all knew this song, me and Brenda had our arms around each other and were jumping, I was singing along, going completely mental, clapping, I swear, I probably look like I'd just escaped the loony-bin, but I didn't care. I was SO caught up in the moment. THAT is what a live show should do to you, and this one just did!) She Has No Time, (This was THE song of the night. There was a level of energy and passion in Tom's voice that I'd not seen before. There was a point, where he was knelt in front of me, eyes closed, singing so hard, conveying this energy straight through me, almost like a knife. He was less than a foot away from me. Just incredible!) Somewhere Only We Know.
The encore began with On A Day Like Today, This Is The Last Time, (again so much energy, Tom was sat on the ground for a minute afterwards!) and sadly, finally, Bedshaped. At one point during Bedshaped, Tom reached for the microphone and hit it so hard it fell. Thankfully, my friend Brenda picked it up and handed it back to him. Some would have considered that a blunder. I considered it passion and ferocity at its absolute finest.

We did get to say goodbye to the band after the show. It was very nice to be able to thank them for such an amazing couple of days. They are a band generous with their time and seem truly appreciative of the fans that they have. But more than that, they are a band who have created what I consider to be the best album of the last five years. An album with so much love, light, sadness, happiness, and undeniable truths. For that, I am most thankful.
### The Keane Timeline

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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>Tim and Dom meet and form a band. Shortly after, Richard joins to play drums.</td>
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| 1997 | The band, formerly known as The Lotus Eaters, become a 4 piece and are renamed Keane.  
        Tom - Vocals, Guitar  
        Dom - Lead guitar, keyboards  
        Tim - Bass, keyboard  
        Richard - Drums |
| 1998 | The band move to London  
        February  
        Call Me What You Like is released |
| 2000 | June  
        The band play their first gig at the Backyard supporting Chesney Hawkes  
        July  
        Wolf At The Door is released |
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<th>Year</th>
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<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>June</td>
<td>Gig - Camden Barfly</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>December</td>
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<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>July</td>
<td>Dom leaves the band due to their lack of success and to continue with his studies.</td>
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<td>February</td>
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<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>January</td>
<td>Keane are nominated in the first BBC Sound Of Music Poll</td>
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<td>June</td>
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<td>2004</td>
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The Adventures of Roxley Hood

Once upon a time in Battle there was a wise and benevolent king named Richard the Angelheart. He was good and kind and all the people loved him.

One day, though, King Richard had to travel to faraway lands with his two bravest knights, Sir Timothy of Rice-Oxley and Sir Thomas of Chaplin, to fight the evil beast Eebeighphraud. In the king's absence, Battle was taken over by a cruel man called the Sheriff of Cynicism.

The new ruler decided that he didn't like the special glowing-hearted people who lived in Battle, because they were too cute and made him feel ugly. So he sent his army to hunt them out and make them leave their homes. The people were afraid, so they went and hid in Manser’s Shaw. On the Sheriff’s orders, the soldiers also kidnapped the most beautiful girl, because the Sheriff wished to lock her in his tower and use her glowing heart as a night-light.

Fortunately, one brave citizen decided to fight back: Robin of Roxley, also known as Roxley Hood. He was the best archer in all of Battle. He rounded up a group of friends to go and rescue Maid Roxanne and restore the people to their homes.

Roxley Hood and his Merry Roxleys snuck to the castle and freed Maid Roxanne. She then changed into more appropriate clothing (generously provided by the good people at Sandbag) and helped Roxley Hood fight off all the Sheriff’s soldiers. The battle was difficult - the army had much more powerful bows, as well as horses and lots of expensive Armani armour.

Just as the battle seemed lost, however, a strange human woman stepped forward. I will fight for the Roxleys as well! And there are more of us! Sure enough, humans began emerging from the forest to stand alongside the simple things.

People will remember us! They will put us on buttons and badges and tunics and posters and make dolls that look like us! So we will never be destroyed! Faced with this show of love from the other villagers, the Sheriff became confused and sad and decided to go to therapy and rethink his life.

The Roxleys rejoiced, as they could now return to their homes. Just then, King Richard and his knights returned. "You have been very brave Roxley Hood. The people of Battle owe you a huge debt. As such, I dub thee Sir Roxley, and you and Maid Roxanne shall live in peace in the castle with us, having the very special duty of guarding Sir Thomas' Royal Magi-Mix.”

And they all lived happily ever after.
Who is Roxley Hood?

If you should find yourself completely mystified by this story, do not fret – all will be explained. ‘Roxley’ is a name given by a fan to the ‘simple thing’ alien creatures from the UK version of the *Somewhere Only We Know* video after she commissioned a very nice lady named Sara Maddocks to sew a soft toy of one of them for her. The fan brought the doll to the in-store gig Keane played at the Rough Trade shop in London in May 2004 and the band (particularly Sir Thomas) liked it so much they kept it, and it now resides atop the Chaplins’ Magi-Mix in Battle. In fact, the reaction from everyone who saw it (including Corin Hardy, the video director who created them) was so positive that the name stuck, and home-made Roxley dolls, t-shirts, banners, badges, fanart and the like began turning up on Keane’s internet forum. Roxley now has his own unofficial webpage and a fanlisting, among other things. For the whole story and photos of the original doll (and subsequent other versions), visit http://www.u2queenbee.com/roxley.html.

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One day, while Keane were playing a very important gig, Tom gets slightly over excited and finds himself doing the splits.

While Tim gets upset because he throw knickers at Tom,

Tim takes the stage expecting rapturous applause from his fans. He steps out...

Tom decides to take up an offer from the royal ballet. Tim is ecstatic - finally he gets to sing like he always wanted to.
Afterwards, Tim and Tom consider the future while Richard chats with the fans.

Because the fans but never at him.

When Tim looks into the audience he realises that the fans are all gathered around Richard instead as he tells jokes. Tim is very sad.

...but there's nobody there.
Hi, my name is **TOM**
I am **25** years old
I am **6 foot 2** inches tall
My shoe size is **9 1/2**
I am the most important member of Keane because I've got the loudest voice
The CD currently in my stereo is **The Killers - Hot Fuss**
The last film I saw at the cinema was **Sherk 2**
The last book I read was **Nick Drake Biography**
The last thing I ate was **Kiwi Fruit**
The last time I had a weekend off was **When I had a Real Job**
My most treasured possession is **my radio**
What is the first thing that comes into your head when we say:
California  RUS WAINWRIGHT SON
Fran Healy  THE MAN WHO . . .
Battle  RAINY ROADS
Burger King  BETTER CHIPS THAN MCD'y
Noel Edmunds  BAD JUMPERS
The Keane board  DO WE HAVE ONE?

Delete as appropriate (and please be honest!):

I ☐/do not own a set of moose pyjamas

I ☐/have not kissed the male moderator of the Keane message board

I have/•have not poured beer into my own ear whilst under the influence  CAN'T REMEMBER -PASS!

I have/•loved filling out this questionnaire  (FOR THE LIFETIME)
Please draw us a self portrait here

Vincent
What music are you into? Do you think that it influenced Tim?
I now like opera, as I find the music and words so moving. I think it comes with age. I certainly put Tim off opera for ever by making him sing an aria from “The Marriage of Figaro” to a friend who was having coffee with me. I think he was 8 or 9 at the time. Mothers do terrible things to their children! He has not yet returned to classical music – so I did you all a favour. When I was young I only listened to pop music and loved listening to the Charts on the radio and Top of the Pops on TV. For me, Elvis, Buddy Holly, the Beatles, and Simon and Garfunkel produced the wonderful songs I associate with the heart rending pains of my youth – love and rejection etc. Does that sound familiar?

Was Tim’s musical ability evident from a young age at all?
I remember him being obsessed with “Brown Girl In The Ring” a song by Boney M, and he spent all his time jumping up and down to that. He was also very keen on “Shakin’ Stevens”. Goodness knows what year they were hits but Tim was small! I enclose a copy of Tim’s music teacher’s report. We came to an agreement that he could give up formal piano exams if he pulled his finger out and worked for this last one. He got a distinction in the last grade he did but refused to do the one where you have to start doing musical theory. At Tonbridge, he went onto have some lessons but only played “The Beatles”.

Is your family particularly musical? Was Tim encouraged to play music, or was it more of a rebellious thing?
I am not from a musical background. My family were too poor to buy me music lessons and the only music my parents listened to was “Lonnie Donegan”. Tim’s dad is musical, and brought me to appreciate classical music. I was his “Eliza Doolittle”. He is an enthusiast, mainly for classical music but played Irish folk songs like “Nobody Loves Like An Irish Man” on a banjolele when we first met. Indeed, I think I fell in love with him through watching him do an “Elvis” impersonation in the medical school pantomime. Patrick, Tim’s dad also helped him to learn the guitar when Tim realised he wanted to be in a band. He learnt very quickly.
What were Tim and Tom like as kids?
I assume you mean Tom Chaplin? As he practically lived in our house as a child we ended up having to call our Tom TOMRO to distinguish him from the now famous Tom who was TOMCH. Tim and Tomro were a treat to bring up. My mother-in-law pointed out to me how unusual it was for siblings not to fight, as she had three boys to bring up and they often bickered. I was, therefore, rather lucky. Tomch could be quite naughty. I remember him locking himself into the downstairs toilet and then climbing out of a tiny window. No one else could then use the toilet – so we had to get him to come back and shoved him through the window as he was thinner than Tomro to make him unlock the door. On the whole, they all got on well. Tomch became much closer to Tim in the teenage years as Tomro is heavily into classical music and jazz. He does however love Tim’s music and Tim listens to his advice and wisdom.

What were your first impressions on meeting Richard?
The first time I met Richard was when I took Tim horse riding at age 6 years. There was a riding school in Battle great wood. Richard was all kitted out in posh riding gear and Tim was in his tatty torn jeans. I thought this must be a spoilt little posh boy. First impressions can be wrong. Thankfully, he was anything but spoilt. All his life he has been kind, thoughtful, and quite a deep thinker. I will forgive him his vegetarianism because he never complained at having cauliflower cheese or macaroni cheese over and over again at our house. Nor did he complain when I served red beef to everyone else at the table. What a gentleman!

Who was Tim’s first girlfriend?
Tim’s first girlfriend was called Keeley and he cried and cried when her parents took her to Australia when they were both 12 years old. He was a hopeless romantic but fortunately got through teenage traumas early on.

At which point did Tim tell you he wanted to be a professional musician, and can you remember your reaction?
It could not have been painful because I cannot remember it. I do remember him saying that he envied us (his mum and dad) and Tom his brother having a clear vocation. Secretly, I hoped he would become an eye surgeon but deep down I knew he was never cut out for medicine. He always squirmed at medical conversations. He always seemed so focused on the goal of making music that any jobs he did were just a means of getting some cash. I suppose he never had to tell us... we just knew!

What has been the proudest moment for you in the Keane story?
I think it is the way they have shown a determination not to be moulded into being something they are not. They are not however perfect.
I have to say that I can remember when Tim was playing in the garden when he was 6 and his dad turned on him and shouted “What did you just say?”
Tim said rather sheepishly; “I said F..... well, dad, not F...... hell”
On the whole, they got over that juvenile speech fairly early in life!
(above) Tim shows off his early piano influences, (left) and practices his ‘ecstatic winners face’ after winning a high jump competition.
What is your favourite Keane song?
“Fly To Me” from a B side of “Everybody’s Changing”
I think of Patrick as my old man who lives by the sea. We do miss Tim when he is away and we both cried the first time we heard this song. There is another song which I love even more but Tim will not release it yet. He has many fine tunes to come.

What would you do if Tim came in and played you a song which he was really proud of – but you thought was awful?
It used to happen all the time. I would love all the first drafts and then they would go and change things which I found very frustrating. They certainly heard my views. However, on relistening, I would end up liking the changes. There is only one song I don’t like and that is “Untitled 1” but as his brother, Tom, loves it most of all and Patrick loves it, I don’t think that he was ever traumatised by my views. He has never composed a really awful song but if he did I would probably be quiet, which is unusual for me, and I think Tim would guess my opinion. Let’s hope it never happens.

Who was the first person you told “That’s my son!”?
I remember sitting on the exercise bike at 6.30 am in the gym. The Keane video came on and I wanted to tell the man next to me, but we are “so English” and I said nothing! However, at the Travis gig in Brighton, Fran Healy said something about Tim’s mum being in the audience and asked where I was. I shouted out I was so excited. The man next to me asked me if I was Tim’s mum. He spotted I had a signed copy of a Keane disc in my hand and said he had rushed out to buy Keane and it had been the first pop disc he had bought in 10 years. I succumbed to giving it to him. After the gig, he was hanging round and told Tim he was a well known bootlegger and had been in prison for bootlegging. Now I know why he hadn’t bought a disc for ten years!
Keane fans are a talented bunch. Here’s a poem written by one of them:

They Have Been Loved
They have been carefree
They have been without hurt
They have been unhindered
They have been loved

They have been scared
They have been afraid
They have been pushed from their zenith
They have been loved

They have been captured
They have been entrapped, and enclosed
They have been seized and unlawfully held
They have been loved

They have been tortured
They have been degraded and disorientated
They have been severely beaten
They have been loved

They have been hated and raped of all
Dignity
They have been slapped and smacked
They have been loved

They have been saved
They have been rescued
They have been brought back home rightly so
They have been stopped from plumbing the Depths of pure, utter, misery.

They have been loved.

Cherry Red xXx//DancerInTheWind
Maria E. Taiwo
06/07/2004
© Copyright 2004
Hi, my name is Tim
I am 28 years old
I am 6 foot 3 inches tall
My shoe size is 11
I am the most important member of Keane because I AM COOL AND THE OTHER TWO ARE DOBBERS
The CD currently in my stereo is RANDY NEWMAN - 12 SONGS
The last film I saw at the cinema was LOST IN TRANSLATION
The last book I read was THE LIFE OF PI
The last thing I ate was A RASPBERRY MUFFIN IN A CAFE IN MINNEAPOLIS
The last time I had a weekend off was SOME LITTLE TIME AGO
My most treasured possession is MY DICTAPHONE THAT I USE FOR WRITING
What is the first thing that comes into your head when we say:

California    Joni Mitchell
Fran Healy    Toronto
Battle    North Trade Road
Burger King    Service Stations
Noel Edmunds    Kenny Everett
The Keane board    Amsterdam

Delete as appropriate (and please be honest!):

I do not own a set of moose pyjamas
I have not kissed the male moderator of the Keane message board, He Broke My Heart
I have not poured beer into my own ear whilst under the influence, probably, many moons ago
I have not loved filling out this questionnaire
Tom: yeah, that’s not normal, you should see a doctor about that... it definitely shouldn't be that colour. (elmoo)

Tom: I told you not to give Tim that bottle of absynth. (rubber_soul)

Lady at the back: Alert, alert, close the area down - the chocolate hob-nobs have been stolen.
Richard: come on, Tom - time we weren’t here! (ShelleyA)

Tom: Err, Richard, I may be going crazy but...
Richard: I see it too, I think it says (c)2004, Sannie! (simple thing)
Tim: How long exactly have you been waiting for this bus? (1/3 of Suggestive Leg)

Tim: Tom....is that you? I told you not to use my Piz Buin Self Tan, it's not suitable for your skintype.... (Locust)

Archive photograph of the finalists at the auditions to be Keane's keyboard player. (Lisabelle)

Keane's biggest fan refuses to leave stage after gig. (Binka)
Amsterdam July 8th 2004

The first international Keane board excursion

About 20 boardies got up ridiculously early to get to flights at Luton and Leeds airports. This is my account of what happened.

6am alarm call. I had managed to get about 4 hours sleep due to obvious panics about missing flights and forgetting passports. Got to Luton Airport Parkway station at 9am where I met up with the rest of the people flying from Luton airport. All weary but excited we got the shuttle bus to the airport and sat in Burger King eating chips for breakfast.

The 11.50am flight was delayed until 1.05pm so there was plenty of time to kill. We did so by looking at maps of Amsterdam and marvelling at the array of museums on offer. Art? Sex? It’s all there. In the air the discovery of sick bags that doubled up as film processing envelopes caused a few giggles and I decided to take mine as a souvenir.

Finally in Amsterdam we were told which train to get on by a very friendly drunken Irishman. Sadly having made it to the train, we then couldn’t get off it because the police locked all the doors while they proceeded to chase down a criminal who was also onboard. Eventually the doors were reopened and we headed for the Melkweg on a tram.

When we made it to the venue we found all the Leeds group gathered round Tim with someone taking their photograph. It transpired the photographers were from Oor Magazine and we were made to all pose together looking very much like the cast of fame.

While most people went to Burger King for some dinner a few of us hung around in the street outside the venue. There was plenty to see including a 70 year old man in a thong swinging about on a rope to classical music. We formed the queue at the front of the venue at about 5.30pm and commenced the signing of a huge pair of granny pants ready to throw at Tom after ‘Snowed Under’. We also brought other knickers of a much more normal size to throw as a prelude. Then we donned glowbands and headed into the venue.

Support came from a Dutch band called A Balladeer. Most of us enjoyed their set, though I was somewhat perplexed by them having a song called ‘Grandpa’s Sprinkler’.

After all the travelling and waiting and giggling about pants, Keane finally took to the stage. I shrewdly observed that Tom spoke in English to his (mostly) Dutch audience. It was nice to be back in the loop again after the support act who told many apparently hilarious jokes in Dutch. The layout of the venue was such that there was no gap between the audience and the stage. Due to my position at the front in the middle, this meant that every time Tom crouched down on one knee to sing in that way that he does, all I could see was his crotch. Not knowing where to look, I hid behind my camera. After a few minutes of this, I felt a sharp tap on my shoulder and a security guard told me there was no photography in the venue. Damn.
The eighth song in the set was ‘Snowed Under’. Pants at the ready we all sang our little hearts out and at the end of the song drowned Tom, Tim and Richard in a sea of underwear. Tom seemed a little surprised to say the least, though we may possibly have picked the wrong moment as he said ‘it seems inappropriate that about 18 pairs of knickers should be thrown at me during this part of the set’ before introducing ‘She Has No Time’. We were subsequently informed that the pants were all given a place on the tour bus and got to travel around a bit to the festivals.

Once the show had finished we stayed around in the venue for a while until the band came out to sign anything and everything that was handed to them (including the aeroplane sick bag). We milled around talking to each member of the band and each other and then a journalist asked to take our photo and started trying to interview us about why we liked Keane. I hadn’t a clue what to say but murmured something about ‘they make me smile’. Come the September issue of Word Magazine, there are our smiling faces and my rather lame quote amidst the huge article about Keane. The security started to get a little annoyed with us not leaving and started herding everyone (including Tim) out of the doors. It turned out the band would be spending the night on the tour bus driving to Manchester for the Move festival the next day so they were leaving at 1am.

Having bought our supply of CDs from the support band we headed off outside into the street where there was a man doing football tricks and another going up to people and playing the harmonica at them. We parted company with the Leeds group and wandered into the night to drop off the only Dutch boardie with us at her hostel. By the time we got back to the tram stop the last tram had gone so we had to walk the 4km back to the train station stopping briefly so our friendly moderator could stare in the window of a piano shop. It was also interesting to note that the Dutch speak English so fluently and often that even their graffiti is in English!

Back at the airport we had a lot of time to kill. It was 2am and our flight wasn’t until 8.30am. Luckily Amsterdam airport has a 24 hour Burger King (is it just me that’s starting to get the feeling this trip was sponsored by Burger King?) so we sat in there for a while and then we sat near the Burger King and then we sat in a café opposite the Burger King. At about 6am we found the Leeds group, said our goodbyes and checked in for our flight.
Ultimate Keane Websites

Out there on the vast expanse of the hyperglobalcompumegainterweb, among the countless websites providing handy hints as to where you last placed your car keys, there has to be something of use. Doesn't there? Well, being a Keane fan, you just happen to be in luck.

Hidden in the numerous fan sites with yellow backgrounds and neon green text, there are three key sites that provide all you need to know about the world of Keane. Here, I'm providing you with a brief low-down to them.

Keaneshaped
www.keaneshaped.co.uk

The one, the only, KeaneShaped is the brain child of Chris Flynn - a certain fan with an amazingly large web presence. One that has seen him rise to the almighty status of the moderator for the official Keane message board. It's up to you decide if it really was a rise of status, or just a fall.

The owner aside, KeaneShaped is host to the Keane FAQ (as used by the official website) which answers every question you have from what Keane have released, all the way through to what size shoes they wear. Ok, so it doesn't include shoe size - but you get the rough idea as to how thorough it gets. Along with the FAQ, the multi-talented Chris Flynn has worked out the music for a selection of the songs and has provided them as a resource for the discerning Keane cover artiste. Not only that, but if you want to be annoyingly up to date with your mobile, you can find yourself some ring tones. But please, keep in mind that not everyone may enjoy Keane as much as you. Especially when stuck on public transport. In rush hour. With the radiators on. And no room to swing a cat.

While the simplistic style of the site may not overwhelm you (I do fear that Mr. Flynn hasn't discovered colours yet), the content certainly will.
THE Keane Fansite
www.keane.at

The tag-line for the site says it all "Providing Keane fans with helpful information, useless trivia and pointless minutiae since April 2004". It is however because of this attention to detail that has gained them the reputation of being the site to go to for the latest Keane related news. Not only this, but the team should also feel rather smug at fact that they have been given the task of updating the official Keane website. Not bad for a group of rather dedicated fanatics.

Content wise you won't be disappointed. With listings of all the latest gigs (and info on where they are and where you can gets your tickets online), a rather amusing biography, more pictures than you can shake several sticks at, online versions of nearly every interview the band has made over the last few years and assorted other items.

You could easily spend several hours working your way through this site, after which you'd probably feel an awful lot smarter. Well, we can hope anyway.

Oh, and did I mention that the team behind the site is based in Austria? If I was forced to describe this site in two words they'd be "Fried Gold". It really is that good.

Peachy Groovy Keane
http://www.u2queenbee.com/keaneintro.html

This site is the work of one very big Keane fan. By big I mean "big" in the sense of the interest in Keane and not actually the size of the fan.

One thing you'll notice when browsing the site is that it doesn't intend to be a complete Keane fan-site, but somewhere detailing a fans personal experiences and views on the world of Keane. This in mind, you've got plenty of gig reviews, official message board humour and other random nuggets of information.
Sit back, put your seatbelt on and away we go……..

**Cover that body: Clothes-**  
Wear what ever you feel comfortable in, depending on where you go… If you end up having to stay in an airport you might be in the same clothes for a few hours; this of course is more for international outings. Make sure you have a jacket/coat just incase too, you never know what the weather will be like.

**These boots are made for walking: Shoes-**  
Keane are prone to the odd pair of converse and green flash dunlops. If you like the smarter look, go for a pair of brown shoes. If it’s a festival that your going too, wellies might be the best option or very much so an older pair of shoes/trainers.

**Festival-Mania: Festivals-**  
List of things to take with you:  
- **Wear on the day:**  
  - Jeans  
  - Trainers  
  - Top  
  - Fleece/jumper if cold  

- **Pack**  
  - Tent/ground sheet  
  - Sleeping bag  
  - Camping equipment  
  - Large water container  
  - Torch  
  - Waterproof jacket  
  - Shorts/skirt  
  - Sandals/flipflops  
  - Underwear  
  - Toothbrush/general wash stuff  
  - Babywipes  
  - Roll of toilet roll – **A must**  
  - Dry shampoo  
  - Waterproof mascara  
  - Gig ticket  
  - Money  
  - Parking ticket  
  - Sunscreen/hat/glasses  
  - Fun camera  
  - Plastic bag  
  - Bag for your rubbish  
  - Mini first aid kit  
  - Sewing kit – you never know what might happen
Somewhere only we know: Meet ups-
It's always cool to meet up with other fans so you're not on your own and you can share the experience of seeing the band with like-minded fans together. If you are a member of the keane forum you are bound to make new friends quickly and can arrange meet up places on there. Whether the meet ups are before a gig or basically just to meet up as fans and have a good time without the band.
This is also a safer way to be in a group so if anything were to go wrong (heaven forbid) there are more of you to sort something out than having to deal with a situation on your own. Mostly its miles more fun sharing the experience with other fans who appreciate their music just as yourself does. Trust me =)

International Baby: Items for other countries-
Make sure you've done some research before hand if planning a trip to another country. Laws and such could be different. Check transport availability for means of getting around, you don't want to be stuck. Check prices/timings of them also so you have a rough idea.

Take plenty of euros – for food, travel, shopping etc.
Mobile – make sure you have your network working for another country.
Passport – obviously. and flight details.
First aid kit – you never know what could happen so it's always best to be prepared
E111 form – basically this is travel safety. If anything were to happen to you your covered and don't need to pay to have treatment.
Gig tickets – for obvious reasons.
Camera – sometimes not allowed them but take one anyway
Pens/things to get signed - if you meet the band
Pillow/sleeping bag – depending what your sleeping arrangements are
Umbrella – you never know when the heavens might open.

You inside yet: The gig-
If you want to be near the front and stare into Tom's eyes then make sure you're at the front of the queue and be prepared to run. Start queuing early you don't want to be disappointed.
Booze – if you want a drink get it before the gig starts.
Support bands – these are on for maybe an hour before the guys come on to keep you entertained.

Most importantly have you got your glowbands?!
Lastly and most importantly (apart from the gig ticket) GLOWBANDS!
These are a must for Keane fans. If fans are wearing these you know who to look for and they are now officially endorsed by Mr. Tim Rice-Oxley

Even more reason to wear one eh?! ;)

The ride has ended now, please take off your belt and proceed to the exit, Thank you for riding the Keane guide!!