

## Eileen Bettesworth's Diary

29 May 1966 - 22 September 1968

This edition produced by Rob Askew, 2004

When Me'n'Mine was active in 1966-67, the group had a fan club - it was more the done thing in those days. Originally the fan club was run by Shirley (forget surname), but Eileen Bettesworth and her friend Lynn Congram took over the running of it in August 1966 (see entry for 14/8/66). Eileen was then known as "Ei" which I remember we thought at the time was a rather unusual name, but we put it down to her Englishness - she was an immigrant after all. Ei first saw us play (according to the diary) at Cabramatta Town Hall where we played a few gigs as the weekly house band supporting a guest appearance by one of John Harrigan's acts such as Billy Thorpe and the Aztecs, The Throb, or Him & The Others who came to the gig to play one set after appearing live on the Billy Thorpe TV show It's All Happening.

After Me'n'Mine and then its successor The Seen ceased business and we all started off in different directions, Eileen took up with John Lamerton, married him, produced two boys and lived happily ever after in Canberra. She became a widow in 1997. Working as Complaints Manager at the Advertising Standards Bureau, in mid-2004 she received a letter from one Patrick McMahon, and that's how we found her again. It turns out that Eileen is something of an expert on fan clubs - some years after Me'n'Mine, she ran the ACT branch of the Australian Cliff Richard Fan Club. And if Donny Osmond had an ACT fan club, she would probably be right there at the helm today.

Eileen kept a diary during her days as a Me'n'Mine fan and has kindly allowed us to publish it here, warts and all - but with some personal items edited out (and I suspect some of the uglier warts too). I've added a few explanatory footnotes.

Just remember that we were still teenagers when the diary was written.



Eileen Bettesworth with Jimmy Penson and Patrick McMahon - 1967



Eileen Lamerton - 2004

- 29 May 66 Vera's flat warming and Billy Thorpe dance at Cabramatta with Sandy. Saw fab group Me'n'Mine and got souvenirs. Billy horrid but MnM terrific guys. Friendly.
- 5 June 66 Went to Cabra to see MnM again. John asked me to ring him. Tony Barber didn't turn up so we saw Throb instead.
- 6 June 66 Rang John & Pat but not in so rang Paul and P&J were over there. Talked to John for 20 mins and Paul for 10 mins. Posted money for fan club.
- 9 Jun 66 Rec'd fan club membership card.
- 11 Jun 66 John rang me and I told him Gerry (Liverpool CYO<sup>1</sup>) was coming to see them perform at Lakemba
- 12 Jun 66 MnM at Lakemba CYO. W them and talked backstage and they asked us to come home to Rob's place for a little party after to celebrate Paul's 19<sup>th</sup> birthday. Got home 2.30am
- 13 Jun 66 Liverpool CYO car rally. Pat and Kevin started but never finished. Our car got bogged and lost and everything. Ended up at dance with "kids" band. Left at 8.30 - John nearly asleep
- 14 Jun 66 Back to work where no one will believe what we did with the group
- 16 Jun 66 Gerry told us boys definitely hired for harbour cruise
- 18 Jun 66 Went to see group at Fellowship House in Sydney. John and Kevin drove us to parking lot. Invited for coffee.
- 23 Jun 66 Got my ticket for harbour cruise. Rang Kevin and decided to see boys at Ramsgate national Fitness Hall
- 24 Jun 66 Sandy decided she didn't want to see the boys so Lynn and I aren't talking to her. I will ring Pat tomorrow and find out about Sunday
- 25 Jun 66 Rang Pat but no bookings
- 29 Jun 66 Pat's 17<sup>th</sup> birthday - sent card and plectrum
- 30 Jun 66 Shirley rang to tell me where boys are playing
- 2 Jul 66 Yagoona Congregational Church. Me & Lynn are going. Boys arrived an hour late. Paul mischievous. All boys talked to us. Pat used my plectrum.
- 6 Jul 66 Kevin rang to make final details for harbour cruise
- 8 Jul 66 Belmore Boys High. Shirley reckoned the boys played the best ever, but we didn't go
- 9 Jul 66 Teenage cabaret really fab. Paul got thru "I Believe" all right this time. John Kevin & Paul talked to us after the dance. Will see them tomorrow at BBQ
- 10 Jul 66 Party/Bbq for fan club and Lakemba CYO dance. Party at Pauline's place. Pauline sickening but boys gear. Pat kept grabbing me. He had terrible hangover at dance tonight
- 11 Jul 66 Put in films to be developed
- 13 Jul 66 Got films which came out better than expected
- 16 Jul 66 Harbour cruise. Showed photos - boys approved. Going thru the Heads Paul nearly fell over while singing. John dead tired and nearly fell asleep.
- 21 Jul 66 Phoned Kevin but boys not booked this weekend. However 3 nites next week

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<sup>1</sup> CYO: Catholic Youth Organisation. Many suburban Catholic churches had youth groups included in this organisation. One of their activities was a weekly dance, usually held on a Sunday evening. Those dances were our main source of regular gigs.

- 29 Jul 66 No booking tonight after all
- 30 Jul 66 Boys at Teenage cabaret - Fabbo! Met boys in George St. Rob sick so Lindsay took over. John nearly broke my leg and Pat grabbed me. Noticed Paul had hair cut. Lynn and I met Helen Penson
- 31 Jul 66 Boys at Liverpool CYO. Great, fab, gear! Asked John to go to Ball - said yes if he's free. John sang "I'm A Man" twice for me. Talked to all the boys. Their creepy friends came - ruined everything
- 6 Aug 66 Boys may appear at opening of new Wesley Centre - Kevin said they're not - nowhere this weekend
- 7 Aug 66 John's 19<sup>th</sup> birthday
- 12 Aug 66 Band playing at Punchbowl CYO I think. We went - but boys pathetic and in bad mood. Pat made Jimmy cry and John left stage in a huff
- 13 Aug 66 Boys play at new Wesley Centre but we didn't go - only playing for ¾ hour. Pat lost his guitar. They had beaut time
- 14 Aug 66 Boys at Lakemba CYO. Lynn and I went. Boys in fab mood. Kevin & Lindsay found Pat's guitar. Lynn and I were asked to take over running of fan club - we said yes
- 19 Aug 66 Kevin rang at 1pm and said Lynn and I were definitely in for the fan club. Asked us to come for a meeting tomorrow after 1pm bcs the boys were practicing all afternoon
- 20 Aug 66 We went to meeting and heard boys own compositions. Lynn and I picked records for their first record. Thought they were playing at Teen Cabaret but they weren't. Boys drove us to station
- 21 Aug 66 Playing Liverpool CYO Beatnik Night. It was real fab - the best dance I've seen them play at. Boys get more friendly every night
- 25 Aug 66 Another meeting to compose first newsletter. Tea at Kevin's place. Smashing time. Kev, John, Pat & Paul drove us home. Officially took over fan club. John said he couldn't come to the Ball.
- 26 Aug 66 Rang John to make sure he didn't put Mrs Giaquinto's phone no on membership cards. John went to see "Hold On" - I'm seeing it tonight
- 27 Aug 66 Boys on at new Teenage Cabaret. Will be my first nite at the new one. No it isn't - they're not going after all. Lynn came over to do fan club letters for members
- 2 Sep 66 Army Ball - didn't go cos John couldn't come. Had a chance to go with Warren Sanger. Didn't care about the Ball really
- 3 Sep 66 Boys reckon they're definitely at TC. I, June and Lynn went but boys not on. I rang John in a rage, but John was more upset than I was. Arranged a meeting for Monday after work
- 5 Sep 66 Meeting. Rob didn't come. Boys decided to start with a new name, so we poured over encyclopaedias and atlases looking for suggestions. Pat and John were thrilled with the bracelets we bought them
- 11 Sept 66 Boys at Lakemba CYO. Sand "Yellow Submarine", "Sunny Afternoon" and "You Better Run" for the first time. Wore bell-bottoms
- 13 Sep 66 Boys turned up at Lynn's for a meeting, but had forgotten to tell us. They only stayed an hour and I didn't see them
- 16 Sep 66 Lynn's 17<sup>th</sup> birthday. Hostel harbour cruise was not on. Kevin couldn't see eye to eye with youth director over a price
- 18 Sep 66 Liverpool CYO. Boys coming to Lynn's place for tea. Couldn't come after all. John & Pat in Wests Aussie Rules team - they won 9 - 8. Fabulous mood. Kev told us about regular Sat nite dance
- 19 Sep 66 Saw John's name in paper as goal-scorer. However we're wondering if they got mixed up with Pat. No meeting cos it's no good without a name

- 20 Sep 66 Write letters about correspondence to fan club
- 23 Sep 66 Had to ring Kev at 9. I rang but he's not home
- 24 Sep 66 Managed to get Kevin and boys practicing at Rob's place. Playing at private do in Marrickville
- 1 Oct 66 Went to Teen Cabaret - Gino Cunico was on as well
- 9 Oct 66 First dance with new name at Lakemba CYO. Boys great - met Lynn, Tracey & Lorraine Atkinson and Marg, Paul's sister. Saw woman who made Tom Jones shirts. Saw Mr/s McMahan.
- 10 Oct 66 Boys came and for once Pat and Paul helped with the wiping up. Lynn's dog refused to make friend with Kevin. Made plans for Rivoli dance
- 15 Oct 66 Beverley Hills School of Arts is a tin shed! But boys gorgeous. Saw creepy girl who followed Jimmy. Kev drove me Lynn and June home.
- 16 Oct 66 Liverpool CYO dance. John ran across stage in his underpants. Met Trish. John & Pat sunburnt - been to beach. Brought poster - boys liked it. Blackout in Liverpool bcs of storm - not many people at dance
- 21 Oct 66 Nth Sydney Police Boys Club all right. When boys drove Clare & Joy home we got embarrassed. Boys tried to cheer us up. Pat fell over. John climbed stairs on all fours. I cuddled Paul when he put on an accent. Did "sex" test
- 22 Oct 66 Beverley Hills - only June and I went. Boys were rotten players & Paul was upset cos I told him so. Pat drunk, John moody. Saw Pat in underpants. Gave Rob Birthday card and he said he'd give us a big kiss next week.
- 24 Oct 66 Rob's 18<sup>th</sup> birthday
- 28 Oct 66 Revesby Community Hall - kids 7 - 11 screamed as boys came on stage - boys embarrassed. Played beautifully. During presentation, Pat John & Paul went to pub to see go-go girls. Saw John in underpants again. Paul talked a lot.
- 29 Oct 66 Beverly Hills S of A. Gave boys question sheets about early band. John told me to barn dance. Paul wiggled. Pat not feeling well, but cheered up later.
- 30 Oct 66 Teenage Cabaret - saved Paul's life. Met Sandy Summers. Swa Great Race. Curtain closed during Mystic Eyes. John tried to strangle me. Rob & Paul played piano. Told Pat about "In My Life". Kev lost photos again. Spoke to Murphy.
- 31 Oct 66 Rivoli Hurstville w/Allusions. Boys better than Allusions. Didn't make one mistake. Boys sang "You Better Run" and "Don't Bring Me Down" better. Lynn nearly killed herself. Paul said not to. Paul Rob & John singing near us.
- 12 Nov 66 Beverley Hills S of A - window smashed. Me only went. John & Paul drove me home. Nearly killed. Read Kings Cross Whisper. Jimmy's jokes backfiring. Phil not there. Paul spoke about Animals & Stones. Jim used my head as drum.
- 13 Nov 66 Lakemba CYO. Paul told me about car. John's girl not there. Didn't meet parents. Paul's chewing gum. Wore suits. Kevin said BBQ at Joy's place.
- 14 Nov 66 Kev rang me twice but still doesn't know what street Revesby High School is in
- 18 Nov 66 Revesby Girls High - we couldn't get in. Got membership cards. Paul broke mike. Garry came. John, Pat & Garry on train. John's cufflinks. Gave us his coat. Got Pat's questions. Kev wanted ciggie - "don't all rush". Skivvies and bellbottoms.
- 19 Nov 66 Teenage Cabaret - kicked out
- 20 Nov 66 Liverpool CYO - not many people. Boys hot in suits. Gave Paul & Pat drink. Boys late 8.30. Pat at Darlinghurst.

- 22 Nov 66 Kevin rang to tell me boys had cancelled all appearances till Dec 11<sup>th</sup>
- 23 Nov 66 Rang up Pat to tell him about Mum & Dad
- 26 Nov 66 Beverley Hills cancelled. Rang Paul and he said 2 things wrong - one bad, one good. Good outweighs bad. John rang.
- 28 Nov 66 I rang John and he said they played Beverley Hills after all
- 7 Dec 66 Belmore Boys High School. Went with Keith. Paul & toilet paper. Asked John to sing "I Put A Spell On You". Paul wiggled "I'll Cry Instead". I sprayed him with perfume. "As Tears Go By".
- 10 Dec 66 Beverley Hills - fight broke out - drunk boys. Paul sang for 2 hours on a gargle. Mexican hat
- 11 Dec 66 Had girl singer. I had to leave room while Paul changed, but returned while Pat changed. John terrific - called June on stage. Go go contest
- 13 Dec 66 Pat rang to tell me boys playing at Rivoli on Sat night
- 17 Dec 66 Rivoli Hurstville. Terrific - but boys had to be too professional. Wore suits. Their girlfriends came. 50 - 50 dance and Paul didn't wiggle. Jimmy had hair out - looked funny
- 18 Dec 66 Liverpool CYO - Christmas Dance - didn't wear suits. Best I've ever been to. Boys liked placards. Lexie came. Lenny only danced last bracket with me. Looked at Rob's new guitar. Mum came - thinks they're fab
- 23 Dec 66 Pat & John going to Melb for few days. Lynn to Qld
- 28 Dec 66 Went to Helen & Jimmy's place for the day. Found out boys' nicknames and how much Jimmy admires John. Mrs Penson told me about Jimmy joining Pat's group
- 31 Dec 66 Went to Roselands with Helen P to see David McCallum but he was 2 hrs late. Saw Rob Pat & John in afternoon. Playing at Katoomba - no not
- 7 Jan 67 Beverley Hills S of A. Fight developed. Lynne there. Didn't smile at Pat - he was worried. Paul's and my jeans. John liked Melb. Paul & Rob striped trousers. Mr Askew drove us to Wiley park Stn. Slapped boy. Phil there.
- 8 Jan 67 Lakemba CYO Caught taxi. Boys terrific. Paul said June was like Indian not horse. Butter Menthol
- 13 Jan 67 Fan Club Party. Boys gave me huge birthday card for yesterday. Total birthday kisses Rob - 3, Jimmy - 3, Lu<sup>2</sup> - 2, Pat - 1. John left early in a bad mood. Pat Lu & Rob "3 Stooges"
- 14 Jan 67 St Andrews Lakemba. Said they all enjoyed the party.
- 1 Feb 67 Pat & John's place. Went over newsletter and drank coke. P & J terrific and talked about early band. John grabbed his young brother's bike and went to station with us.
- 4 Feb 67 Lakemba C of E - wore new dress - Paul said "very sexy" - sang "Hey Little Girl". Has lost weight. Took photos to show Rob & Jim. All boys read newsletter.
- 8 Feb 67 Rang Pat to see if they're coming over tonite - but they'll come tomorrow
- 9 Feb 67 John Pat & Kevin for fan club meeting. Had great time. John & condensed milk - ate all my Mum's. Pat & sticky choc biscuits. Only coke. Heard demo disc. Not bad but nothing outstanding.

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<sup>2</sup> There are several mentions of someone called "Lu" in here. That is Paul McCormack, the "Lu" comes from the reverse spelling of Paul, ie Luap. We went through a phase of saying words backwards, Jimmy was "Mij Nosnep" and to this day, John McMahon signs emails "nhoj". Our manager KJ Platt was fond of saying hybrid reverse stock sentences like "Stel og kcab to the rac" (let's go back to the car).

- 10 Feb 67 Lu thought boys coming over tonight but I rang & told him Pat & John came yesterday. Lu angry - could have seen "Weird Mob". Talked about tele-view cameras in shower. He was jokingly sarcastic with my Mum. Practice at his place tomorrow.
- 11 Feb 67 Beverley Hills at last minute. Lu never said hello or smiled or wiggled - mad at other boys. Asked about Vera's party - Rob said he'd come. Played well - Rob blasted us with bass. Got Aspros for Pat. Pat called names. Big fight erupting.
- 13 Feb 67 Boys for fan club meeting. We'd intended to blast them about newsletter, but they were so lovable we forgot. Pat apologised. Lu ate iced vo-vo. "Queens" harbour cruise. Football. Lu & John hate "steadies". Tore up my street noisy. New newsletter
- 15 Feb 67 Rang Pat to ask if no bookings for weekend
- 16 Feb 67 Pat rang to ask where party was - said he might come. Lu & John intended to go to a disco. Asked if Vera knew a girl named Denile.
- 17 Feb 67 Vera's party. With Lenny all night. All Limmericks came. Kept bashing into Lu and missing beat. Learning song on way to my new flat. Lu met Fred. He had half my lemonade.
- 18 Feb 67 Finished some more posters for the boys' dance tomorrow night
- 19 Feb 67 Loverpool CYO. Ultra-violet light. Dress or trousers. John screamed rape and gave me a lemonade bath and fruity-pine shampoo. Lu played piano and drums. Lu threw streamers. Took 2 B&W and 1 colour film.
- 21 Feb 67 Hope to get photos of dance and party today
- 22 Feb 67 Band should be coming over
- 4 Mar 67 Beverley Hills. Paul mucked around with my hair. John in a bad mood. Paul sang "Misunderstood" and "Too many times". Narelle there. I nearly got abducted. Boys autographed my photo
- 7 Mar 67 Meeting with Limmericks. They yelled at us and we yelled at them. We got the worst of it. We were really shocked at some of the things the boys thought about us.
- 8 Mar 67 Lynn and I had a discussion about last night and decided the boys hadn't be very fair. They've dropped in our estimation. Lu stuck up for us the most
- 10 Mar 67 Pat supposed to ring but didn't
- 13 Mar 67 Pat rang me just to say hello and talk to me
- 19 Mar 67 Liverpool CYO. Boyfriend Mike didn't come so Lu cheered me up with "Down Home Girl"
- 24 Mar 67 Boys not playing over Easter
- 29 Mar 67 Limmericks came for fan club meeting. Money situation sorted out. My cousin Rosanna loves them - especially John. Gave Lynn a present
- 7 Apr 67 Liverpool CYO Harbour Cruise. Finally met penfriend Colin at last. Quite nice. Band terrific.
- 8 Apr 67 Boys at Beverley Hills. Sang 3 new Hollies numbers. John fainted on stage. My purse stolen with \$40 and Animals tickets in it. John gave me money to get home.
- 14 Apr 67 Boys played private party Bronte SLS Club
- 15 Apr 67 Beverley hills. Paul born with "plastic spoon". John friendly. 2 lots of girlfriends there - trouble. Went by myself. Left bag in dressing room.
- 16 Apr 67 Boys liked my newsletter. Lu wore striped pants. In a terrific mood. Robin tried to get off with Lu. June thinks she likes him.

- 21 Apr 67 Punchbowl Girl Guides. Saw Robin off at Central and then went straight to boys guest appearance at Punchbowl dance. "The Trend" didn't show up so Limms played till 10pm
- 22 Apr 67 Beverly Hills
- 23 Apr 67 Miranda CYO's first dance. Went with Robin , Chris and June' "The Assassins", previously regular group were criticised. Power failure. Boys got regular booking, despite setbacks during the night
- 25 Apr 67 Lu due in hospital<sup>3</sup>. Doc Dedman home from Vietnam
- 27 Apr 67 Lu still not admitted to hospital. I asked him to ring and tell me when he goes in
- 30 Apr 67 Spoke to Margaret - Lu still out - is trying to get boys to go on without him - but they don't want to. Marg told me about Teenage Fair last year.
- 6 May 67 Limms at Uni NSW - no not. At Beverley Hills. Lu sorry he inconvenienced me. John & Paul fight. Mr Askew drove me, Pat & John home. Pat's hand sprained - Lindsay took over. He was good!
- 13 May 67 Limms at Lakemba C of E - Ian might take me if not doing drill. No drill.
- 14 May 67 Lakemba CYO - Lynn went home.
- 20 May 67 Babysat next door - rang and talked to Margaret and Paul.
- 21 May 67 Liverpool CYO - Marg came. Paul wore his pants. Pat soaked Jim's ciggies. Rob looked at my record player to fix. Lu loves "Marina". John bludged Jim's drink by licking bottle top. Lu hit me in the eye with streamer
- 27 May 67 Vera's party. Lenny and John Hammond tried to make me forget the Limms and support the Miopic Visionaries. Got Paul's pane of glass
- 28 May 67 Went with Chris by train. Had to leave a bit early. Lu in a terrific mood doing "The Stripper". Berries beaten. John just sang while Lindsay played. Hand out of plaster
- 29 May 67 First anniversary of the day I met the band
- 3 Jun 67 Lakemba C of E. Went with June. Lu gave her a birthday kiss. John playing again. Lu swore at John after Juliet. Some fans coming to Army gig. Jimmy kept losing his drumsticks. Caught wrong train home
- 9 Jun 67 Ian home - came to see me. Said we'll go to see Limms then drive-in
- 10 Jun 67 Limms at private party. Went to see Helen. Limms yelled at me - I don't care much for them after that. To top it all, got home to telegram from Ian "Unable to go out Sunday nite. Explain Tuesday. Matter inescapable. Love Ian".
- 11 Jun 67 Lakemba CYO and Midnight Drive-in. Lakemba with June cos Ian can't come. Lu wore brown suit - looked gas!. Pat John & Jim didn't come near us. Rob scalded on hot water bottle. Lu loved bracelet.
- 12 Jun 67 Paul's birthday. On way home from dance, June and I sang Happy Birthday to Lu after midnight. Last night Limms sang Happy Together and Young Girl for first time! Gas!
- 17 Jun 67 Seeing if I can buy way-out gear for Army dance. Didn't get none
- 18 Jun 67 Liverpool CYO. Still not talking to Jimmy. Lu wore suit & bracelet. John & Sandy there - took photos of band. No streamers allowed
- 24 Jun 67 2BOD Gym - football club dance. Band got terrific reception. Lynn came down. I did barn dance with Lu
- 25 Jun 67 Miranda CYO - Ian took me with Julie, Lynne and June
- 4 Jul 67 Pat rang to say the band can't come over this week

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<sup>3</sup> "Lu due in hospital" refers to Paul's dislocated shoulder which required corrective surgery in 67.

- 5 Jul 67 Pat rang
- 8 Jul 67 Limms at Lakemba C of E. Peter came down for weekend. Lu said he'd come to Army Ball with me. John & Pat swapped pants. Showed Liverpool photos. Rob spoke about my record player
- 9 Jul 67 Lakemba CYO. Went home early cos June was sick. Spoke to Phil who's very cute. Pat gave me a Limmerick Tickle. Saw Pat's grey two-tone Holden. Doesn't know if they're coming over yet this week
- 16 Jul 67 Liverpool CYO. Terrific dance - Eskimo Night. John in a terrific mood. Rob took record player home to fix it. Lu played "The Stripper" after the dance - and stripped! John and Pat said they'd sack me for having no names. John & Jimmy coming on Wed
- 19 Jul 67 John Jimmy & Pat over for fan club meeting - left at 10pm
- 23 Jul 67 Miranda CYO. No taxis so Paul & Rob drove me home. Went to Rob's to leave gear in garage. Had a drink. Rob's dopey card trick and Paul's pathetic joke. Lu's new coat & trousers. Gave "Stripper" record. Lu wants girl singer
- 4 Aug 67 Rang John about Penshurst
- 5 Aug 67 Went to Liverpool to buy John McM birthday present
- 6 Aug 67 Penshurst CYO. Got there 9pm. Lu a bit moody but John & Pat beaut. Pat missed me and we got stares when we walked out. Money from boys. Got kiss from John. Sang "A Little Help From My Friends" and "What Kind of Boy".
- 7 Aug 67 John's 20<sup>th</sup> birthday - boys at my place till 2 this morning. Pat Jim & John drove me home - flooded at Milperra. Gave them coffee & Toast. John's velour hat & Pat's cockney cap. John's ballerina. Jim fell asleep
- 12 Aug 67 Lakemba C of E. Saw Elizabeth and invited her and she came. Told Pat & John about Rules. Pat said he hated the "fat girl". Some boys started a fight and dance cancelled at ¼ to 11. John & Pat in bad mood. Rob's scungy slippers.
- 13 Aug 67 Lakemba CYO. Train strike so I had to leave early. Had fight with Lu cos he called me a "bugger". Got record player back - unfixed. Went to Rules for first time with Andy. Pat there but we didn't see him.
- 20 Aug 67 Liverpool CYO. Lu asked me when Ball is on. Told them I might not come to Engadine. Flash on camera wouldn't work.
- 22 Aug 67 Rang Lu about record and Ball. Said he'd make all arrangements to pick me up. Paul couldn't tell me about Engadine but asked me to ring him at home
- 26 Aug 67 Engadine CYO. Got home from mountains trip with Andy in time to go to dance. John told off fat Robyn. Took candid photos. Went for coffee with boys next door. Rob & Lu drove me home. Pat met Sandra.
- 27 Jul 67 Miranda CYO. Sick all day but dragged myself to dance. Nellie, Lindsay and friend there. Pat not very friendly but no matter. June came but we didn't dance much
- 29 Jul 67 Went to meeting to discuss Army dance. Lu rang and beaut! - no hospital till Sept 13, so he can take me to the Ball.
- 30 Jul 67 Pat broke off with Lynne Sorenson and now he's taking Sandra out. Had to tell Lt Williams that band can't play at Army dance cos Lu will be going into hospital.
- 31 Aug 67 Rang John to ask what arrangements we could make if they can't play at Army dance. Asked him to tell Lu about Gynea so that he could tell me on Friday night at the Ball
- 1 Sep 67 Ordnance Army Ball. Took photos. Paddy joking about Limms. Great night - got home 3am
- 2 Sep 67 No gig tonight so Andy and I drove north along the beaches



- 3 Sep 67 Gymea CYO. Terrific. I looked after Lu's coat. Taught Jimmy "Pride of Erin" and helped him pack up his drums. Gave Lu his records. Threw drum at him. Showed Engadine photos. Lynn Sorensen showed up. Got lift to Lakemba with Pat
- 10 Sep 67 Lakemba CYO. Left home for dance, but it was cancelled. Went back to Macka's to watch tele and play records
- 13 Sep 67 Lu goes into hospital for operation - we hope! He did.
- 14 Sep 67 Rang Mrs Mack and she said Lu will have operation between 2 - 4pm. She was very helpful with visiting hours so I might drop in on Sat
- 15 Sep 67 Rang Mrs Mack and she reckons Lu is very sick but getting better.
- 16 Sep 67 Army dance. Bcs we couldn't play we had to get The Trend - they were shocking. Saw Lu in hospital and we watched Berries lose League to Souths. Paul a bit painful but feeling okay
- 17 Sep 67 Aussie Rules grand final & Liverpool CYO. Pat's team (3<sup>rd</sup> grade) lost, but John's (2<sup>nd</sup> grade) won. 1<sup>st</sup> grade lost to Newtown. 3 fights in 1<sup>st</sup> and 1 in 2<sup>nd</sup>. Pat started fight and got knocked unconscious. No CYO dance - they had The Trend instead
- 18 Sep 67 Went to visit Lu in hospital & his 3 mates were there. Paul joking about doctors' tea breaks. Mr Mack gave me lift to Wiley Park. Paul better in health & spirit
- 19 Sep 67 Lu left hospital & will have his stitches in for a month. Pat came over to take photos and caught me in my pyjamas. Told me John received his call-up papers yesterday
- 21 Sep 67 Went to visit Lu at home and stayed for tea. Watched Monkees and listened to Sgt Pepper. Rob came over and drove me to Wiley park in his Dad's new station wagon. Lu looked very well
- 23 Sep 67 Aussie Rules grand final in Melb - Pat & John not going after all
- 24 Sep 67 Miranda CYO Lu strapped up and sitting on chair to sing. Played organ for 1<sup>st</sup> time. Lu yelled in my ear and I screamed. John friendly. Rob played organ terrific
- 25 Sep 67 Lu rang to tell me that Peter, Lindsay and Robert had been sent home from school bcs they had long hair. We talked for ½ hour
- 28 Sep 67 Marg & Peter McCormack's 16<sup>th</sup> birthday.
- 7 Oct 67 Went to Lakemba, then rang Marg and she said Paul's very sick. Went to Jimmy's for ½ hour and talked to him, then went home. Jim told me of Pat's footy accident
- 8 Oct 67 Lakemba CYO. Gave John Sgt Pepper. Pat on crutches, but Lu standing okay. Organ sounded terrible compared to Miranda. Danced with Nellie all night. Walked to station with Lynn Sorenson. Yuk! No Sandra
- 12 Oct 67 John rang to tell me of band break up! <sup>4</sup>
- 13 Oct 67 Band came over, except Rob. Explained reasons for breaking up. Boys looked at letters, photos etc. Drank coke. Listened to Sgt Peppers. Had to go when Lu's arm started hurting. Noisy when leaving.
- 14 Oct 67 Lakemba C of E. John E stood me up so I went to dance by taxi. Jimmy cried. Rob gave me a lily - John crushed it! Rob Toth and group played. Good.
- 15 Oct 67 Liverpool CYO. John E coming - no he couldn't. Music good, but morale low cos of break up. John & Pat picked up 2 girls and left Jim & Rob to pack up all equipment. Lu very angry. Trish & Marg came. Uncle Frank died yesterday.

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<sup>4</sup> The most significant factor in the breakup of the band was John's impending military conscription. All males turning 20 were subject to a random selection for call-up (see 19/9/67). John did a tour of duty in Vietnam, but the rest of us did not get selected.

- 17 Oct 67 John E picked me up from work and took me home. I had to type up fan letters so he fell asleep on the bed
- 22 Oct 67 Miranda CYO. Harbour Cruise with John E. Ignored me so we broke up. Went to dance - terrific. Pat played paino & he and Lu sang dirty songs. Pat & chips a Chequers. John's jokes about Jim's nose. Trish drove me to Wiley Park
- 24 Oct 67 Lu got his stitches out
- 25 Oct 67 Rang Lu to see how his arm is but no one home
- 27 Oct 67 Went to Sydney and bumped into Helen in Djs. Went to visit Lu and went with him to hospital for physio.
- 31 Oct 67 Rang Lu and he told me about Brenda's letter
- 5 Nov 67 Gymea CYO. Limms last dance. Photos & streamers. John cried. Aussie Rules team were there. Got guitar pick from Pat. Got lots of kisses. I was almost crying on way home. They're lovely boys!
- 6 Nov 67 Very sad today cos everyone's joking about limm's finish. Still, I don't care - I still love them
- 8 Nov 67 Got Gymea photos back and they're not bad. Rang Lu, but her went back to work today
- 9 Nov 67 Spoke to John about returning my photos, he said he'd bring them over one night. Told me band's new lead singer had been killed last Sat night
- 12 Nov 67 Went to Liverpool dance to see what new band is like so John didn't come over. Not a bad band. But crowd prefers Limms
- 13 Nov 67 Rang John to find out when he can come over, but told me to ring on Friday and he'll see what he's doing
- 16 Nov 67 Went to look at Ray McCormack's (Paul's aunt) house as she's looking for someone to move in
- 20 Nov 67 Jim told me Lu will be rejoining the band when I rang him. Jim will bring photos to party
- 21 Nov 67 Rang Lu and he didn't mention rejoining band but he may not want anyone to know yet - or is Jimmy having me on?
- 23 Nov 67 Left home to live with ray
- 25 Nov 67 had to break shopping date with Marg to go to a church picnic - but it rained
- 26 Nov 67 John Pat & Tony came over to bring photos,=. Liked my wall decorations. Pat made funny comments on backs of his photos
- 27 Nov 67 Rang Lu to ask about Sandy's wedding, he said he'd like to come. Posted invitations to my 21<sup>st</sup>
- 1 Dec 67 Rang Lu to ask how to get to party tomorrow night - got to ring Marg. John Lamerton started work today - June said he's cute. Went over to Lu's and spoke to Marg all night
- 2 Dec 67 Band's party at Bondi. A bit of a drag as it wasn't what we expected it to be. John brought Aussie Rules team and that livened it up.
- 9 Dec 67 Shopping with Marg. Were there late and saw Jimmy and sh said he can't find photos.
- 14 Dec 67 Chris McCormack (Paul's cousin) rang from Canberra and told me Ray is in P'Matta Hospital. Visited Lu and family to tell them. Paul came home with us.
- 15 Dec 67 Chris arrived
- 16 Dec 67 Chris missed plane home so we went over to Lu's - all going to BBQ at fay's place

- 17 Dec 67 Liverpool CYO with The Trend. Not very good. Trend has improved - but there was a lot of room for improvement.
- 25 Dec 67 Alone at Rays place - had baked beans for Christmas lunch. Rang Lu tonight and he invited me over for the evening. Trish, Lu and I played scrabble and listened to records. Paul and Mr Mack drove me home to Ray's at 1.30am
- 3 Jan 68 Moved into bedsit at Cabramatta.
- 4 Jan 68 John said he'd come over with Pat on Monday to get record. Told him I'd moved, and gave the address
- 6 Jan 68 Sandy and John's wedding with Lu. John Pat & Trish drove us to church. Frog under tyres. Down By The Riverside.
- 7 Jan 68 John Pat & Jim came over tonight
- 12 Jan 68 My birthday - my 21<sup>st</sup> party postponed at June's request - so that John Lamerton could come - away at CMF camp
- 13 Jan 68 Trish's birthday. BBQ - raining but still on. I went over at lunchtime to help prepare and stayed all night. Slept on lounge. Lu was hosing lawn in the rain.
- 21 Jan 68 Liverpool CYO with Trend. "Seen"<sup>5</sup> came to see if they could get an audition but it will have to be put to the committee
- 1 Feb 68 Pat rang to ask Jan Dawes to come to my 21<sup>st</sup> with him
- 2 Feb 68 Pat rang and we talked for ½ hour about my party. He said "We'll make it good for you" - and I felt real good!
- 3 Feb 68 My 21<sup>st</sup> party - smashing. "Seen" band was great.
- 11 Feb Seen's first Lakemba dance. Very good. Lu came but we had a fight.
- 17 Feb 68 Fan club meeting with band. Went to practice at C of E hall at Lakemba. Not much business. 1 - 4.30. Played ½ hour guest spot at Shrublands Marrickville with Plastic Tears. I went - pretty good
- 24 Feb 68 Seen at Kogarah Bay but I didn't go - too far
- 29 Feb 68 Narelle told me the Seen is playing at Liverpool this Sunday - whacko!
- 3 March 68 Seen play Liverpool for first time. It was tremendous! The band got a terrific reception even if one of the speakers blew up
- 4 Mar 68 Rang Rob and talked about the fan club for ½ hour
- 10 Mar 68 Seen's Lakemba dance. I went early to put up fan club posters. Boys singing more new songs every week. John Pat & Wayne came. Got money for fan club
- 23 March 68 Dropped in at John & Pat's place to get demo disc but Mrs McM couldn't find it
- 7 Apr 68 Liverpool dance with Seen. Chris introduced me to publicity photo people. Some kids asking about fan club. Spoke to Lindsay a lot. Showed boys "tampered" dossier. Chris nealy killed himself laughing.

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<sup>5</sup> For a while in 1968 Eileen continued fan club activities for The Seen - the immediate successor to The Limmericks, even to the extent of inheriting some of their gigs. This was Jim Penson on drums, Rob Askew on bass, Lindsay Askew (Rob's younger brother) on guitar, Rob Toth (Lindsay's school chum) on organ, and Chris Millet on lead vocals. Lindsay had often filled in for missing players (including bass) in M'n'M and was a better guitarist than any of us, but he never sang and still doesn't. Prior to Chris Millet joining The Seen, we had auditioned a singer who was killed in a car crash before he could come to the first full-on rehearsal (see 9/11/67). Lindsay and Rob Toth went on to be founding members of Flake. Mick Gaul, eventually also a Flake member, replaced Rob Askew when Rob became a shift worker. It records here that on 17/2/68 The Seen played a guest spot with the Plastic Tears at Shrublands Marrickville - The Tears were a precursor to Flake.

- 7 Aug 68      John's 21<sup>st</sup> - Pat rang to invite me to John's party
- 10 Aug 68     John's party with Geoff. Raging party - John did strip. Left at 1.30am
- 22 Sep 68     Aussie Rules grand final all 3 grades. We lost all of them. Sat with McMahons. Wayne Trevella played a good game and Neil spoke to me