

## The ANIMALS & Friends

### New album due

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Featuring from the original Animals –  
JOHN STEEL & MICK GALLAGHER (The Blockheads, The Clash, Paul McCartney)  
John E. Williamson (TITANIC)  
Peter Barton (Wayne Fontana's MINDBENDERS)

*“The band that shook the world back in 1964 have re-invented themselves ... quality and distinct sound that was, and still is, The Animals...” (Barry Kirk, Romford Recorder)*

2007 marks founder member JOHN STEEL's 50th year as performing musician. Back in 1957 he and The Animals co-founder ERIC BURDON began plying their trade in and around their native Tyneside with not the slightest inking that they would - in a very few years – find themselves part of a group that would be forever bracketed with the very best of British music – The Beatles, The Rolling Stones and The Yardbirds – and respected all over the world. The Animals would also be the second British band after The Beatles to top the American charts with their multi-million selling anthem, *'House of The Rising Sun'*.

To celebrate those formative years, John is currently recording tracks for a new Animals & Friends album, tentatively titled *'Prehistoric'*, featuring many of the songs he and Eric Burdon performed as members of pre-Animals groups such as the Kansas City Seven, The Alan Price Rhythm & Blues Combo and finally The Pagans at legendary Newcastle clubs such as The Downbeat and The New Orleans Jazz Club.

*“It was great fun to record songs that were the soundtrack of our early teenage years”,* recalled John recently. *“We didn't play all of these songs in our first bands, but they were in our heads as we grew up. It was good to kick them around and give them a different twist”.*

Animals & Friends – who celebrated the Animals' 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2004 - set out on further dates during 2007, beginning yet another year of almost relentless touring- both in the UK and Europe, up there along with *Bob Dylan* on the *'Never-Ending Tour'*.

Let us not forget that it was Dylan's *'House of the Rising Sun'* that so inspired this legendary band to record what history has shown to be the definitive take. It is even whispered that Dylan looked to their version as inspiration for his infamous 'going electric'...

*“The band that shook the world back in 1964 have re-invented themselves ... quality and distinct sound that was, and still is , The Animals. Closing your eyes brings back emotions the music created all those years ago, but now with added value “.*

*BARRY KIRK, Romford Recorder, UK*

### THE HISTORY BIT.

In 1964 a wave of new energetic rock and roll swept over the youth of the world. On the crest of this wave was The Beatles, The Rolling Stones and of course The Animals. From the banks of the River Tyne came the North East's offering; a brand of rhythm n blues that the whole world seemed to grasp greedily.

The Animals were the second British band to top the American charts after The Beatles with the now multi-million selling and legendary anthem, *'House of the Rising Sun'*. The band subsequently

achieved over twenty global Top Ten hit records, many of which gained the Number One slot in various parts of the world. In Britain alone, the band had no less than twelve chart entries. The Animals were the first British band to tour Poland and Japan.

That was then, this is now...

*"The Animals lived up to expectation - and then some...this was the real thing. Superb vocals, sheer raw energy and massive respect for the unique quality of this bands music"*

*ALAN WRIGHT, Hartlepool 'Mail', UK (May 2004)*

After over forty years the legend still grows. The line-up may have changed but the raw energy that burned in the souls of those five young guys over forty years ago still burns as strong today in the surviving members and the band still perform to hysterical fans all over the world.

The name of The Animals still stands proud on the British mantle-piece of rock and roll and to commemorate forty glorious years, the band recorded a new studio album - 'INSTINCT' in 2004 . Produced by guitarist extraordinaire JERRY DONAHUE( *Fairport, Joan Armatrading, Sandy Denny, Chris Rea, Gerry Rafferty*) this recording features an amazing array of invited friends as guests on this much awaited musical tapestry.

Spanning every musical taste, members and ex members of YES, SAXON, ELO, FAIRPORT CONVENTION, THIN LIZZY, STONE ROSES, DEEP PURPLE, PENTANGLE, JIMI HENDRIX EXPERIENCE, FRANK ZAPPA BAND, SMOKIE and JETHRO TULL - all rub shoulders on this very special recording.

In 2005, the band also released TWO 'live' albums, recorded in Copenhagen during their very successful Scandinavian tour in 2004 '**Live' In Denmark, Vols. 1 & 2' (Organic Mountain Records MPS02/03.**