

Let's Talk Dusty!

The Ultimate Forum for Dusty Springfield Fans

Skip to content

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Clive Westlake

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9 posts • Page **1** of **1**

Clive Westlake (#p183847)

by **edjames** » Fri Jul 15, 2016 1:55 pm

This new article popped up in my Google Alerts and thought I would pass it along. The columnist is looking for more info on Clive's life. Perhaps some members can fill in the blanks and write to Chris providing additional info.

If I remember correctly Clive passed away a few years ago and was living and working in Nashville at that time.

[http://www.sunderlandecho.com/lifestyle ... -1-8014654](http://www.sunderlandecho.com/lifestyle...-1-8014654) (<http://www.sunderlandecho.com/lifestyle/retro/sunderland-teacher-wrote-hits-for-dusty-springfield-and-the-hollies-1-8014654>)

Sunderland teacher wrote hits for Dusty Springfield and The Hollies

Clive Westlake wrote songs for Dusty Springfield.

Clive Westlake wrote songs for Dusty Springfield.

14:52Thursday 14 July 2016

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HAVE YOUR SAY

The 1960s was a great era for British pop music.

Dusty Springfield, The Hollies and more were great names of the times - a time when British music was answering the American flood of star names.

Clive Westlake, who wrote hits for the stars.

But how many people know who wrote some of the hits of those days?

How many of you knew that one of the writers was a teacher at Ryhope Grammar School?

Hits such as Here I Go Again by the Hollies and All I See Is You by Dusty were the work of Clive Westlake.

He was a Welshman who taught in Ryhope from 1956 to 1959 and was head of the music department for that period.

We traced details of him in an archive interview which featured in our sister paper, the Northern Daily Mail, in June 1968.

We caught up with him that year at a timely moment in his career. It happened at the time when Clive had already written a few hits but was about to go into singing for himself.

As our story said in 1968: “For those who never related that Clive Westlake of pop fame with the same unassuming man who taught at Ryhope this will probably come as a surprise.

“For those who know Clive and list themselves as admirers comes the further news that he has now turned singer and his first solo singer.”

As a writer, the hits just kept coming for Clive. Losing You was another Dusty track.

What Am I To You was one he created for Kenny Lynch.

His talents extended to film themes as well, such as Live Now, Pay Later, Comedy Man and Just For Fun.

In fact, Clive’s life always had a touch of the magical about it. After all, he was born on Christmas Day in 1936, in Wattsville which is in Monmouthshire.

His father was a coal miner who didn’t want his son to follow him into the pits.

After much discussion, a career in music was decided upon.

Clive told the reporter in 1968: “My father said, however, that if I got a degree in music, I could feel free to follow any career I wanted after that.”

He turned to music writing because he loved it, he freely admitted.

“I don’t consciously write a hit song. All I See Is You, Dusty’s big hit, had been lying unfinished in a drawer for months before I completed it.

“It was a pure fluke that it happened at all.

“Dusty’s manager came into the office one day and wanted a follow-up to You Dont Have To Say You Love Me.

“I gave him a sketchy outline of All I See Is You. He loved it.

“But it meant me sitting up half the same night to finish it in time for Dusty’s next recording session.”

He learned the business the hard way. “When I first started, things were pretty tough for British writers,” he admitted.

“Then it was all American music and the British boys hardly had a chance.

“I think we can thank The Beatles for the breakthrough.”

His first hit was Here I Go Again with the Hollies.

“I was chuffed out of my mind. I made a fortune on B sides for years, but this was my first big break and the first song that really brought me recognition.

“When it started zooming up the charts, I could not believe it. Then of course I wanted a number 1 and I just can't rest until I get it.”

His own first song was called 100 Days and he said he did it as “a giggle”.

He added: “I am not a singer, though I must admit that I sometimes feel that I can interpret my songs the way I feel they should be sung.”

Not only was Clive the singer of 100 Days, he wrote the song.

He also arranged the rhythm section, produced the record, conducted the orchestra, played the piano and did the vocal backing.

Our report at the time said: “Whatever happens to it, the record will help to give those Ryhope pupils (past and present) something to talk about.”

Who remembers Clive and who can tell us more about him? Contact Chris Cordner by emailing chris.cordner@jpress.co.uk (<mailto:chris.cordner@jpress.co.uk>)

Read more: [http://www.sunderlandecho.com/lifestyle ... z4EU8EVyPA](http://www.sunderlandecho.com/lifestyle...z4EU8EVyPA)
(<http://www.sunderlandecho.com/lifestyle/retro/sunderland-teacher-wrote-hits-for-dusty-springfield-and-the-hollies-1-8014654#ixzz4EU8EVyPA>)

Top

Re: Clive Westlake (#p183877)

by **Rob** » Sat Jul 16, 2016 7:15 pm

Shirley Bassey - Good Bad But Beautiful (1976 Sh...



R 😊 B

Top

Re: Clive Westlake (#p183878)

by **Rob** » Sat Jul 16, 2016 7:18 pm

It's A Matter Of Time...ELVIS



Top

Re: Clive Westlake (#p184053)

by **Clive** » Sun Jul 31, 2016 9:42 am

Here's another of Clive Westlake's songs that Dusty could have recorded.

He submitted *Wherever The Dream Takes Me* as a possible track when Dusty was about to start recording for the Reputation album.

However Dusty didn't use it and it was later recorded by Ute Lemper.

[http://music.sanook.com/music/song/MK75 ... A==/lyric/](http://music.sanook.com/music/song/MK75...A==/lyric/) (<http://music.sanook.com/music/song/MK75i7DrMzDHbL7YNaNRfA==/lyric/>)

Top

Re: Clive Westlake (#p184072)

by **Rob** » Mon Aug 01, 2016 6:50 pm

A Minute of your Time, Tom Jones

Tom Jones. A Minute Of Your Time.



R 😊 B

Top

Re: Clive Westlake (#p184073)

by **Rob** » Mon Aug 01, 2016 6:52 pm

No-one Better than you, Petula Clark

Petula Clark No One Better Than You

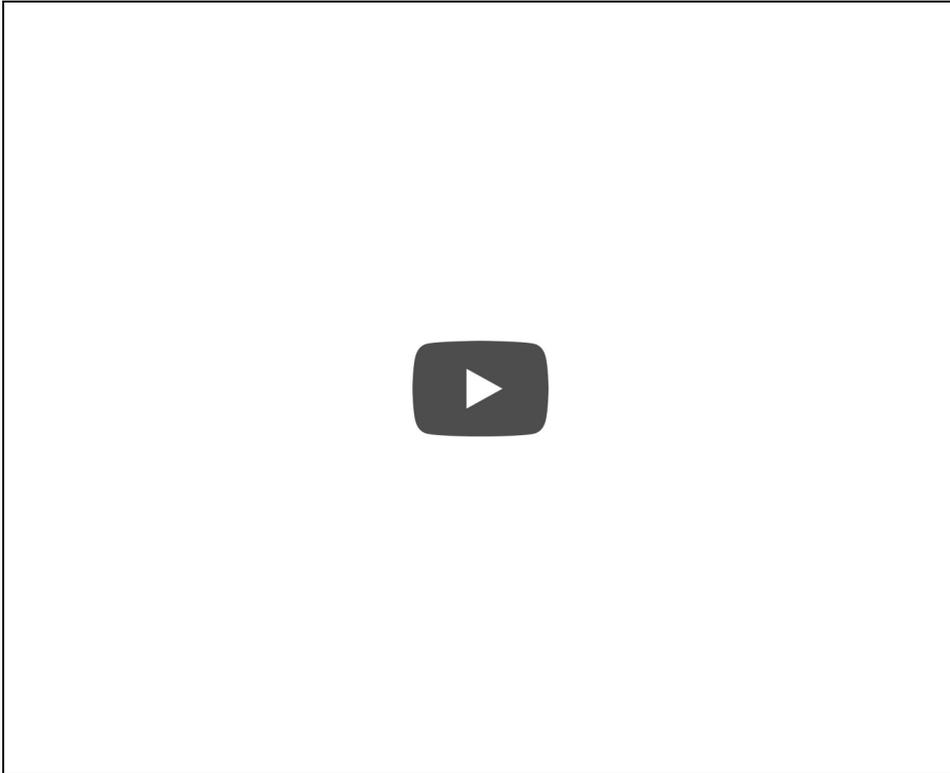


R 😊 B

Top

Re: Clive Westlake (#p184074)by **Rob** » Mon Aug 01, 2016 6:55 pm

Here i go again, The Hollies



R 😊 B

Top

Re: Clive Westlake (#p184077)by **countrycake** » Mon Aug 01, 2016 8:47 pm

One of my favourite songs by Clive was *It's Different Now*. It first appeared on Cilla Black's 1971 album *Images*. However, the version from which I got to know the song was by Clodagh Rodgers. Clodagh released the song as a single in 1972 and did a lot of promotion work on TV, but her record failed to trouble the chart compilers. Perhaps, I was the only person to buy it. The song was quite different from the Kenny Young material she had been recording up until then. Maybe, it sounded too mature or, dare I say it, old-fashioned to the fans who had been buying her records previously.

This is a live performance from *The Two Ronnies* TV show. Clodagh's phrasing differs slightly from the record, but it's still a powerful performance:

Clodagh Rodgers Singing It's Different Now live.



If anyone wants to hear the single version, here's a link to it:

<https://youtu.be/OsJfVZgK6Xo> (<https://youtu.be/OsJfVZgK6Xo>)

Top

Re: Clive Westlake (#p184166)

by **countrycake** » Wed Aug 10, 2016 4:02 pm

The Sunderland Echo has published a follow-up to the article referred to in Ed's posting of 15 July. Following their request for information two former pupils of the school Clive taught music at contacted the paper with their memories of Clive.

The follow-up article can be found here:

<http://www.sunderlandecho.com/lifestyle/retro/the-ryhope-music-man-who-triggered-fond-memories-among-former-students-1-8056282> (<http://www.sunderlandecho.com/lifestyle/retro/the-ryhope-music-man-who-triggered-fond-memories-among-former-students-1-8056282>)

Top

Display posts from previous: All posts Sort by Post time Ascending Go

Post a reply

9 posts • Page **1** of **1**

Return to You Set My Dreams To Music

Jump to: Go

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