



The Archives of Let's Talk Dusty!

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- Let's Talk Dusty! The Forum
- Don't Forget About Me
- Dusty's name

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Author

Topic

Clive
I'll try anything
☆☆

Posted - 22/11/2006 : 14:00:49



1455 Posts

Dusty once said
"I just decided to become someone else... so I became someone else"
"I had to change Mary O'Brien to become successful"

Part of the change was obviously the change of name (not that this was uncommon in showbusiness-especially if you had what the industry might have considered an 'ethnic' name like O'Brien)

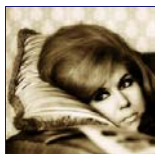
I can understand how Dusty's negative self image made her want to make that change but how much do you think she really identified with the *Dusty* persona?

In interviews she often quoted her full real name *Mary Isobel Catherine Bernadette O'Brien* so in a way I think she felt quite proud of who she was.
What do you think?

Incidentally I always thought is strange that her bother changed his name from the more 'star-like' name of Dion to Tom.

dusty_freak
I've got a good thing
☆☆☆☆

Posted - 22/11/2006 : 17:25:42



Australia
5805 Posts

I've heard different stories of why she chose Dusty Springfield as her name... i heard the Springfield bit was because they were standing in fields in spring. Is that true?

Clare xoxo

"I'm not Mama's little baby no more..."

daydreamer
Moderator
☆☆☆☆

Posted - 22/11/2006 : 19:16:57



United Kingdom
5404 Posts

I think she almost fell into 'Dusty Springfield' by accident. There's never been a proper explanation for the Dusty part, not from Mary herself, or from anyone else. I think she could get away with more things as Dusty, and Mary was the shy little thing in the background who stopped her from being a Bette Midler, however much she might have wanted to be. She often said that when she heard those words 'Dusty Springfield' it sounded like someone else, I think it made her feel a bit of a fake. I'm this shy little Irish girl but you all think I'm this fabulous diva with the amazing voice. I don't believe she was two different people, I believe they were interwoven and that's why we had such an enigmatic, feisty, shy, confident, funny, sad, misunderstood, wonderfully talented women to idolise. I do think she was proud of her heritage but it always seemed to me that she sort of grew into that as she got older, like it became far more important to her to accept who she had started out as, and she would talk about it often.

Carole x

Clive
I'll try anything
☆☆

Posted - 25/11/2006 : 12:24:21



1455 Posts

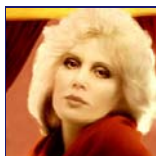
Clare, the 'fields in spring' explanation was what Dusty claimed ,but I do find it a bit hard to believe!
Maybe they just couldn't remember who thought of the Springfield name.

Carole I think your post is spot on, especially when you say Dusty grew into her heritage as she grew older.

Tim
Where am I going?
☆☆☆

Posted - 25/11/2006 : 13:18:59

yes, it's very well put and what I believe too.



T



United Kingdom
3422 Posts

Gypsy Rose Lee

I'll try anything
★★

USA
1535 Posts

Posted - 25/11/2006 : 13:32:24

Well said, Carole G!

I don't think Dusty was that much different than the rest of us. We run from our 'heritage' as youngsters; and, when we hit a certain age, it becomes very important to see our place in the scheme of the world. It's a tad humbling.

Running from that klutzy Irish Catholic schoolgirl doesn't surprise me... being half Irish Catholic, I denied it for aeons. It's only in recent years that I've come to accept it. Dusty was very proud of being "an English girl!" until way later in her life. The Irish Catholic Mary O'Brien emerged towards the end of her life. No accident that she chose the cliffs of Western Ireland as the place from where her ashes were deposited into the Atlantic. Had she left us 25 years earlier, she'd probably would have preferred a crypt in Westminster.

My how we change and finally grow into our own skin later in life.

Love,
Ro



Clive
I'll try anything
★★

Posted - 25/11/2006 : 15:20:08

Incidentally, Dusty never officially changed her name by deed poll did she? Was she Mary O'Brien on her passport?



1455 Posts

Gypsy Rose Lee

I'll try anything
★★

USA
1535 Posts

Posted - 25/11/2006 : 15:55:20

Yes



Birdie Breeze
Little by little
★

USA
248 Posts

Posted - 25/11/2006 : 16:01:10

The true story is...

She was a tomboy - loved football, got dusty playing it....nicknamed probably by her mum or a school mate - someone close. Maybe Tom.

While Tom and Tim and her were rehearsing in a field one spring day - they started to try to come up with a name for the group and The Springfield's were born.

That aussie musical has it all wrong, I think they came up with this lame idea that they named themselves after a town in America...Dusty's love of maps is how they drew that conclusion. Complete and total BS.

Birdie

quote:

Originally posted by Clive

Clare, the 'fields in spring' explanation was what Dusty claimed, but I do find it a bit hard to believe! Maybe they just couldn't remember who thought of the Springfield name.

Carole I think your post is spot on, especially when you say Dusty grew into her heritage as she grew older.

<http://www.myspace.com/birdiebreeze>



Mads
Where am I going?
★★★

Posted - 26/11/2006 : 03:08:16

This is from Woman of Repute (man I love that site!)



"I've had it [the name Dusty] since childhood. You see I was a bit of a tomboy and my friends thought that Dusty was an appropriate nickname for a girl who liked to play football in the streets with the boys . . . No! I don't play anymore. I retired gracefully at fifteen!"

Love,

Australia
3323 Posts

Mads xxx

**Birdie Breeze**

Little by little

USA
248 Posts

Posted - 26/11/2006 : 04:30:18

Yep, you got it, Mads! She'd get dirty outside, playing. She mentions it in radio interviews, as well.

You can also find her talking about when they came up with The Springfields....

The real story (s) are ALWAYS far far better than the things people make up to sell papers or musicals.

I don't know what it is - why - people find it necessary to make up things and in these rather mediocre or even taking pot shot ways - once someone has passed on...but...

When it comes to Dusty, it's really been running rampant.

Birdie

quote:

Originally posted by Mads

This is from Woman of Repute (man I love that site!)

"I've had it [the name Dusty] since childhood. You see I was a bit of a tomboy and my friends thought that Dusty was an appropriate nickname for a girl who liked to play football in the streets with the boys . . . No! I don't play anymore. I retired gracefully at fifteen!"

Love,

Mads xxx

<http://www.myspace.com/birdiebreeze>**Corinna**

Forum Admin

Sweden
6080 Posts

Posted - 26/11/2006 : 12:08:18

quote:

Originally posted by Birdie Breeze

The true story is...

She was a tomboy - loved football, got dusty playing it....nicknamed probably by her mum or a school mate - someone close. Maybe Tom.

While Tom and Tim and her were rehearsing in a field one spring day - they started to try to come up with a name for the group and The Springfields were born.

That's obviously the most widely spread story, and as good a story as any on Dusty's name. I think a lot of people here are already familiar with it, and it's also recounted in DWD. I wouldn't go as far as saying that it's 'the' 'true' story (put the emphasis wherever you like), Birdie. Since there are several, it's hard to know which one (if any) is true. But for a 'myth of origin', it's quite a nice story.

Cor xx

**Birdie Breeze**

Little by little

USA
248 Posts

Posted - 27/11/2006 : 04:39:28

Hi Cor,

Dusty told me, her whole life & career story during the period from 1983 - 1989. I have no reason not to believe her. I was good at telling - and still can tell - when she fabricated things or told white lies.

You can, by all means, not trust either of us -- but please -- do some fact checking and contact the remaining members of The Springfields (maybe Nancy can get one of them to agree to an interview and you all can submit your questions inc "how did The Springfields get their name?")

Assuming it is just a myth, is just that - assuming. It takes no effort whatsoever.

Fact checking should always be encouraged, as should great interviews 😊

quote:

Originally posted by Corinna

I wouldn't go as far as saying that it's 'the' 'true' story (put the emphasis wherever you like), Birdie. Since there are several, it's hard to know which one (if any) is true. But for a 'myth of origin', it's quite a nice story.

Cor xx

<http://www.myspace.com/birdiebreeze>

Edited by - Birdie Breeze on 27/11/2006 04:41:33



allherfaces
Administrator
★★★★★

Posted - 27/11/2006 : 15:57:56

Birdie, once again, your attitude is inappropriate for our boards.



Let's Talk Dusty! is about fans sharing their love and appreciation of Dusty. It is not about one person claiming to know everything, while patronizing and insulting other fans. To suggest Corrina does not trust Dusty when she disagrees with your version of the origin Dusty's name, is going over the line of respectful disagreement. Likewise, your repeated stance that you are the sole arbiter of every truth about Dusty's life.

See also my response to your post on the 'tragedy' thread. If you wish to remain a member of LTD in good standing, you need to change your behavior significantly and promptly.

USA
14235 Posts

Nancy
"Yesterday's gone. Love lead me on."
-Roll Away



daydreamer
Moderator
★★★★★

Posted - 27/11/2006 : 16:32:26

Thankyou Nancy, that needed saying.



Carole x



United Kingdom
5404 Posts

Teda
Little by little
★

Posted - 27/11/2006 : 21:23:06

Thank you Nancy. Love Teda.

USA
384 Posts



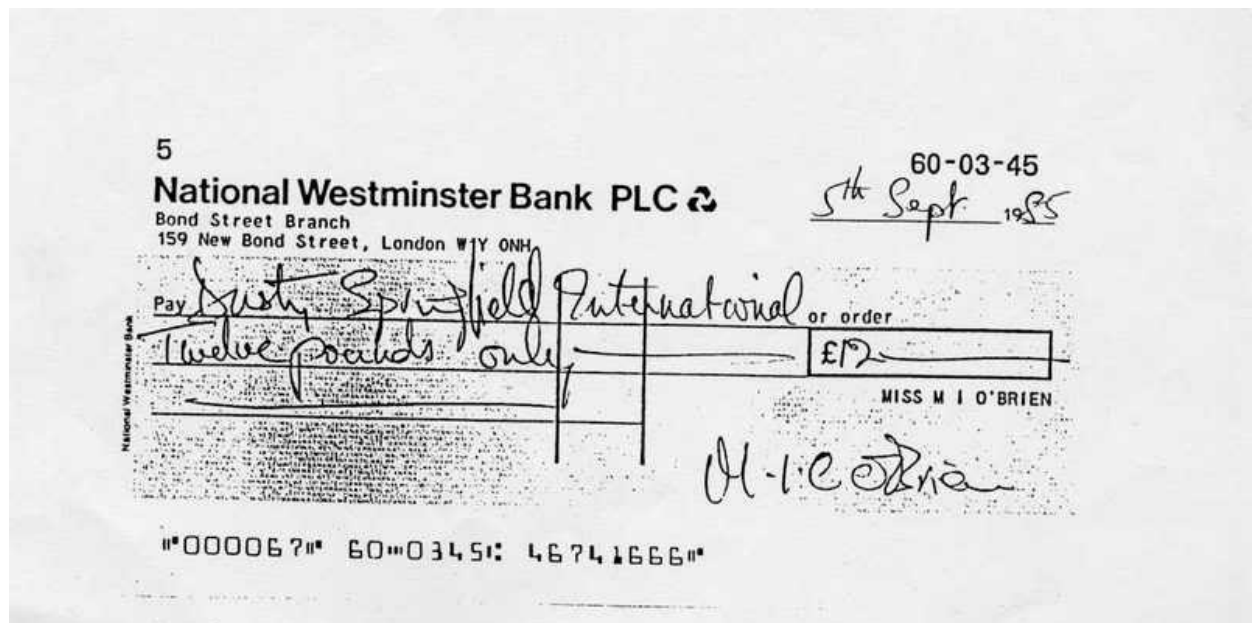
daydreamer
Moderator
★★★★★

Posted - 05/12/2006 : 16:54:10

I just came across this in my 'Dusty drawer'. Obviously it's a copy and I'm not sure who sent it to me but it shows that Dusty still used her real name to sign her cheques. No Bernadette, as that wasn't her birth name.



United Kingdom
5404 Posts



Carole x

Edited by - daydreamer on 05/12/2006 16:54:56



Corinna
Forum Admin
★★★★★

Posted - 05/12/2006 : 20:02:35

Miss MICO'B. Kewl.



Cor xx



Sweden
6080 Posts

Clive
I'll try anything
☆☆☆

Posted - 05/12/2006 : 22:05:49

thanks for posting that Carole. Dusty chose Bernadette as her confirmation name didn't she? Presumably it was after Saint Bernadette who was a popular saint for Catholics.



1455 Posts

allherfaces
Administrator
★★★★★

Posted - 05/12/2006 : 22:14:01

How lovely to have turned the page on this thread.

How cute that she signed her name M.I.C. O'Brien

BTW, one of my friends calls her MICBO; he said that's the only way he can remember all her names--in the right order.

"Yesterday's gone. Love lead me on."
~Roll Away

USA
14235 Posts

daydreamer
Moderator
☆☆☆☆

Posted - 05/12/2006 : 23:13:10

Yep Clive, it was her confirmation name. I'm not Catholic but I think all confirmation names taken from the saints.



Carole x



United Kingdom
5404 Posts

paula
Moderator
★★★★★

Posted - 06/12/2006 : 02:41:22

Yes, confirmation names do have to be of a saint's name...though a lot of kids just pick a name that they like. I went on a spiritual journey & chose one that matched my other names...wouldn't mind going back & putting a little more thought into it 😊

pjml x

USA
5012 Posts

allherfaces
Administrator
★★★★★

Posted - 06/12/2006 : 03:56:41

Mary, eh? Well, something you have in common with Dusty, then?
Or were you thinking Mary Magdelene?

"Yesterday's gone. Love lead me on."
~Roll Away



USA
14235 Posts

Mads
Where am I going?
☆☆☆

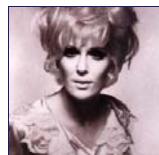
Posted - 06/12/2006 : 05:44:55

Whats Dusty Springfield International?

And why would she have been writing a cheque to herself?

CONFUSED MUCH?

Lol - yup - idiot!



Australia
3323 Posts

Love,



 Topic 

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