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The Ultimate Forum for Dusty Springfield Fans

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[Memories of a Switchboard Girl](#)

■ by [Chris66](#) » Thu Aug 30, 2012 6:56 am

Interesting article in last nights Sheffield Star. Carol Leader was a young switch operator in the sixties at the Grand Hotel in Sheffield (the Grand was across the road from City Hall where all the concerts played) so most of the performers stayed at the Grand.

Carol mentions the Stones and Cliff and Dusty. Remember back then there was no direct dialling from rooms

so anyone who wanted to make a call had to go through Carol on switch. She recalls Dusty made many long night calls to Madeleine Bell in America. She also wondered why Dusty had so many boxes with her luggage - Carol later realised it was Dusty's wig collection.

Cheers

Chris



[Chris66](#)

Little by little



Posts: 60

Joined: Thu Feb 25, 2010 11:19 am

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[Re: Memories of a Switchboard Girl](#)

■ by [Rob](#) » Thu Aug 30, 2012 7:05 am

Thanks for sharing Chris, interesting article

R 😊 B



[Rob](#)

Moderator



Posts: 2821
Joined: Thu Dec 17, 2009 8:17 am

[Top](#)

[Re: Memories of a Switchboard Girl](#)

by [karen](#) » Thu Aug 30, 2012 8:22 am

Yes thanks for this Chris... liked to talk on the phone as we know.. 😊



[karen](#)

I only want to be with you
★★★★★★
★★

Posts: 18106
Joined: Thu Dec 17, 2009 6:48 pm

[Top](#)

[Re: Memories of a Switchboard Girl](#)

by [Cas19](#) » Thu Aug 30, 2012 11:08 am

Interesting tit bit Chris, thank you.

Casx
[Something in your eyes](#)



[Cas19](#)

All I see is you
★★★★★★
★★★

Posts: 23261
Joined: Thu Dec 17, 2009 8:25 am

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[Re: Memories of a Switchboard Girl](#)

by [Chris66](#) » Thu Aug 30, 2012 3:53 pm

Carol on Switchboard struck up a friendship with a young Mr Jagger who came down to phone his dad. She asked him if he ever had a bath !! He answered yes and then sat and had a cup of tea with her. He chatted to her on another occasion when the Stones were in town.

There is no mention of the actual date - I wonder who was on the same bill with Dusty ?

Cheers

Chris



[Chris66](#)

Little by little



Posts: 60

Joined: Thu Feb 25, 2010 11:19 am

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[Re: Memories of a Switchboard Girl](#)

by [IWannaBeABluesSinger](#) » Thu Aug 30, 2012 8:03 pm

Here's the links to the two-part story:

Part one:

<http://www.thestar.co.uk/news/carole-s-grand-hotline-to-icons-of-the-1960s-1-4874315>

Part two:

<http://www.thestar.co.uk/lifestyle/features/how-carole-was-a-tower-of-strength-for-the-stars-1-4877698>

Maggie



[IWannaBeABluesSinger](#)

I've got a good thing



Posts: 1681

Joined: Sun Apr 24, 2011 3:54 am

[Top](#)

[Re: Memories of a Switchboard Girl](#)

by [jeffery](#) » Thu Aug 30, 2012 10:26 pm

Chris66 wrote: Interesting article in last night's Sheffield Star. Carol Leader was a young switch operator in the sixties at the Grand Hotel in Sheffield (the Grand was across the road from City Hall where all the concerts played) so most of the performers stayed at the Grand. Carol mentions the Stones and Cliff and Dusty. Remember back then there was no direct dialling from rooms so anyone who wanted to make a call had to go through Carol on switch. She recalls Dusty made many long night calls to Madeleine Bell in America. She also wondered why Dusty had so many boxes with her luggage - Carol later realised it was Dusty's wig collection.

Cheers

Chris

This remark interests me, "She recalls that Dusty made many long night calls to Madeline Bell in America". When you miss the few friends you think you can really trust it's reassuring to stay connected. How we take for granted what we have here in this instantaneous internet. No switchboard gals needed here. I wonder how Dust would have responded to seeing Madeline, and being seen through her webcam.



I think it would have been comforting for her.

"The man with the child in his eyes" Jeffery



[jeffery](#)

Someone who cares



Posts: 6517

Joined: Thu Dec 17, 2009 11:34 am

Location: Norwalk, Ohio - USA (Great Lakes Region)

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[Re: Memories of a Switchboard Girl](#)

■ by [Chris66](#) » Fri Aug 31, 2012 6:46 am

Thanks for the link to The Star Maggie - I should have thought of that.

The late sixties early seventies was a great time to see some big acts in Sheffield. The new Fiesta nightclub attracted - The Tops - Stevie Wonder - Gladys Knight - Sam & Dave - Junior Walker etc I saw them all. Pity Dusty never came to the club - but it was chicken in a basket !!

The date of Dusty's stay at the GRAND may have been in autumn 1964 I think she headlined at the City Hall with Hermans Hermits.

Cheers

Chris



[Chris66](#)

Little by little



Posts: 60

Joined: Thu Feb 25, 2010 11:19 am

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[Re: Memories of a Switchboard Girl](#)

■ by [jeffery](#) » Fri Aug 31, 2012 3:53 pm

😄 The poster advert that concert is (I believe) the one on display at the RRHOF (British Invasion exhibit).

Dusty headlining Herman and the Hermits. 😡 And instead of broadcasting Dusty's music they are playing H and H.

That's how distorted their facts are at the RRHOF. 😏

"The man with the child in his eyes" Jeffery



[jeffery](#)

Someone who cares



Posts: 6517

Joined: Thu Dec 17, 2009 11:34 am

Location: Norwalk, Ohio - USA (Great Lakes Region)

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[Re: Memories of a Switchboard Girl](#)

by [Chris66](#) » Tue Sep 04, 2012 7:19 am

Thanks Jeffery

I have looked at the poster - that must be it
I see local boy Dave Berry was in the line up as well - a full house I should Imagine - wish I could have been there . Would have been at home doing homework !!! - or not !!

Cheers

Chris



[Chris66](#)

Little by little



Posts: 60

Joined: Thu Feb 25, 2010 11:19 am

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