

**July 2008**

*Anything Phonographic – (In The Groove magazine)*

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**The Blues Find of the Month, Maybe Even The Year!** – The name Chris Barber may be familiar to older readers who remember his 1960s pop hit “Petit Fleur”. The British trombone player is still touring and playing and over the years I’ve covered a number of DVDs with Barber leading his band. While most of the time he plays trad or New Orleans-style jazz, we don’t think of him as a “blues” musician. But Barber has always been a big proponent of American blues and, in the late 1950s, brought some legendary blues artists across the Atlantic to introduce them to the British audience. He presented these live concerts on the radio. This is when young musicians like Mick Jagger, Eric Burdon, John Mayall and Keith Richards first heard their idols perform live. Recently, while searching through some old trunks, Barber discovered tape recordings he made of these broadcasts which had never been issued before. Through his own Blues Legacy label, he has released three incredible individual CDs under the title ***Lost & Found: Volumes 1 through 3***, distributed in the US by MVD Audio. My favorite is *Volume 1*, with 10 tracks by Sister Rosetta Sharpe (both solo with her guitar and accompanied by the full Barber Band) and 13 with Sonny Terry & Brownie McGhee from 1957/58. *Volume 2* – from 1958/59-features more by Terry & McGhee plus Muddy Waters, Otis Spann and an unusual single track by Louis Jordan performing “T’ain’t Nobody’s Business” late in his illustrious career. *Volume 3* (mostly from 1964 with a few tracks from 1980) contains Howlin’ Wolf, Sonny Boy Williamson and Jimmy Witherspoon. The sound is superb and the liner notes include Barber’s recollections of the events. You may have to dig a little deeper in the “Blues” section to find these but they are a “must have” for anyone interested in the artists listed above.

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