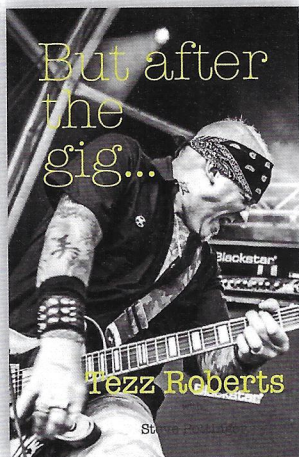


THE BUSINESS

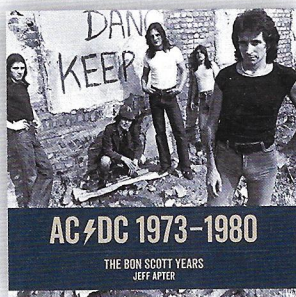
BOOKS



BUT AFTER THE GIG...
Tezz Roberts/Steve Pottinger
(Ignite)
8/10

This is no casual rock autobiography. Mostly because the author has forgotten a huge amount of his own tempestuous life story and that's probably for his own good! What he can remember is a series of adventures and misadventures in punk bands from Discharge to UK Subs playing everything from bass to drums, guitar to vocals. Tales of Tezz founding Discharge and working as the frontman until 1979 are followed by his stints in Broken Bones, Ministry, Battalion Of Saints and The Business. He takes you through each element of his punk rock life from gig scraps in the early '80s to drug highs and lows and on to tours before he delves into some amazing

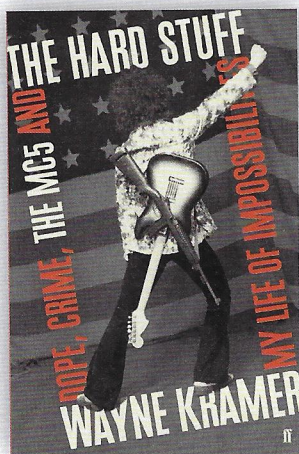
tales about jumping off balconies and setting off fireworks in his tour bus. He wrote this book after returning to his hometown of Stoke and reunited with Discharge so it's good to know he's in a good place now. Tezz Roberts we salute you.
Jerry Clarke



**AC/DC 1973-1980:
THE BON SCOTT YEARS**
Jeff Apter
(Jaw Bone)
7/10

When two brothers from Sydney decided to kick off their own musical revolution back in 1973, no one was prepared for what was to unfold. This book follows their legacy through iconic pictures, interviews and stories told in a personal diary format. Malcolm and Angus Young together with Bon Scott and the band shred through years of gigs, travels, parties and antics

fuelled by their hard rock and blues sound, controversial at the time. This book paints an intimate picture of one of the world's biggest rock bands in their formative years. It's illustrated with rare images and penned by Jeff Apter, Australian author with an insider perspective. '1975' is a stand out chapter but I enjoyed the whole ride.
Alfie Taylor

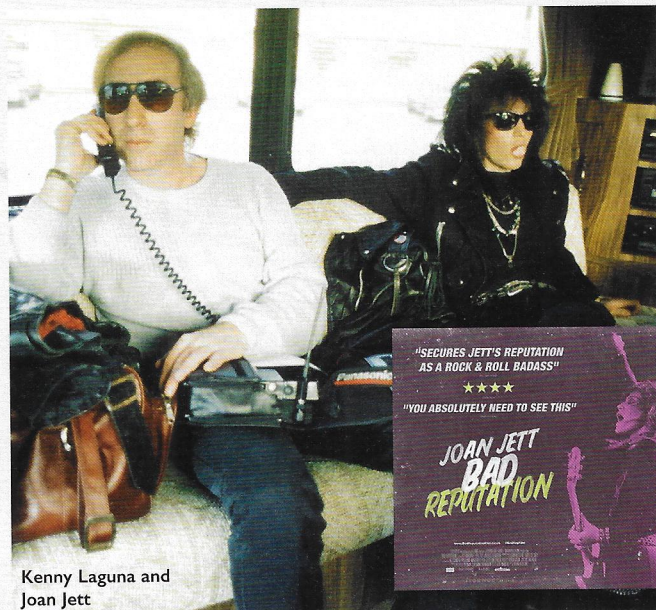


**WAYNE KRAMER
THE HARD STUFF: DOPE,
CRIME & THE MC5 - MY
LIFE OF IMPOSSIBILITIES**
(Faber & Faber)
9/10

If Wayne Kramer had chosen to write only about his time in the MC5 he would still have enough stories to boast things most wouldn't get round to in two lifetimes. But that's only one side of his life. The Hard Stuff delves into the subsequent happenings of MC5s effect on Kramer, following the dissolution of the band in a welter of booze, bad drugs and bad business deals. And there sure was plenty more of that to come! Following the demise of the 5 in 1972, Kramer kept his hand in musically, but was barely scratching a living from it anymore. He basically immersed himself in a life of crime

and drug addiction. A prison stretch inevitably followed a bust for cocaine dealing. Upon his release, the cycle of drinking and drug taking continued and there was an ill-fated collaboration with Johnny Thunders in Gang War, as well as a brief spell with Was (Not Was). Throughout the '90s the LA punk label Epitaph helped expose Kramer to a new generation of fans before he finally hit rock bottom with his addictions. All was not lost though, and with the redemptive power of love, and of course rock 'n' roll, Kramer ultimately set about exorcising his demons once and for all. He now not only uses the guitar as a means to 'Kick Out The Jams', but also, with his Jail Guitar Doors programme, as a force for change by helping to rehabilitate prisoners, and campaigning for prison reform. This isn't so much a memoir about the MC5 then as it is about bad life choices and addiction and how to face up to them. Hard and sobering stuff in equal measure.
Rich Deakin

FILMS & DVDs



Kenny Laguna and
Joan Jett

BAD REPUTATION: THE UNAUTHORISED AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF JOAN JETT

(Backbeats)

8/10

I've always been a fan of Joan Jett's no nonsense rock 'n' roll but I must admit I always thought she was a rocker whose catalogue relied on covers and 'that' big one hit. This film by Nirvana video director Kevin Kerslake changed all that. Cutting her teeth in the Runaways which are briefly covered here, it wasn't until she hooked up with producer Kenny Laguna that things started to take off (slowly). Laguna was a writer of bubblegum pop like the Archies' 'Sugar Sugar' and saw Jett's talent early on taking her under his wing. Turned down by 23 record labels, it wasn't until she recorded a version of the Arrows' 'I love Rock N Roll', first with Sex Pistols Paul Cook and Steve Jones, and then with her band the Blackhearts that she went ballistic. Originally selling the single out of the boot of her car, then hooking up with Kiss' label to get big backing, all through it Jett and Laguna kept the faith. Her relationship with the older Laguna as an almost father/daughter connection is touching and they seem pretty inseparable. Even in the late '90s when her star had fallen again, they went out on the road and stayed true to her roots playing small venues again, never doubting herself. Featuring interviews with Adam Horowitz, Alison Mosshart, Billie Joe Armstrong (Green Day), Debbie Harry, Ian MacKaye (Fugazi), Iggy Pop, Kathleen Hanna, Michael J. Fox and Miley Cyrus, Bad Reputation is an insight into a true rocker- through and through. Along the way she has passionately supported animal rights feminism and LGBT rights, and played for the U.S troops in Iraq. Now established as a real icon, Joan Jett really does love rock 'n' roll. She's the real deal. Put another dime in the jukebox baby.
Eugene Butcher

FULL CIRCLE: THE BIRTH, DEATH & REBIRTH OF CIRCLE OF DUST

(Fixt)

6/10

Back in its early years Circle Of Dust, along with Mortal and Deitiphobia, took industrial metal to the Christian alternative metal scene in New York. This DVD tells the true untold story of the vital genre challenging '90s industrial project Circle of Dust. It's formed by the intense Klayton who has led several cult-status underground bands and has performed under many stage names, Celldweller being his most successful. The movie delves into Circle Of Dust's early career and the whole two-disc pack equals over four hours of footage including behind the scenes material from each album and over 30 interviews alongside unseen footage. Frontman Klayton tells you honestly about the amount of bad shows they had and delves into the worst. He also reveals that he got to a point where he was so finished with the band that he took their music and burned it. You get the feeling this guy is seriously egotistical and edging towards insanity.
Neil Watkins

