



BEANO HEENAN



EAT LIPSTICK



MUTTIS LIEBLINGE



PLANLOS



IGNITE



THE OUTCASTS

HEY PUNKROCKERS!

Wassup? For all five of you who read my column, I'm very sorry for messing up my text last issue. Nope, was not meant for those pix. Too tired to think when I was sending it. Anyway, this time it'll match, and what an awesome two months it was. So many shows and events, and too many I missed, or were cancelled for lack of participation. Hey! Get out there and support this while you still can. No more excuses. Here are the ones I made, all packed, all rad, my three favorite Berlin clubs!!



How do you show loving support for one of our „punk rock-family“? Like this: **Punk for Beano #4**. In case you're not familiar with **Graham „Beano“ Heenan**, he just happens to be a real punk-rockster from Ireland, who has not only been in countless legendary bands, ran the large stage at Rebellion Festival in Blackpool, lived, loved, played, and partied in his home of choice Berlin, but is unfortunately suffering from the deadly disease called A.L.S., yep ... the Ice Bucket Challenge 1. Slowly but surely in the past couple of years he's been losing all his muscular functions due to nerve cells in the brain and spine deteriorating. Fuck! But Beano is not giving up on life, and he has got a huge family of friends to support him. After the first three successful benefit concerts in London, Leeds, and Dublin, it was only logical to hold the next one in his home club **Wild at Heart** in Berlin. Eight incredible bands, again many that Beano has played in or with, provided two incredible nights of finest punk-rock with all proceeds going to help make Beano's life a little more comfortable. Huge thanks to all the bands: U.K.'s **BACK-STREET ABORTIONS**, Berlin's **CHURCH OF CONFIDENCE**, Scotland's **FIRE EXIT** and **VARUKERS**, also from the U.K., Berlin's **TOTENWALD**, Sunderland's **RED ALERT**, **PARANOID VISIONS** from Dublin, and **THE OUTCASTS** from Belfast. Thanks to the hundreds that showed up, donated, had a wonderful time, and seriously deleted the alcohol reserves in Kreuzberg. Special thanks to Uli & Lea from Wild at Heart, all their staff and workers, Beano's caretakers, and the other promoters, too. Please, go to my Facebook page and look at the spectacular photos from this special event to get a feel for what went down. Beano, we love you! Hang tough, mate!

wildatheartberlin.de • fb.com/sponge.pix

Another example of support took place there a month earlier too. Bassist **Citizen Pain** from Berlin's best glam-punk-rock-disco band **EAT LIPSTICK** has cancer. She's decided to treat it herself with alternative treatment not covered by insurance. Once again, the punk rock family didn't hesitate to do a benefit show for her. Playing to a fully packed Wild at Heart, the bands **THE ROXIES**, **KAOS**, **THE VICTORIOUS SECRETS** and of course **EAT LIPSTICK** played their hearts out for Citizen Pain and the hundreds there to raise the needed money for her treatment. All proceeds and donations went to her. Wow! Amazing night, need I say more? Setting examples for the other music genres to follow.

fb.com/eatlipstickrocks • fb.com/thevictorioussecrets
fb.com/theroxiesberlin

Next up, off to one of the oldest locations in my earlier Berlin punk days, **Clash**, known back then as X in Mehringhof. It's run by two of the sweetest punks I know,

Robin & Stephan, always a treat to go there. Tonight, for me, because of the opening band this time, **MUTTIS LIEBLINGE**. Yes, Mutti, from Mutti's Booking with his band that hasn't played for almost 20 years, which is the last time I saw them. I had to go! Still great and lots of fun, fine punk-rock covers. Stayed for the rest of the night, too, being fed free beer from Stephan is always nice. **ALLEE THE DIKTATOREN** from Berlin were impressive, my type of music. Tight, sometimes sarcastic and entertaining punk rock poetry with a great show and dialog. Headliners **FAHNENFLUCHT** from Niederrhein, demonstrating over 20 years as a top anti-fa-polit-punk force, perfect for the present crowd tonight. Great!

clash-berlin.de • muttis-booking.de
fahnenfucht.com • fb.com/alleederdiktatoren

SO36 Berlin, the legendary club where I spent my next two nights. (I went home to sleep though). My melodic-hardcore homeboys from Orange County, **IGNITE**, finally made it back over with their new singer. Is ex-front man Zoli replaceable? Hell yeah! **Eli Santana** is incredible and full of energy. Different look and voice, but still fitting for the IGNITE sound. Opening were Berlin's **UNITED AND STRONG**, and **BERTHOLD CITY** from Los Angeles, who were snuck over in IGNITE's suitcases. Singer just happens to be **Andrew Kline**, guitarist from **STRIFE**. Finally a sweaty stage-diving hardcore night which I have really missed lately.

mad-tourbooking.com • fb.com/igniteband
unitedandstrong.de

Last up, and a real highlight as always, **RUTS DC!** What these three „older“ punk rock gentlemen perform on the stage, should be a lesson to bands of all generations past, present, and future. Over 40 years as a band, and still the energy, youth, and class remain as if we're back in 1977. Incredible show with all their hits like „Babylon's burning“, „In a rut“, „Staring at the rude boys“ and many more to dance to. The opening band **MORE KICKS** I just missed, heard they were great. Fortunately, I did make it on time to see East Berlin's **PLANLOS**, who back in 1983 helped pioneer the DDR punk music scene, which took a lot of balls then. Forty years ago, they played a secret concert at a church in East Berlin with **DIE TOTEN HOSEN**, and this year in front of 60.000 with **DIE TOTEN HOSEN** at Tempelhof Airport. Respect well deserved. Tonight, at SO36, just plain killer!

so36.de • rutscd.com • fb.com/planlos.eastside

I'm outta here, stay safe. **FUCK CANCER!**
Yer Sponge