

Westie names daughter after Rolling Stone



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Rolling Stones fan Richard Fox in his room containing his massive collection of Rolling Stones memorabilia. Photo / Jason Oxenham.

A West Aucklander who named his daughter after the drummer of the Rolling Stones is one of three Kiwis who can lay claim to being among the country's biggest music fans.

Richard Fox of Titirangi remembers the exact moment he became entranced by his favourite band: "I was in my mate's car in Rotorua. School had just finished. He threw on *Sticky Fingers* by The Rolling Stones. The energy, the lyrics, the sax, dirty rock songs...!"

By day, Richard draws maps for a living. By night, he collects "anything with a tongue on it." A dedicated room, the Voodoo Lounge houses in excess of 1000 Rolling Stones CDs, over 500 vinyl albums, 300 T-shirts and the same number of books.

"I buy every version of an album. The Thai version, Japanese version, Starbucks-only version. In the lounge you'll find a Rolling Stones pinball machine, branded cups, lollipops, chocolate, wine, vodka, tequila, slippers, underwear, dressing gown, telephones, ice cube trays and beer cans."

"When we moved into our house, my wife asked for my list of must-haves. She suggested a nice view, or a garden. But she knew my answer before I opened my mouth - somewhere to put my Stones stuff."

Richard has seen the Stones 41 times in seven countries, the latest in Argentina: "They're the complete package. Huge personalities. People can name all of them."

Which served another purpose in Richard's household.

"I named my daughter Charlie after Charlie Watts. Her middle name is Jade, as in Mick Jagger's daughter. Mostly because I couldn't call her Mick, Ronnie or Keef..."

Richard can find pretty much all his beloved Stones' work (and about 30 million other songs) on Spotify - the premium version of which is included free (usually \$12.99 per month) if you are one of many eligible Spark mobile customers. They can join Spotify's NZ base of 550k people.

He and other ultra-enthusiasts, like Rebecca Slight, can collect all their music in one place. Rebecca was 12 when she first fell for Duran Duran but had to wait two decades to see them live in 2003. She soon made up for lost time. There was the Vector Arena show in 2008 and another performance in the UK in 2011. Three months later she convinced her hubby to fly her to Sydney to see them again.

In 2013, Rebecca teamed up with fans she found on social media. Back to Sydney they went to recreate a cover shoot for the album *Seven* and the *Ragged Tiger*.

A year later, it was Melbourne where 'Duranies' met to watch Duran Duran's 1984 tour doco *Sing Blue Sing*. Oh, and last September Rebecca abandoned the family to fly to the UK for the release of the band's 14th studio album, *The Paper Gods*.

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Who knew Duran Duran had so many albums? Spotify did.

Even major life events don't deter true music fans. Coleen Peri, 42, of New Plymouth recalls her Crazy Baby Concert Run when U2 performed *Vertigo* in Auckland in 2006.

"My son Will was only eight weeks old when I arranged for a nanny to look after him in an Auckland hotel room."

As with many enthusiasts, once is never enough. Coleen has seen U2 six times in New Zealand, once in Sydney and even lined up at The Staples Center in LA.

"Which sounds like torture," she laughs. "But music brings like-minded people together. I made friends for life in that 12 hours."

But why U2? "Their songs are raw, emotional; they're the soundtrack to my life. When I hear those tunes live, I struggle to find anything that beats that feeling. I've instructed my husband that *Bad from War* must be played at my funeral."

Rebecca, Coleen and Richard are no different to the rest of us. We all have our favourite songs and artists - which is where Spotify comes in. Thanks to Spark you can join the 100 million users worldwide who have embraced it.

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Most importantly, Spark are giving this service to customers for free on eligible mobile plans. Check to see if Spotify is already part of yours by following this [link](#).

Then have a listen to War, *Sticky Fingers* and *The Paper Gods* to see what the fuss is about. Or just stick to your faves...

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