

## Notes for Podcast 7

### 'Tears on the Console', Lazy Days and Steve Channing, 1975

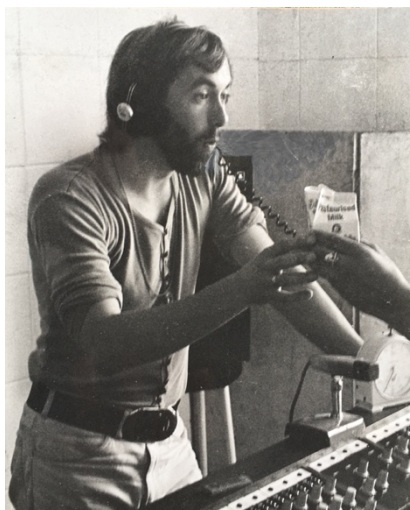
The decision to wind up Holyground and leave Cass Yard was not an easy one. Although the studio was now well-known in the area, it was still not a formal business - there was no official permission to have a recording studio on that site, and its presence relied on the good will of neighbours both residential and business.

Mike and Shirley wished to start a family and Cass Yard would have been most unsuitable, so they started to look for premises that would be suitable for a home and a studio. Sadly, after a great deal of hunting they found the only suitable premises were way beyond their limited means. An additional consideration was that around this time Dave Wood moved away to Halifax and could not be so involved.

At the time Mike was regularly recording a Leeds-based band, 'Lazy Days' and continuing to record Steve Channing who was writing and playing his own songs. Mike also had the lyrics written for several songs, which Steve wrote the music for. He suggested that Steve should record the songs with Lazy Days, and that this should be Holyground's 'swan song', the final album. So 'Tears on the Console' was released in 1976. Mike, Steve, and each member of the band were given pseudonyms, though the reason seems to have been lost in the mists of time! Although Lazy Days did not really have much chance to learn the songs, and Steve was not used to playing with such a band, the collaboration worked well, the album is remarkably cohesive and the songs exceptional.

The mention of sawing a Hammond Organ in two in the podcast is not quite correct - Mike notes that it was done when they were needing to take it back **down** the stairs.

Although the plans to buy a house and studio together had fallen through, Mike was contacted by Peter Casson a well-known hypnotist and entertainer who owned the Club Kiki at Kirk Sandall near Doncaster. Peter Casson proposed to use the club as a recording studio to be called 'AIM', with several independent producers investing in it. He offered a 16 track studio and equipment. It sounded an interesting opportunity, and for a short time Mike recorded there. But several of the other producers pulled out; Mike did not feel his expertise was respected, and he also pulled out.



#### More information:

<https://holyground.co.uk/tears/tearstrack.html>

*Steve Channing in the Holyground studio at 5 Cass Yard*