

LIFELINES

NAME

LINDA MCCARTNEY

INSTRUMENT

Keyboards

BIRTHDATE

September 24, 1941

HOMETOWN

New York

FIRST KISS

My dog Tinkerbell, I think.

CLAIM TO FAME

AT SCHOOL

My horseback riding.

FIRST MUSICAL INSTRUMENT

Piano.

FIRST PUBLIC PERFORMANCE

A piano recital when I was 10.

SESSION WORK

Eddie & The Hot Rods, James Taylor, Ringo Starr, Beatles (Let It Be).

FAVOURITE SINGER

Otis Redding.

FAVOURITE SONGWRITER

Neil Young, Bob Marley, Paul McCartney.

FAVOURITE KEYBOARD PLAYER

Professor Longhair.

FAVOURITE MCCARTNEY SONG

Daytime Nighttime Suffering, We Can Work It Out, Hey Jude, Maybe I'm Amazed, My Love.

MUSICAL EQUIPMENT

Keyboards: Yamaha D50, Yamaha A50, Wurlitzer, Mini Moog.

THE BEST THING ABOUT BEING

ON TOUR

The gig is the only good thing about touring.

THE WORST THING ABOUT BEING

ON TOUR

Being away from home.

FAVOURITE FOOD

Pasta and salad.

FAVOURITE DRINK

Fresh orange juice and still water.

WHAT WOULD YOU GO ON A

DEMONSTRATION FOR?

Against slaughtering and experimenting on animals, fish and chickens. For peace, against child abuse.

WHAT NEWSPAPER DO YOU BUY?

None.

THE LAST BOOK YOU READ

Double Feature by Terence Stamp.

FAVOURITE LINE FROM A FILM

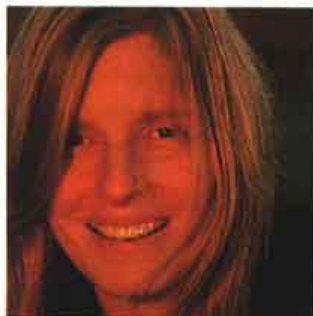
The bit in King Of Comedy where the woman asks Jerry Lewis to talk to her nephew. He says he's busy and she says, You should get cancer!

FAVOURITE SAYING

"What can I say? - my hands are tied."

SECRET AMBITION

To live to see peace for animals and the human animal and the environment.



"It's about us being together."

THE TOUR

"I was in two minds about coming on the tour. I'm pretty much in love with life and the thought of getting in and out of aeroplanes for months didn't excite me. But ... the thought of playing with Paul did. He wouldn't like to go off around the world without the family, the Missus.

"Obviously I was never in the band because Paul thought I was the world's greatest musician, it's about us being together. But I did do some work on my playing in the winter before we started rehearsals with this band.

"So I do know more now. But Wix is very helpful, he's a real friend. We could have got a keyboard player who thought, OK, I'll blow her away. We work as a team though. Wix, Chris and me, we're the back row - we have a laugh.

"In Wings I was the worst musician, but on the other hand I think I had the most fun up there. When I started I only knew a few chords. But now, well, I could play in a punk band at least, I could even lead a band at pub or village hall level - have a bit of a loon, that would be good.



TEENS

"I was into R & B in high school back in the '50s. At home in Scarsdale, New York - which was out in the countryside then, although it's a suburb now - I listened to the Alan Freed rock 'n' roll show on the radio every night of the week, 7 to 10. He never played a bad record. The Dells, The Doves, The Moonglows, I was into them all. I wasn't in a band but me and some of the girls used to sing doowop together for fun up in our school's Music Tower. I never thought about being a musician, the same as I never thought about being a photographer before it happened.



WINGS

"The first thing I ever did was with The Beatles. I sang harmonies on Let It Be. It was supposed to be me and Mary Hopkin, but she had to go home.

"With Wings it was very hard times for me when we began. Paul got made fun of because of me, Mick Jagger saying, 'I wouldn't take my old lady on the road,' that kind of thing. It was very brave of Paul to do it, I think.

"Looking back on the Wings line-ups in the '70s I have to say this is a much better band. Very reliable, very into it. They've been chosen for their musicianship and also because they don't have a destructive attitude. Back then there was a lot of booze around, everyone thought they were hot I guess. The thing is when Paul put Wings together he was desperate - because of The Beatles breaking up. They'd grown up together, they liked each other. We didn't know anything about putting a new band together, picking people who could relate to one another. Really we just took the first people who came along. However I think the '76 line-up was great.

ANIMALS

"I've written a couple of songs against vivisection with Carla Lane. We've been asked to do an album, but I don't know whether that will ever happen. But I have written a vegetarian cookbook which will be out soon and that might show a few more people that you really can eat well without eating meat. I remember when we became vegetarians it was very sudden because we just looked at a leg of lamb I was cooking and realised where it came from and we couldn't eat it any more. It was a couple of months before I figured out what to do about the gap on our dinner plates where the chops used to be.



PHOTOGRAPHY

"I picked up photography in the South-West of America but never thought of it professionally until later.

"I started off accidentally. In about 1964 I got a job at a magazine called Town & Country, just answering the phone and doing some paperwork. They'd never let me go out on a photo shoot, but then this invitation came to meet The Rolling Stones on a yacht moored on the Hudson river. I was the one opening the mail and I hid it in my drawer - but when they found it they let me go. I took my Pentax and I stood there on the quay with my long blonde hair and, I guess, a mini-skirt. I must have caught the band's eye because a woman came down the gangway and said I was the only photographer they would allow on board. I got well into it, using black and white.

"Then back on the quay all the journalists came up and gave me their cards because they needed the pictures. I got them back from the lab and, lo!, they were wonderful. After that I started to get a lot of work with bands like the Jimi Hendrix Experience, Lovin' Spoonful, The Doors, Jefferson Airplane, The Grateful Dead and The Beatles. One reason is, I was the cheapest photographer in town! Give me a credit and pay for the film and I'd do it!



"But pretty soon I left my job at the magazine and there I was working for myself. The Fillmore East made me their staff photographer for a while which was where I got a lot of experience. It wasn't straightforward publicity stuff, I was looking for character, trying to really get inside the people I was shooting.

"Finally it led to me meeting Paul. I was commissioned to do some shots for a book called Rock And Other Four-Letter Words. I wanted to do Steve Winwood and The Beatles so I flew to England. Island let me shoot the first ever session with Traffic. Then I went to see Brian Epstein. He liked some pictures of Brian Jones I'd done so he asked me to take pictures of The Beatles. I met Paul at a club whilst watching Georgie Fame & The Blue Flames ...

"Then I went home and became a real New York photographer for a while. It was nerve-racking but fabulous."