

THE OFFICIAL UK CHARTS

CHART FOCUS

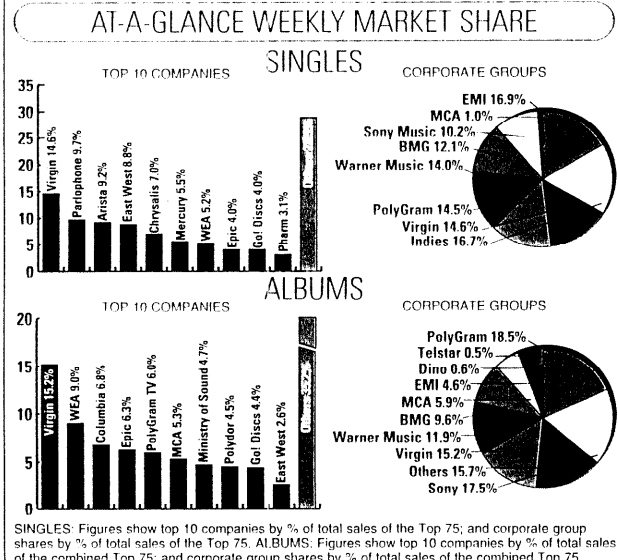
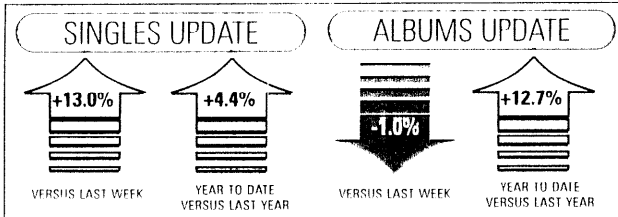


The game of musical chairs at the top of the singles chart continues, with **Blur** becoming the fourth residents in as many weeks, debuting in pole position with **Beetlebum**, which sold 120,000 copies last week. Their 17th hit, it's the sixth in a row to reach the Top 10 – a sequence started by their only previous number one, 1995's **Country House**.

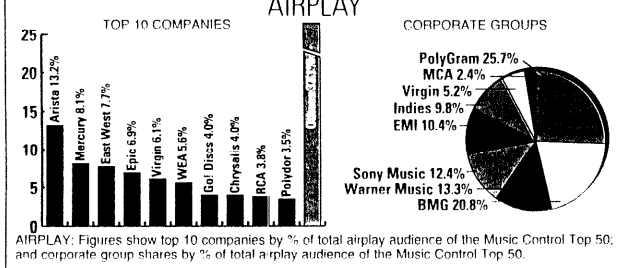
Blur's arrival ends the reign of **White Town**'s **Your Woman** after just one week, a week in which **White Town** – **Jyoti Mishra** – has experienced both the joy of having a number one and the pain of the tabloid press at its most unpalatable. Alongside unflattering snatched pictures of him in specs and voluminous anorak, they have dubbed Mishra "the nerd from nowhere" and poked their noses into his love life. Regardless of jibes, **Your Woman** sold a further 90,000 copies last week, and is becoming increasingly popular with radio (it moved from number nine up to number four on the airplay chart) despite its lyrics. Quite apart from slipping "cut the crap" into them, Mishra mysteriously sings the song from a wholly female perspective, making it the first gender reversal record to reach number one. The previous hit of this kind was **Joan Jett**'s **The Night They Drove Old Dixie Down**, a number six hit from 1971 on which she assumed the role of a man called **Virgil Cain**.

George Michael snares his fourth consecutive top three hit from his older album with the single of the same name, which is now a double A-side, sharing top billing with **I Can't Make You Love Me** – not on the album – which was originally a number 18 hit in America for **Bonnie Raitt** exactly five years ago. **George**'s **Older** album has moved up the chart again in recent weeks as the single has gained exposure but holds at number nine this week. It has sold over 1.5m units in this country, and more than 6.2m worldwide in the past nine months.

Walk On By is one of 30 **Burt Bacharach** and **Hal David** songs which were American hits for **Dionne Warwick**. It also gave her her first major and most enduring British hit, reaching number nine in 1964, and has since taken on a life of its own, attracting more than 200 covers. The latest, by **Gabrielle**, debuts at number seven this week. It's the sixth consecutive recording of **Walk On By** to reach the chart, a tally topped only by seven hit versions of **Unchained Melody** and eight of **White Christmas**. It has also been a hit for **D-Train**, **The Stranglers**, **The Average White Band** and **Sybil**, whose 1990 version peaked at number six, the highest placing for any recording of the song.



SINGLES: Figures show top 10 companies by % of total sales of the Top 75; and corporate group shares by % of total sales of the Top 75. ALBUMS: Figures show top 10 companies by % of total sales of the combined Top 75; and corporate group shares by % of total sales of the combined Top 75.



AIRPLAY: Figures show top 10 companies by % of total airplay audience of the Music Control Top 50; and corporate group shares by % of total airplay audience of the Music Control Top 50.

Madonna's **Don't Cry For Me Argentina** slips from number seven to 12 but the success of the film – number one in the movie charts – has hoisted the soundtrack album to number one for the first time in its 13-week chart career. It triumphs by a small margin this week, relegating **Spice Girls**' **Spice LP** to number two. In America, as here, the movie has been a bigger success than anticipated, and the soundtrack has soared there too, moving 12-7-2 in the past fortnight, though it will have a tough time unseating the **No Doubt** album **Tragic Kingdom**, which is number one there for the seventh week in a row.

Some records take a while to become the hits that record companies want them to be, while others never make it, no matter how hard or how often they try. In the latter category is **Martine Grotto**'s **Revival**. First released on the indie **Opaz** label in 1991, it rapidly established itself as a modern soul classic, though it failed to chart. A subsequent re-release on **ffrr** reached number 53. A year later it reached number 37. Now licensed to **RCA**, it was reissued again last week but struggled, and debuts at number 61 this week. Good as it is, it may be time to accept that **Revival** is never going to be a big hit.

Alan Jones



It's second week at the top of the airplay chart, **Texas**' **Say What You Want** establishes a commanding lead,

registering 262 more plays and a 20% bigger audience than any other record, although at **Radio One** it tumbles 2-13, not least because its most enthusiastic supporter (one **Chris Evans**) is no longer at the station. Aside from **Radio One**, it earns its biggest audience at **Capital**, where it was played 53 times last week, just one fewer than the station's top spin, **White Town**'s **Your Woman**.

Last week it looked as if **I Can't Make You Love Me** was going to soar away from **Older** as the most popular track on **George Michael**'s **Older EP**, but that hasn't happened. In fact, **I Can't...** falls a notch to number 44 while **Older** climbs 59-53. With **Fast Love** at number 77 and **Spinning The Wheel** at number 88, **Michael** is, and has been for several weeks, the only artist with four titles among radio's Top 100.

Radio One played six different songs 26 times last week but only one secured 27 plays. That was **The Blue Boys**' **Remember Me**, which accordingly soars 15-1 on the station. Though it registered a further 91 plays elsewhere, **Radio One** accounted for 90% of its total audience impressions, helping it to move 42-30 nationally. **Placebo**'s **Nancy Boy** – another high-flying **CIN** chart entry – was even more reliant on **Radio One**, which contributed 26 of its 53 plays on the **Music Control** panel and over 99% of its audience. **Remember Me** is an established club hit, and would have made the Top 40 even without **Radio One**'s support, but **Placebo** would have struggled without the national network's patronage.

Sheryl Crow's **Everyday Is A Winding Road** is showing signs of fatigue after a 13-week run on the chart. Last week it slipped 13-21, a decline that accelerates this week as it plunges to number 39. As it does so, however, it moves serenely to the top of the **Atlantic 252** list with 56 plays. The days when **Atlantic 252** would give its most rotated record 100 plays or more are long gone, and few records now top 60 plays a week there. Even so, the influential long wave broadcaster delivered nearly 40% of **Crow**'s overall audience for **Everyday...** last week.

Finally, though its debut at the top of the sales chart was widely forecast, **Blur**'s **Beetlebum** is not one of their biggest radio hits. Their only previous number one sales hit, **Country House**, was also a number one on the airplay chart. **Beetlebum** won't be. It moved 33-22 this week, much of this gain being due to increased **Radio One** exposure.

Alan Jones

THE UK'S OFFICIAL CHART SOURCE

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RockBase

25 JANUARY 1997

This Week	Last Week	Title Artist (Producer)	Label/CD (Distributor) Cass/Vinyl	Chart
1	1	SPICE ★7 Spice Girls (Absolute/Stannard/Rowe)	VIRGIN CDV 2812 (E) TCV 2812/V 2812	26
2	2	EVITA (OST) ● Various (Wright/Parker/Webber/Caddick)	Warner Bros 9362464322 (W) 9362464324/-	27
3	3	BLUE IS THE COLOUR ★4 The Beautiful South (Kelly)	Go!Discs 8288452 (F) 8288454/8288451	28
4	4	FALLING INTO YOU ★6 Celine Dion (Stenberg/Novels/Goldman/Wake/Foster/Stemman/Gatica/Novak)	Epic 4837922/4837924/- (SM) 5237874/-	29
5	5	OCEAN DRIVE ★3 Lighthouse Family (Peden)	Wild Card/Polydor 5237872 (F) 5237874/-	30
6	6	TRAVELLING WITHOUT MOVING ★2 Jamiroquai (Kay/Stone/M Beat)	2Sony S2 4839999 (SM) 4839994/4839991	31
7	7	EVERYTHING MUST GO ★ Manic Street Preachers (Hedges/Hague/Erinag)	Epic 4839302 (SM) 4839304/4839301	32
8	8	GREATEST HITS ★3 Simply Red (Levino/Hucknall)	East West 0630165522 (W) 0630165524/-	33
9	9	OLDER ★4 George Michael (Michael/Douglas)	Virgin CDV 2802 (E) TCV 2802/V 2802	34
10	10	SECRETS ★ Toni Braxton (Babyface/Various)	LaFace 73008260202 (BMG) 73008260204/73008260201	35
11	11	K ★2 Kula Shaker (Leckie/Mills/Shep/Dodge)	Columbia SHAKER 1CDK (SM) SHAKER 1MC/SHAKER 1LP	36
12	12	SHERYL CROW ★ Sheryl Crow (Crow)	A&M 5406092 (F) 5405904/-	37
13	13	THE SCORE ★3 Fugees (Prakazrel-Pras)	Columbia 4835492 (SM) 4835494/4835491	38
14	14	DREAMLAND ★ Robert Miles (Miles)	Deconstruction 74321391262 (BMG) 74321391264/74321391261	39
15	15	JAGGED LITTLE PILL ★7 Alanis Morissette (Morissette/Ballard)	Maverick/Reprise 9362459012 (W) 9362459014/9362459011	40
16	16	RECURRING DREAM - THE VERY BEST OF ★3 Crowded House (Finn/Finn/Froom/Youth)	Capitol CDESTX 2283 (E) TCEST 2283/EST 2283	41
17	17	AROUND THE WORLD - THE JOURNEY SO FAR ★2 East 17 (Harding/Curnow/Kean/Stannard/Mortimer/Various)	London 8288522 (F) 8288504/-	42
18	18	DIZZY HEIGHTS ● Lightning Seeds (Basccombe/Broudie/Rogers)	Epic 4866402 (SM) 4866404/-	43
19	19	GREATEST HITS - FEEL THE NOISE Stade (Chandler/Lea)	Polydor 5371052 (F) 5371054/-	44
20	20	ROBSON & JEROME ★6 Robson Green & Jerome Flynn (Stock/Aitken/Wright)	RCA 74321323902 (BMG) 74321323904/-	45
21	21	COMING UP ● Suede (Buller)	Nude 4851292 (3MV/V) NUDE 6MC/NUDE 6LP	46
22	22	WHAT'S THE STORY? MORNING GLORY? ★12 Oasis (Morris/Gallagher)	Creation (3MV/V) CRECD 189/CORE 189/CRELP 189	47
23	23	TAKE TWO ★4 Robson & Jerome (Wright/Stock/Aitken)	RCA 74321426252 (BMG) 74321426254/-	48
24	24	MOSELEY SHOALS ★3 Ocean Colour Scene (Lynch/Ocean Colour Scene)	MCA MCD 60008 (BMG) MCC 60008/MCA 60008	49
25	25	A DIFFERENT BEAT ★2 Boyzone (Hedges/Harding/Curnow/Wake)	Polydor 5337422 (F) 5337424/-	50
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PLATINUM (300,000) GOLD (100,000) SILVER (50,000)
 ▲ Panel sales increase
 ▲ Panel sales increase 50% or more
 ● CIN Produced with BPI and BARB cooperation. Compiled from actual sales last Sunday. Saturday in a panel of more than 2,000 stores across the UK.
 BPI awards are made on combined unit sales of cassettes, CDs and LPs. LPs and cassettes with a published dealer price of £3.49 or below and CDs at £5.99 or below require twice the sales quantity quoted above to obtain an award.

TOP COMPILATIONS

This Week	Last Week	Title Artist	Label/CD (Distributor) Cass/Vinyl
1	1	THE ANNUAL II - PETE TONG & BOY GEORGE ★ Ministry Of Sound ANNCD 96/ANNMC 96/- (3MV/SM)	
2	2	THE NO 1 MOTOWN ALBUM PolyGram TV 5307642/5307644/- (F)	
3	3	NOW THAT'S WHAT I CALL MUSIC! 35 ★5 EMI/Virgin/PolyGram CDNOW 35/TCNOW 35/NOW 35 (E)	
4	4	HITS 97 warner.esp/Global TV/Sony TV MOODCD 49/MOODC 49/- (SM)	
5	5	TRANSPOTTING (OST) ★2 EMI Premier CDEMCD 3739/TCMCD 3739 (E)	
6	6	THE BEST SIXTIES ALBUM IN THE WORLD...EVER! II ★ Virgin VTDCD 106/VTDMC 106/- (E)	
7	7	HEARTBEAT - NUMBER 1 LOVE SONGS OF '60S ★ RCA/Global Television RADCD 46/RADMC 46/- (BMG)	
8	8	CLUB MIX 97 ● PolyGram TV 5532012/5532014/- (F)	
9	9	THE ALL TIME GREATEST LOVE SONGS... ● Columbia SONYTV 21CD/SONYTV 21MC/- (SM)	
10	10	THE ANTHEMS '92-'97 United Dance UMCD 003/UMMC 003/UMLP 003 (P)	
11	11	THE ULTIMATE PARTY ANIMAL Global Television RADCD 47/RADMC 47/- (BMG)	
12	12	WORLD DANCE - THE DRUM + BASS EXPERIENCE Various Artists Firm MC10/FIRMCM10/-	
13	13	THE LOVE ALBUM III ★ Virgin VTDCD 104/VTDMC 104/- (E)	
14	14	DANCE TIP 2000 warner.esp/Global TV RADCD 50/RADMC 50/- (BMG)	
15	15	THE GREATEST CLASSICAL MOVIE ALBUM Telstar TCD2880 (BMG) STAC2880/-	
16	16	SMASH HITS MIX 97 ● Virgin VTDCD 110 (E) VTDMC 110/-	
17	17	THE BEST 60S ALBUM IN THE WORLD...EVER! I ★ Virgin VTDCD 66/VTDMC 66/- (E)	
18	18	THIS YEAR'S LOVE (WILL LAST FOREVER) XXX Sony TV/Global TV MOODCD 48/MOODC 48/- (SM)	
19	19	HUGE HITS 1996 ● warner.esp/Global TV/Sony TV MOODCD 50/MOODC 50/- (SM)	
20	20	HITS ZONE '97 ● PolyGram TV 5531872 (F) 5531874/-	

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