



# THE OFFICIAL UK CHARTS

# CHART FOCUS



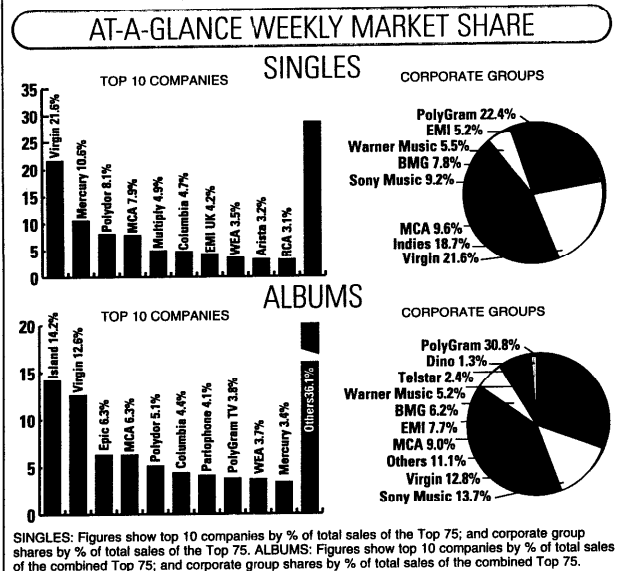
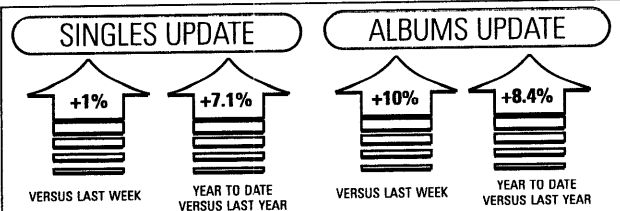
**T**he Spice Girls become the first act in chart history to open their account with four consecutive number one singles, debuting in pole position with *Mama/Who Do You Think You Are*, which sold 248,000 copies last week. Of their previous number ones, *Wannabe* sold 175,000 in its peak week compared to 355,000 for *Say You'll Be There* and 498,000 for *2 Become 1*. All of the Spice Girls hits are on their debut album *Spice*, which thus becomes the second album – after *Take That's Everything Changes* – and the first debut album to yield four number ones. That the fourth single from an album which itself has sold two million copies can sell so well is a mark of how popular the Spice Girls are at present – though its charity status may also be a factor. Artists' royalties from the disc are going to Comic Relief. It's the 16th number one single for charity since 1984.

Number one in America for the fourth week in a row with *Wannabe*, the Spice Girls are also the first act to simultaneously top the UK and US singles listings with different songs since *Tiffany* who was number one here with *I Think We're Alone Now* and number one Stateside with *Could've Been* for a fortnight in 1988.

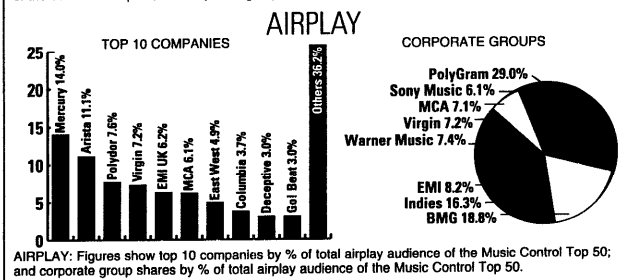
**Mark Morrison** is also making chart history. A year to the week since *Return Of The Mack* kick-started his singles chart career, he registers his fifth Top 10 hit with *Moan & Groan*. All five singles are on Morrison's debut album, also entitled *Return Of The Mack*. No other debut album has contained five Top 10 hits – but the Spice Girls, inevitably, are tracking this one too.

The *Bee Gees' Alone* is consolidating well. It has held down fifth position in the singles chart for three weeks, while selling 170,000 copies. Their 14th top five hit in total, it will be their biggest-selling single since their 1987 chart-topper *You Win Again* and helps their 1990 album *The Very Best Of The Bee Gees* to soar 30-6 this week, beating the number eight peak it attained when originally released.

While *No Doubt* lose pole position on the singles chart with *Don't Speak*, it is now the best-selling single of the year to date, replacing *No Mercy's Where Do You Go*. The latter track, originally recorded by *La Bouche* in 1995, is one of several interrogative titles in the art lacking a question mark, the others being the Spice Girls' *Who Do You Think You Are*, *Eternal's Don't You Love Me*, *The Blue Boy's Remember Me*, *Spearhead's Why Oh Why* and *Michelle Gayle's Do You Know*. Only *Monaco* conform to convention with *What Do You Want*



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.

**From Me?**

On a similar note, **U2** top the album chart for the sixth time with *Pop* – as opposed to *Erasure's* 1992 "best of" album *Pop!* – after selling 152,000 copies of the album last week – not bad, but not the *Joshua Tree*, which sold 235,000 in its first week in 1987 or *Rattle & Hum*, which opened with 360,000 in 1988 – both then records. The only group with more number one albums than **U2** are *The Beatles* (13), *The Rolling Stones* (10), *Abba* and *Queen* (nine apiece), *Led Zeppelin* (eight) and *Genesis* (seven).

The *Beatles'* sales explosion, noted last week continues. Part of an EMI

Centenary campaign which includes more than 100 albums and is industry-wide (not just at Virgin, as stated here last week), it brings several *Beatles* albums their highest chart positions in years. In descending order, the albums selling best are *Abbey Road* (number 42), *Sergeant Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band* (76), *Revolver* (81), *Rubber Soul* (82), *Yellow Submarine* (109), *Magical Mystery Tour* (122), *A Hard Day's Night* (134), *Let It Be* (135) and *Beatles For Sale* (136). Other artists whose back catalogue is experiencing a big increase in sales include *Diana Ross*, *Pink Floyd* and *David Bowie*.

Alan Jones



For the second week in a row **No Doubt's Don't Speak** has registered the highest number of plays in the history of the airplay chart. It's up only slightly this week from 1902 to 1917. With an audience of nearly 69m, it was heard over 30% more than the new number two, *Eternal's Don't You Love Me*. Completing a top three made up entirely of "Don't" songs, *En Vogue's Don't Let Go (Love)* is, amazingly, still increasing its audience. Its plays are up for the 11th week in a row, reaching a new high of 1619.

The *Spice Girls* are the first act to have both sides of a double A-sided hit in the Top 30 at the same time – and *Who Do You Think You Are* has taken the initiative in a big way. Last week *Mama* led the way, ranking 16th with 702 plays against *Who Do You Think You Are's* 42nd place and 439 plays. The latter track explodes this week, moving 42-8 with 996 plays, while *Mama* eases off a little, dipping 16-29 with 628 plays. The combined audiences of the two tracks give the single give an overall profile inferior only to *Don't Speak*.

*Beck's New Pollution* sprints 7-1 at *Radio One* after winning 31 spins last week – the highest of any record so far this year at the station. It sparks a 28-12 rise for *Beck* on the all-stations chart, though *New Pollution's* tally of 345 plays is superior to only six other records in the Top 50.

Of all the records in the chart, the one enjoying least airplay is the much-fancied *Fountains Of Wayne* whose debut Atlantic single *Radiation Vibe* moves 66-45, even though it received just 45 plays last week. *Radio One* gave it 22 plays compared to a mere 23 from all other stations on the *Music Control* panel. *Radio One* plays provided over 97% of the record's radio audience – though it is also getting useful TV exposure from the *Beeb* too – it achieved the rare double of being aired on consecutive BBC2 shows on Sunday (*The O-Zone* and *TOTP2*). *Lisa Stansfield's* new single *The Real Thing* is getting more plays – 1064 – than all but five records but is struggling to make an impact at larger stations, hence its low (number 33) ranking in the chart.

*Rock/dance* hybrid *Republica's Ready To Go* joins the *Eels' Novocaine For The Soul* at the top of the *Virgin 1215* playlist with both records being played 39 times last week. *Ready To Go* rather took radio by surprise when it entered the sales chart, but they've been catching up ever since. The record has moved 41-31-15-9 on the airplay chart since making its sales chart debut.

Alan Jones

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# THE UK'S OFFICIAL CHART SOURCE



# TOP 75 ALBUMS cin

15 MARCH 1997

HIGHEST ENTRY	This Week	Last Week	Wks	Title Artist (Producer)	Label/CD (Distributor) Cass/Vinyl
1	NEW			<b>POP</b> ★ U2 (Flood)	ISLAND CIDU 210 (F) UC 210/U 210
△ 2	1	16		<b>SPICE</b> ★ 7 Spice Girls (Absolute/Stannard/Rowe)	Virgin CDV 2812 (E) TCV 2812/V 2812
3	2	42		<b>EVERYTHING MUST GO</b> ★ 2 Manic Street Preachers (Hedges/Hague/Eringa)	Epic 4839302 (SM) 4839304/4839301
4	NEW			<b>B-SIDES, SEASIDES &amp; FREERIDES</b> Ocean Colour Scene (Lynch/Rivers/Ocean Colour Scene)	MCA MCD 60034 (BMG) MCC 60034/-
△ 5	3	54		<b>OCEAN DRIVE</b> ★ 4 Lighthouse Family (Peden)	Wild Card/Polydor 5237872 (F) 5237874/-
HIGHEST CLIMBER				<b>VERY BEST OF THE BEE GEES</b> ★ 2 Bee Gees (Gibb/Gibb/Gibb/Variouis)	Polydor 8473392 (F) 8473394/-
△ 7	14	19		<b>EVITA (OST)</b> ★ Various (Wright/Parker/Wabber/Caddick)	Warner Bros 9362464322 (W) 9362464324/-
△ 8	11	34		<b>DREAMLAND</b> ★ Robert Miles (Miles)	Deconstruction 74321429742 (BMG) 74321429744/74321429741
9	8	43		<b>OLDER</b> ★ 5 George Michael (Michael/Douglas)	Virgin CDV 2802 (E) TCV 2802/V 2802
10	NEW			<b>THE HEALING GAME</b> ○ Van Morrison (Morrison)	Exile/Polydor 5371012 (F) 5371014/5371011
11	10	25		<b>K</b> ★ 2 Kula Shaker (Leckie/Mills/Shep/Dodge)	Columbia SHAKER 1CDK (SM) SHAKER 1MC/SHAKER 1LP
12	7			<b>TRAGIC KINGDOM</b> ● No Doubt (Wildner)	Interscope IND 90003 (BMG) INC 90003/-
△ 13	15	20		<b>BLUE IS THE COLOUR</b> ★ 4 The Beautiful South (Kelly)	Go!Discs 8288452 (F) 8288454/8288451
14	12	26		<b>TRAVELLING WITHOUT MOVING</b> ★ 2 Jamiroquai (Kay/Stone/M Beat)	Z2ony S2 4839999 (SM) 4839994/4839991
15	4	3		<b>ATTACK OF THE GREY LANTERN</b> ● Mansun (Draपर)	Parlophone CDPCS 7387 (E) TCPCS 7387/PCS 7387
16	6	4		<b>THE SMURFS HITS '97 - VOLUME 1</b> ○ The Smurfs (Jackson/Corbett/Erkelens)	EMI TV CDEMTV 150 (E) TCMTV 150/-
17	5	4		<b>BEAUTIFUL FREAK</b> ● Eels (E/Simpson)	Dreamworks DRMD 50001 (BMG) DRMC 50001/-
△ 18	22	52		<b>FALLING INTO YOU</b> ★ 6 Celine Dion (Steinberg/Novels/Goldman/Waka/Foster/Steinman/Gatica/Novel)	Epic 4837922/4837924/- (SM) GEC 24908/BL 30
△ 19	29	20		<b>ODELAY</b> ● Beck (Dust Brothers/Beck/Rothrock/Schnapl/Caldato)	Geffen GED 24926 (BMG) GEC 24908/BL 30
20	16	5		<b>WHITE ON BLONDE</b> ● Texas (Texas/Hedges/Stewart/Rae & Christian/Boilerhouse Boys)	Mercury 5343152/5343154/- (F) 5343156/5343153
21	18	51		<b>THE SCORE</b> ★ 4 Fugees (Prakazrel-Pras)	Columbia 4835492 (SM) 4835494/4835491
22	NEW			<b>THE BOATMAN'S CALL</b> ● Nick Cave & The Bad Seeds (Nick Cave & The Bad Seeds/Road)	Mute CDSTUMM 142 (RTM/DISC) CSTUMM 142/STUMM 142
23	NEW			<b>THE VERY BEST OF</b> ● Elkie Brooks (Various)	PolyGram TV 5407122 (F) 5407124/-
△ 24	31	37		<b>RECURRING DREAM - THE VERY BEST OF</b> ★ 3 Crowded House (Finn/Finn/Froom/Youth)	Capitol CDESTX 2283 (E) TCSTX 2283/EST 2283
△ 25	24	37		<b>SECRETS</b> ★ Toni Braxton (Babyface/Variouis)	LaFace 73008260202 (BMG) 73008260204/73008260201

## TOP COMPILATIONS

HIGHEST ENTRY	This Week	Last Week	Wks	Title Artist	Label/CD (Distributor) Cass/Vinyl
1	NEW			<b>THE SOUL ALBUM</b> ●	Virgin VTDCD 115/VTDMC 115/- (E)
2	1	3		<b>CLUB MIX 97 - 2</b> ●	PolyGram TV 5533642/5533644/- (F)
3	5	2		<b>THE HOUSE COLLECTION - VOLUME 5</b>	Fantazia FHC 5CD/FHC 5MC/- (3MV/SM)
4	3	6		<b>IN THE MIX 97</b> ●	Virgin VTDCD 116/VTDMC 116/- (E)
5	2	4		<b>THE '97 BRIT AWARDS</b>	Columbia SONYTV 23CD/SONYTV 23MC/- (SM)
6	7	55		<b>TRAINSPOTTING (OST)</b> ★ 2	EMI Premier CDEMC 3739/TCMC 3739/EMC3739 (E)
7	NEW			<b>THE HITS ALBUM 1997</b>	Telstar TCD 2891/STAC 2891/- (BMG)
8	6	17		<b>THE ANNUAL II - PETE TONG &amp; BOY GEORGE</b> ★	Ministry Of Sound ANNCD 96/ANNMC 96/- (3MV/SM)
9	NEW			<b>GIRL POWER</b>	Global Television RADCD 56/RADMC 56/- (BMG)

10	9	6		<b>THE ULTIMATE LINE DANCING ALBUM</b>	Global Television RADCD 58/RADMC 58/- (BMG)
11	8	3		<b>SESSIONS SEVEN</b>	Ministry Of Sound MINCD 7/MINMC 7/MINLP 7 (3MV/SM)
12	11	5		<b>SIMPLY THE BEST LOVE SONGS</b>	warner.esp 9548351122/9548351124/- (W)
13	NEW			<b>CARL COX - FACT 2</b>	Worldwide Ultimatum 0091022 COX/0091024 COX/0091026 COX (P)
14	13	2		<b>ONCE IN A LIFETIME</b>	Telstar TCD 2889/STAC 2889/- (BMG)
15	12	16		<b>NOW THAT'S WHAT I CALL MUSIC! 35</b> ★ 5	EMI/Virgin/PolyGram CDNOV 35/TCNOV 35/NOV 35 (E)
16	10	4		<b>THE MOTHER OF ALL SWING MIX ALBUMS</b>	Telstar TCD 2890/STAC 2890/- (BMG)
17	16	9		<b>THE NO 1 MOTOWN ALBUM</b> ●	PolyGram TV 5307642/5307644/- (F)
18	15	5		<b>AMOUR - THE ULTIMATE LOVE COLLECTION</b> ●	PolyGram TV 5533322/5533324/- (F)
19	14	13		<b>HITS 97</b> ★	warner.esp/Global TV/Sony TV MOODCD 49/MOODC 49/- (SM)
20	RE			<b>THE BEST SIXTIES ALBUM IN THE WORLD...EVER!!</b> ★	Virgin VTDCD 106/VTDMC 106/- (E)

PLATINUM (£50,000) GOLD (£10,000) SILVER (£5,000) RIP awards are made on combined sales of cassette, CDs and LPs and cassette with a published dealer price of £2.50 or below and CDs of £2.50 or below require twice the sales quantity quoted above to obtain an award.

△ Panel sales increase 50% or more

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## ARTISTS A-Z

911.....39	MICHAEL, George.....9
ALISHA'S ATTIC.....51	MILES, Robert.....18
APOLLO FOUR FORTY.....62	MORISSETTE, Aïna.....46
BACKSTREET BOYS.....50	MORRISON, Mark.....40
BADJ, Erykah.....66	MORRISON, Van.....10
BEATLES, The.....42	NO DOUBT.....12
BECK.....19	OASIS.....44
BEE GEES.....6	OCEAN COLOUR SCENE.....4,45
BOYZONE.....67	ORB, The.....47
BRAXTON, Toni.....25	PINK FLOYD.....52
BROOKS, Elkie.....23	PLACEBO.....71
BUSH.....41	PRODIGY, The.....65
CAVE, Nick & The BAD SEEDS.....22	QUEEN.....68
COMMITMENTS, The.....59	RADIOHEAD.....43
CROW, Sheryl.....27	REF.....37
CROWDED HOUSE.....24	REPUBLICA.....31
DION, Celine.....18,49	ROBSON & JEROME.....56,61
EELS.....17	SIMPLY RED.....33,74
ENTOMBED.....75	SKUNK ANANSIE.....32
FOLDS, Ben, FIVE.....30	SMURFS, The.....16
FUGEES.....41	SPACE.....35
FUN LOVIN' CRIMINALS.....28	SPICE GIRLS.....2
GABRIELLE.....28	STEWART, Rod.....54
GENE.....72	STOCKLEY, Miriam/LONDON PHILHARMONIC ORCH/JENKINS.....38
HIRSCHFELDER, David.....57	SUEDE.....53
HYPNOSIS.....34	TEXAS.....63
JAMES.....26	TURNER, Tina.....60
JAMIROQUAI.....14	U2.....1
JARRE, Jean Michel.....55	VARIOUS.....7
KULA SHAKER.....11	VEGA, Suzanne.....63
LIGHTHOUSE FAMILY.....5	WARREN G.....36
LIGHTNING SEEDS.....64	WAY, Anthony.....69
LL COOL J.....58	
MANIC STREET PREACHERS.....3	
MANSUN.....15	
MASSIVE ATTACK.....70	
MAXWELL.....73	