

Charlie Brown's - 158 Cumberland St.

In June 1965 the City of Toronto granted a license to Mrs. Barbara Johnson to open a coffee shop at 158 Cumberland St., the former site of the Inn of the Parking Lot. Shortly thereafter it opened as Charlie Brown's, with the Ugly Ducklings the featured opening band. From then until early 1967 the "Ducks" were the house band unless they had gigs elsewhere in Ontario, or were on tour. The club didn't last long; it appears to have closed in February '67. As did other coffee shops and clubs in this transitional time, it experimented with various music genres. In addition to R&B; folk and rock musicians could be found there.

Updated: October 17, 2022

1965

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| Jun 10 | In a Globe article titled "Yorkville to Add 3 Coffee Houses" | G&M Jun 10 th p.5 The Metropolitan Toronto Licensing Commission "awarded licenses to Mrs. Barbara Johnston for 158 Cumberland St., site of the former Inn on the Parking Lot" |
| Jun 12-14 | The Ugly Ducklings | From Dave Bingham's book <i>Noise from the North End</i> , p.58, referencing a flyer the band distributed before the gig: "GRAND OPENING - CHARLIE BROWN'S Introducing The UGLY DUCKLINGS, Friday June 12 - Sunday the 14 th . Cover charge \$1, First 20 people get in FREE! Door Opens at 8 p.m., music 9-12 p.m.". The book also references a display ad in the Tely's After Four section - to be added in this space after the COVID. |
| June | Other groups are brought in | Again from <i>Noise from the North End</i> , p.74, setting the stage (literally) for a series of other groups through the summer that alternated with the Ducks as they played suburban gigs. |

Jun 25-26

Swingin' Steptones

Tely Jun 24th p.11 An
"After Four" display
ad: dancing in the
"Juke-O-Teque Room"



Jun 29th

Recorded music and "Top Groups"

Tely Jul 29th p.14 "After Four" classifieds: again The "Juke-O-Teque Room". Dancing weekdays to records, Sat and Sun to top groups. The Beethoven Room features classical music by stereo. One Group, **Mild and Bitter** is referenced in Bingham's book (p.74-75). Robert Clumpus on Facebook commented: "My friend Martin Kelly told me that Kenny Brown passed this year (2020). I watched him and my brother Ron start their first band the Mild and Bitter in my basement at St. Andrews Rd. I would help them with equipment and watch them play At the Mynah Bird when Neil was there and Charlie Browns when The Ducks were there. They played Friday and the Ducks played Saturday.

Jul 1-3

The Whisky Sours

Star Jun 30th p.41 display ad

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|--------------------------------|---|--|
| Aug 13-15, 20-22, 27- 29 | The Sparrows | Tely Aug 14 th "What's Going On" column and following weekends: The Sparrows "warble" Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 8:30 pm |
| Sep 3-5 | The Ugly Ducklings (Fri /Sat) with Mild and Bitter (Sun) | Tely Sep 4 th "What's Going On" column: "known in Toronto as "the Village Group" specialize in rock music. The Beethoven Room still upstairs with classical music. Mild and Bitter added from Dave Bingham's book. Tely Sep 18 th 4th "What's Going On" column: scan too blurry. From here through the fall and winter the Ducks are advertised with some regularity, clearly remaining the house band |
| Oct 15-16 | The Plague (folk) | G&M Oct 15 th p.12 <i>"Sunday (the 17th) visitors are invited to bring their own records and listen to music in the Beethoven Room."</i> |
| Oct 29-30 | Terry Scott and the Tenants | G&M Oct 29 th p.14 |
| Nov 5-6 | The Ugly Ducklings | G&M Nov 5 th p.12 |
| Nov 12-13 | The Lovells | G&M Nov 12 th p.14 |
| Nov 19-20 | The Ugly Ducklings | G&M Nov 19 th p.12 |
| Nov 26-27 | The Outcasts of King City | G&M Nov 26 th p.14 |
| Dec 3-4 | The Shades | G&M Dec 3 rd p.14 "... a North Toronto rock group" |
| Dec 10-11 | The Ugly Ducklings | G&M Dec 10 th p.14 |
| Dec 17-18 | The Whisky Sours (Fri) The Shades (Sat) | G&M Dec 17 th p.14 |
| Dec 26 | The Shades | G&M Dec 24 th p.10 |
| Dec 31 | The Ugly Ducklings | G&M Dec 31 st p10 |

1966

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| 1966 | The Ugly Ducklings | In Dave Bingham's <i>Noise from the North End</i> Chapters 9-14. For much of the year and possibly into 1967 when Charlie Brown's closed, when not traveling, they remained the house band. They appear to have required no advertising. For the Ducks, 1966 appears to have been seminal. |
| Jan 7-8 | The Shades (Fri and Sat) | G&M Jan 7 th p.12 |
| Feb 4-5 | "Rock 'n' roll" | G&M Feb 4 th p.14 |
| Feb 18-19 | Bob Gibson | G&M Feb 18 th p.14: moving back to folk singing. |
| Mar 11-12 | Mild and Bitter | G&M Mar 11 th p.14 again folk |
| Mar 18-19 | All Five a rock and roll group (Fri) with Five of a Kind (Sat) | G&M Mar 18 th p.14 then back to rock |
| Mar 25-26 | The Plague (folk) | G&M Mar 25 th p.14 |
| Jun 17-18 | The New Breed (blues) | G&M Jun 17 th p.12 |
| Jun 24-25 | The Place (blues) | G&M Jun 24 th p.12 |
| Jul 22-23 | The Knacks (folk) | G&M Jul 22 nd p.10 |
| Jul 29-30 | The Wee Beasties | G&M Jul 29 th p.10 http://www.canuckistanmusic.com/index.php?maid=595 |
| Aug 12-14 | The New Breed (Fri) The Wild Children (Sat) Birds of Paradise (Sun) | G&M Aug 12 th p.10 |
| Sep 8-11 | The Creeps | |

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|-----------------|---|---|
| Sep 16-17 | The Collectors | G&M Sep 16 th p.12 |
| Sep 30-Oct 1 | The New Breed (Fri) The Hyreafter (Sat) | Tely Sep 29 After Four classified p.12 |
| Oct 7-9 | The Masters Five | Tely Oct 6 th After Four classified p.12 |
| Oct 14-15 | The Wee Beasties (Fri) The Collectors (Sat) | Tely Oct 13 th After Four classified p.12 |
| Nov 4-5 | The Wee Beasties (Fri) These Things (Sat) | Tely Nov 3 rd After Four classified p.12 |
| Nov 11-12 | A "16 hour dance" with four groups; letting the display ad speak for itself | Tely Nov 10 th p.12 After Four classified |

16 HR. DANCE!
2 p.m. Fri., 6 a.m. Sat.
Nov. 11th Nov. 12th
 (Continuous)
4
Great Groups
 1. THE WEE BEASTIES
 2. THESE THINGS
 3. THE NEW BREED
 4. THE COLLECTORS
 Breakfast At 5 a.m.
CHARLIE BROWN'S
Coffee House
 150 Cumberland St.
 YORKVILLE VILLAGE

Dec 3 **These Things** and
 The New Breed

Dec 9-10 **The Wee Beasties** (Fri)
 The New Breed (Sat)

Dec 16-17 **The New Breed** (Fri)
 The Hyreafter (Sat)

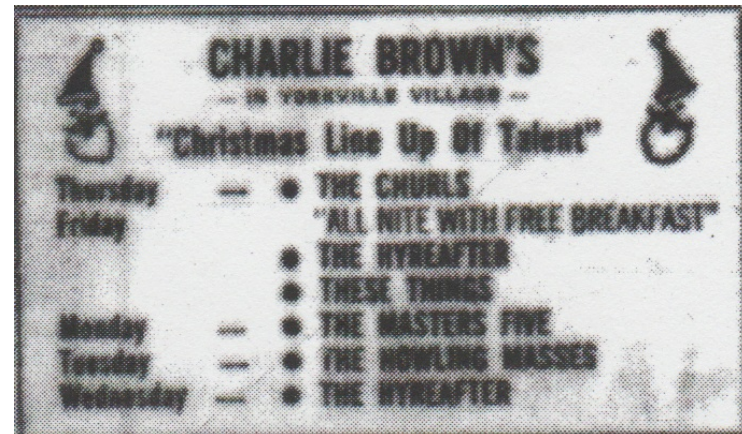
Dec 23-24, *"Christmas Line Up Of Talent"*
26-28 display ad

Tely Dec 1st After Four classified p.10
 "Saturday 9 pm until dawn"

Tely Dec 8th After Four classified

Tely Dec 15th After Four classified, p.10

Tely Dec 22nd After Four classified, p.10



Dec 29-13 **The Few** (Thurs)
 The Collectors (Fri and New
Years Eve)

Tely Dec 29th After Four classified, p.8

1967

Jan 26 Display ad in Telegram

Jan 26th After Four classifieds p.11 Jon Lee and the
Checkmates Big News is Out. New Home isCharlie
Brown's

Jan 29 **Jon and Lee & The Checkmates**

Feb 10-12 **J.F. Review** featuring **Mary Ann Brown** and the **Good Things**

Feb 9th After Four classifieds p.10

Feb 17-19 **New Breed**

Feb 16th After Four classifieds p.10

Feb 24-25 **Mary Ann Brown** and the **Good Things**

Feb 23rd After Four classifieds p.10

Mar 23 Globe classified ad

G&M Mar 23rd p.33: "158 Cumberland St., terrific location good for any business. Immediate possession. So we can assume, ends Charlie Brown's

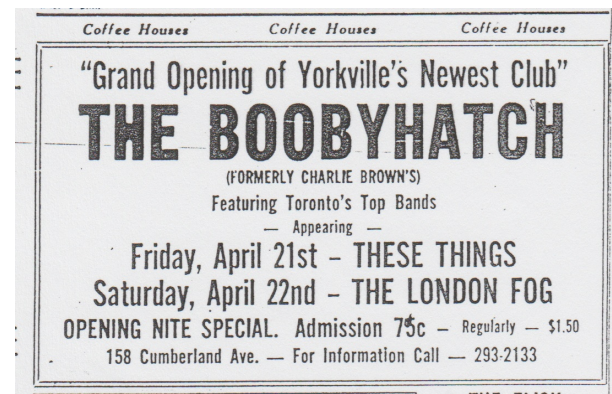
Mar 26 Globe article by Ron Haggart

G&M May 26th p.7 refers to a "*recently operated coffee house at 158 Cumberland St. (that) constituted a nuisance and resulted in property damage to the premises owned by their clients.*"

April 21-22 **These Things** (21st)
The London Fog (22nd)

In the Tely Apr 20th and 27th After Four Classified sections, ads appear announcing the opening of the *Boobyhatch* on site previously occupied by Charlie Brown's. The new club may not have lasted long. No further advertisements have been found in the Telegram microfilm archives or in online searches of the Globe & Mail or Toronto Star.

April 28-29 **These Things** (28th & 29th)



Oct 2 CHUM Chart October 2, 1967

The **Ugly Ducklings** with
Gaslight at Number 1

Good Old CHUM, a Canadian
(Toronto) group at number 1 and
an American group featured in
their Pop Pix

CHUM HIT PARADE

week of OCTOBER 2, 1967

CHART CHUCKLE

AN LP GOES TO BARBARA STROCCIAN, PARKWAY AVE., TORONTO, FOR SUBMITTING THIS CHUCKLE:

PREZ.: "I've just finished reading a book titled 'WHAT FIFTY MILLION WOMEN WANT'."

McADOREY: "Oh, did they spell my name right?"

SEND YOUR FAVOURITE CHUCKLES TO:
CHART CHUCKLES,
CHUM, TORONTO 7.

CHUMDINGER #30

THE RECORD THAT MADE THE BIGGEST JUMP THIS WEEK!

HOT NEW HITS

1. HEIGH-HO THE FIFTH ESTATE
2. THE ATTITUDE THE SUGAR SHOPPE
3. JUST ONE LOOK THE HOLLIES
4. BEG, BORROW AND STEAL OHIO EXPRESS
5. PLEASE LOVE ME FOREVER BOBBY VINTON

HITS YEARS AGO

1. LAST TRAIN TO CLARKSVILLE THE MONKEES
2. SEE SEE RIDER ERIC BURDON & ANIMALS
3. CHERISH THE ASSOCIATION
4. WIPEOUT SURFARIS
5. CHERRY CHERRY NEIL DIAMOND

CHUM'S POP PIX

JAY & THE TECHNIQUES are headed by Jay Proctor, a 26-year-old Philadelphia-born vocalist. He played in other groups until helping to form the Techniques with friend Karl Landis. Other members of the group are Chuck Crowl, George Lloyd, Ronnie Goosly, Dante Dancho & John Walsh. All of them live in Allentown, Pa. and its environs. Dancho says his favorite foods are apples, peaches, & pumpkin pie.... and with good reason.

| this week | last week |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. GASLIGHT | Ugly Ducklings Yorkville 2 |
| 2. NEVER MY LOVE | The Association WB 4 |
| 3. LITTLE OLE MAN | Bill Cosby WB 5 |
| 4. WILL YOU LOVE ME TOMORROW | Bunny Sigler Decca 9 |
| 5. DANDELION/WE LOVE YOU | Rolling Stones London 1 |
| 6. GIMME LITTLE SIGN | Brenton Wood Apex 6 |
| 7. THE LETTER | Box Tops Quality 3 |
| 8. HOW CAN I BE SURE | Young Rascals Quality 12 |
| 9. HEY BABY | The Buckinghams Columbia 22 |
| 10. PEOPLE ARE STRANGE | The Doors Allied 29 |
| 11. I MAKE A FOOL OF MYSELF | FRANKIE VALLI LONDON 7 |
| 12. HOLE IN MY SHOE | THE TRAFFIC STONE 18 |
| 13. HIGHER & HIGHER | JACKIE WILSON BRUNSWICK 11 |
| 14. ODE TO BILLIE JOE | BOBBIE GENTRY CAPITOL 9 |
| 15. MEMPHIS SOUL STEW | KING CURTIS QUALITY 21 |
| 16. CHILD OF CLAY | JIMMIE ROGERS A&M 25 |
| 17. TO SIR WITH LOVE | LULU EPIC 15 |
| 18. CAT IN THE WINDOW | BOBBY VEE WB 24 |
| 19. COME BACK WHEN YOU GROW UP | BOBBY VEE LONDON 20 |
| 20. I'LL NEVER FALL IN LOVE AGAIN | TOM JONES COLUMBIA 17 |
| 21. I HAD A DREAM | PAUL REVEREND & RAIDERS LONDON 38 |
| 22. THE LAST WALTZ | ENGLEBERT HUMPERDINK LONDON 38 |
| 23. IT'S THE LITTLE THINGS | BOBBY & CHER ATCO 13 |
| 24. GET ON UP | ESQUIRES CARAVAN 19 |
| 25. IT MUST BE HIM | VICKI CARR LONDON 33 |
| 26. I DIG ROCK & ROLL MUSIC | PETER, PAUL & MARY WB 16 |
| 27. YOUR PRECIOUS LOVE | MARVIN & TAMMY MOTOWN 35 |
| 28. LIGHTNING'S GIRL | NANCY SINATRA REPRISE 40 |
| 29. APPLES PEACHES PUMPKIN PIE | JAY & TECHNIQUES SMASH 23 |
| 30. INCENSE & PEPPERMINTS | STRAWBERRY ALARM CLOCK APEX 50 |
| 31. REFLECTIONS | DIANA ROSS & SUPREMES MOTOWN 21 |
| 32. YOU KEEP RUNNING AWAY | FOUR TOPS MOTOWN 26 |
| 33. EXPRESSWAY TO YOUR HEART | SOUL SURVIVORS QUALITY 43 |
| 34. EVEN THE BAD TIMES ARE GOOD | TREMELOES EPIC 48 |
| 35. SAN FRANCISCAN NIGHTS | ERIC BURDON MGM 27 |
| 36. GO WITH ME | DEE & DEBBE QUALITY 46 |
| 37. FUNKY BROADWAY | WILSON PICKETT QUALITY 17 |
| 38. I CAN SEE FOR MILES | THE WHO DECCA --- |
| 39. GETTIN' TOGETHER | TOMMY JAMES ALLIED 28 |
| 40. WHY DO FOOLS FALL IN LOVE | HAPPENINGS APEX 44 |
| 41. THE RAIN, THE PARK & OTHER THINGS | THE COWBILLS MGM --- |
| 42. LOVE BUG LEAVE MY HEART ALONE | MARTHA & VANDELLAS MOTOWN 32 |
| 43. IF THIS IS LOVE | PRECISIONS STONE --- |
| 44. WHAT NOW MY LOVE | MITCH RYDER QUALITY 36 |
| 45. HUSH | BILLY JOE ROYAL COLUMBIA --- |
| 46. RUNAWAY | DEL SHANNON LIBERTY --- |
| 47. TWELVE THIRTY | MAMAS & PAPAS RCA 39 |
| 48. THERE IS A MOUNTAIN | DOROVAN COLUMBIA 28 |
| 49. A NATURAL WOMAN | ARETHA FRANKLIN ATLANTIC --- |
| 50. I'M WONDERING | STEVIE WONDER MOTOWN --- |

Personal collection

Nov 11 Toronto Star display ad

Star Nov 11th p.68 158 Cumberland is now a James
Anthony (Coiffures) salon

Data Collection

These listings are a composite of what appeared in the Toronto Telegram's (the Tely) What's Going On listing in the Showcase Section and the Chum About Town listings in the After Four Sections and classifieds, augmented by electronic searches of the Toronto Star (Star) and Globe and Mail (G&M) archives from the 1965 on. Where I take words directly from a listing I use "quotation marks" and/or italics. Where I cite an article I reference the reporter if identified, as best I can.