

# ALVIN STARDUST

## Things You Didn't Know....

- Born Bernard Jewry became Shane Fenton and then Alvin Stardust....only Shane Fenton was to have been Johnny Theakstone's name (sadly Johnny died and his parents asked Alvin to take the name for a radio slot)
- Loved Roy Rogers and would mime to him as a child – still likes cowboy films and country music
- First instrument played was the ukelele
- His Aunt and Uncle had a stage in their front room and his Mum used to take in 'theatricals' so always surrounded by performers
- First guitar cost £1.50 on his twelfth birthday (learnt to play from a Bert Weedon book). Now insured for **£1,000,000 !**
- Said guitar signed by Bill Haley, Chuck Berry, Buddy Holly, Joe Brown, Billy Fury, Eddie Cochran, all the Beatles, all the Stones, Johnny Kidd, Gene Vincent, Marty Wilde...only Elvis is missing (because Alvin had a hit and had to cancel his trip to the States to meet him - a huge regret they never met)
- Talked his way into Buddy Holly's dressing room when 14 and ended up jamming with him...called his guitar Peggy Sue as a result.
- Was managed by Larry Parnes and appeared in Billy Fury's film Play It Cool
- His first record deal with Parlophone earned the princely royalty sum of one farthing –split between five of them....
- Turned down "Listen Do You Want To Know A Secret"(and Brian Epstein wanted to manage him.)
- Used to have a pale blue 1957 Ford Thunderbird with white leather seats
- Bought a Ford Zodiac shooting brake because the 'Shane Fenton rock 'n' roll trio' could all fit in it along with all their gear and amps
- Recorded some big band songs with the Johnny Spence Orchestra and recently some jazz with the MD for Sunset Boulevard
- Loves bikes but closest he's been was playing a biker in BBC's Doctors – got to ride a Harley round the car park ! (would love to own a Harley trike.)

- Played the landlord in hit TV series The Grimleys (with Noddy Holder, Jack Dee, Brian Conley, Lewis Collins, Nigel Planer and Amanda Holden)
- Was in Hollyoaks as the landlord of the 'Dog On The Pond' pub
- Was Chairman of Mansfield Rugby Club
- Was a Green Cross Code Man - voted worst public information film ever (which was great as led to countless TV shows and, even now, annual repeat fees)
- Countless TV including Morecambe and Wise and Jo Brandt's Through The Christmas Cakehole. Also rerecorded 'My Coo Ca Choo' with Jo
- Dressed up as a chicken for Harry Hill' show
- Played the Childcatcher in Chitty Chitty Bang Bang and done loads of TV and West End theatre (Phantom, Godspell, David Copperfield etc)
- Has won countless awards and had hits over three decades – 13 UK hit singles and three UK chart albums.