

‘There is no better selection of bands playing anywhere in Ireland.’

ROY ORBISON

Bobby booked Roy Orbison for Limavady Agricultural Hall just a few months after he had toured the UK with the Beatles. The *Coleraine Chronicle* billed Roy as ‘**Limavady’s biggest attraction to date**’ and ‘**a great night’s entertainment for dancers who will be flocking in from all around.**’ (*Coleraine Chronicle*, 5 October 1963). In July 1965 Roy toured Ireland again, and Bobby met him backstage at the Flamingo in Ballymena.



Bobby with Roy Orbison and Ming Harkin.
Courtesy Bobby Platt collection.

THE SPRINGFIELDS

Bobby booked The Springfields for the Limavady Agricultural Hall re-opening night dance on 18 September 1963. The band had been in the UK Singles Chart for months with *Island of Dreams* and *Say I Won’t Be There*, and were the first British group to have a hit in the US Billboard Charts Top 20 with *Silver Threads and Golden Needles*.

It was to be their last performance before the band split. Dusty told the *Coleraine Chronicle*, ‘**As a group we were lucky enough to make it to the top of the business. We felt that from an artistic point of view there was nothing left for us to do.**’ (*Coleraine Chronicle*, 28 September 1963).

Dusty returned to the Strand Ballroom as a solo artist in February 1966, and Bobby said of her, ‘**There is no girl in Britain today who has the stage personality of Dusty. She is a great worker and a real friendly person.**’ (*Coleraine Chronicle*, 5 February 1966).



The Springfields on stage in Limavady. Courtesy Bobby Platt collection.



Newspaper advertisement for the re-opening dance.
Courtesy *Coleraine Chronicle*, 14 September 1963.

THE HONEYCOMBS

The Honeycombs played the Limavady Agricultural Hall on 24 September 1964 after a UK number one with *Have I the Right?* They were so popular that singer Dennis D’Ell had his suit torn by female fans.

Honey Lantree was the band’s drummer, which was unusual for a female in the 1960s. She played ‘**with a zest that suggested her whole life depended on it.**’ (*Coleraine Chronicle*, 3 October 1964).



Bobby welcoming the Honeycombs. Left to right: Dennis D’Ell; Martin Murray; Bobby, John Lantree; Honey Lantree.
Courtesy Bobby Platt collection.

MILLIE

Millie played twice in Limavady Agricultural Hall in the 1960s including 25 June 1964, after reaching number two in the charts with *My Boy Lollipop*.



Courtesy Bobby Platt collection.

ORIGINAL DRIFTERS

Newspaper reviews of the Drifters’ performance describe how ‘**spellbound audiences were completely stunned**’ and that the band had a ‘**relaxed charm, high-quality singing and polished presentation.**’ One band member commented, ‘**We are having a real ball here in Ireland**’, and an anonymous dancer said, ‘**Gosh, I’m tired but after watching an act like that who really worries about arriving home with the milk!**’ (*Coleraine Chronicle*, 3 December 1966).



The Drifters just before going on stage at Limavady Agricultural Hall, 24 November 1966.
Courtesy *Coleraine Chronicle*, 3 December 1966.

BILL HALEY

Bill is instantly recognisable by his trademark kiss-curl hairstyle. During their performance, The Comets ‘**jumped, they rolled, still holding their instruments, and thumping out music so loud that the stage rocked and rolled too, under the pressure.**’ (*Coleraine Chronicle*, 26 September 1964).



Bill Haley with Bobby Platt, 17 September 1964.
Courtesy Bobby Platt collection.

MARIANNE FAITHFULL

Marianne had just achieved international success with the single *As Tears Go By* when she performed at Limavady Agricultural Hall on 13 May 1965.



Marianne Faithfull on stage in Limavady, 13 May 1965.
Courtesy Bobby Platt collection.

ROGER WHITTAKER

Roger Whittaker played Limavady on 20 January 1966.



Pictured with Bobby, Jack Alcorn (left) and Tony Hasson (right).
Courtesy Bobby Platt collection.

FREDDIE & THE DREAMERS

Freddie & The Dreamers played in Limavady on 5 November 1964, after achieving three Top Ten hits in the UK Charts.



Left to right: Bernie Dwyer, Freddie Garrity, Roy Crewdson, Bobby Platt, Pete Birrell, Derek Quinn.
Courtesy Bobby Platt collection.

THE EVERLY BROTHERS

The Everly Brothers played in Limavady on 28 April 1966, after a number 2 hit in the UK charts with *The Price of Love* the previous year.



Bobby is pictured here with Don (left) and Phil (right).
Courtesy *Coleraine Chronicle*, 7 May 1966.