



## Just the Facts

For more than 45 years, England's "Wishbone Ash" has been hailed by concert-goers and reviewers alike as one of the best bands ever to grace a stage. They may not have had that 15 minutes of fame "hit single" that other bands from the '70s enjoyed, but through constant touring and quality album releases, the band has built a very loyal worldwide following of die-hard fans.

To some, the very mention of a Wishbone Ash tour causes them to put in for their vacation time in order to follow the band from city to city, much like fans of the Grateful Dead did.

- Band forms in 1969 and embraces harmony guitar style which sets them apart from the pack.
- Wishbone Ash sign on with fledgling manager Miles Copeland.
- In 1970, after jamming with Andy Powell at a sound check, Ritchie Blackmore from Deep Purple recommends Wishbone Ash to Purple's producer and a deal is struck with MCA records that continues for 11 years and 14 albums - millions of albums sold world wide.
- Guitarists, Powell & Turner gain peer recognition playing London sessions with, amongst others, Beatles Ringo Starr & George Harrison, with Ted Turner appearing on Lennon's classic, "Imagine."
- 1972 signals the release of the classic "Argus" album, hailed as the album of the year by the readers of England's Melody Maker and New Musical Express. Argus goes Gold & Platinum in the UK and launches the band as a major contender in the US.
- On Wishbone's first US tour they open for the Who and then, in turn, over the years the band headlined it's own stadium shows featuring such opening acts as; Aerosmith, Kiss, ZZ Top, Bruce Springsteen.
- Relocation in the USA, recording albums with legendary producers Bill Scymzyck and Tom Dowd.

- Band's impact in Europe is consolidated by the Star-Trucking Festival Tour, which sees the band headlining a star-packed bill featuring, Bob Marley, Steve Stills, Mahavishnu Orchestra and Ike & Tina Turner.
- Sell-out tours of Japan, Australia & New Zealand.
- Rolling Stone Magazine labels the band's guitarists, Andy Powell & Ted Turner amongst the world's the Top 20 best at that time.
- Tours of Former Soviet Union & India!
- In 1995 the band's web site is launched uniting fans around the world and presently drawing over 10,000 unique visitors a month. An online newsletter is started, informing the band's community of their current activities. Utilizing the web, tours in the UK and Germany now becoming annual events with most venues being sold out long before the band actually play a date.
- The year 2000 sees a sold-out 30th anniversary concert take place at the legendary Shepherd's Bush Empire in London, England. The event videoed and digitally recorded and released both on DVD and VHS format.
- The obligatory unplugged album "Bare Bones" is released on Sanctuary Records.
- In 2002 MCA Records Re-releases a special (remixed & re-mastered) 30th-anniversary edition of the classic "Argus" album. The album is an immediate MUST HAVE amongst the fans. It also becomes one of the fastest re-issues to completely sell out in MCA history, causing the label to re-press to meet demand.
- 2002 saw the the release of the band's long-awaited "Bona Fide" studio album (key cuts: "Faith, Hope & Love" and "Almighty Blues").
- The band's discography includes: (\* indicates Gold or Platinum award) Wishbone Ash, Pilgrimage, Argus\*, Wishbone Four, Live Dates\*, There's The Rub, Locked In, New England, Front Page News, No Smoke Without Fire, Live In Tokyo, Just Testing\*, Number The Brave, Live Dates II, Twin Barrels Burning, Hot Ash, Raw To The Bone, Nouveau Calls, Here To Hear, Strange Affair, Live In Chicago, Live in Geneva, Illuminations, Trance Visionary, Psychic Terrorism, Outward Bound, Bare Bones, Live Dates III and BonaFide.
- Great summer 2003 Classic Rock festival appearances including Sweden Rock, Holland's Arrow Rock, Milwaukee Fest and more, with collective audiences in excess of 100,000. Billed alongside Tull, Yes, Whitesnake and others.
- A live performance of "Argus" is recorded and aired at XM Satellite Radio in D.C. It is later released for Wishbone Ash's "Then Again Live" series and later released as an album in its own right.
- In 2005, "Clan Destiny" is recorded at the renowned Blue Jay Studios in Carlisle, Mass. A strong tour schedule resulting some 175 tour dates worldwide.
- 2006 sees Wishbone working in Belgium's famous Spirit of 66 Club, producing a live DVD. Tours of the USA and Europe undertaken. Band's annual UK fan convention changes location to Chesterfield, England to great acclaim from fans who travel worldwide for the event.
- Highlights of 2007 include the release of the "Live in Hamburg" DVD, recorded in Hamburg, Germany's famous

Fabrik venue. Finding time in between an increasingly busy tour schedule, Wishbone records the highly rated studio CD, "The Power of Eternity." This time, recording takes place in Finland. Greece is visited during the summer for a festival along with Holland, Germany and the U.K.

- In 2007 /2008, Wishbone Ash embarks on an ambitious year-long tour schedule around the world, dubbed the 'Eternity Tour,' with more than 100 dates in just the first six months.
- In 2009, Wishbone Ash celebrates its 40th anniversary with a show at London's Shepherd's Bush Empire Theatre, which is available on DVD. The band embarks on a tour of Poland.
- Short tours of Japan and South Africa are undertaken in 2010. The tour of Japan also featured an outdoor concert in the grounds of the Emperor's palace in Tokyo, alongside Kansas and Italy's PFM. The tour of South Africa included Deep Purple and Uriah Heep. Wishbone Ash participates in a behind-the-scenes rockumentary, "This Is Wishbone Ash," detailing the recording process of "Elegant Stealth" (released in 2011) interspersed with concert footage.
- 2012 sees the release of three "Road Works" live recordings.
- "Blue Horizon" is released in February 2014.
- In May 2015, the band does a live vinyl recording at Metropolis Studios in London, a VIP, invitation-only event attended by 125. A few days later they record a live DVD from Le Triton in Paris over a three-day residency. In July 2015 the band returns to South Africa, performing throughout the Barnyard chain of venues.
- Andy Powell releases his musical memoir, "Eyes Wide Open: True Tales of a Wishbone Ash Warrior" published by Jawbone Press in October 2015. Co-written by Colin Harper, with a Foreword by Scottish novelist Ian Rankin (best known for his "Inspector Rebus" crime series), "Eyes Wide Open" offers an inside track of five decades of life on the road and in the studio.
- In 2016, "Almighty Blues" is featured in the season premiere for the globally syndicated TV series "Supernatural."
- The band does another mini-tour of Poland in 2016.
- In 2017, Andy launches [www.andypowellmusic.com](http://www.andypowellmusic.com) , a website that offers his thoughts on music, gear and more.