

David Byron

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For other persons named David Garrick, see [David Garrick \(disambiguation\)](#).

David Byron (born **29 January 1947** – **28 February 1985**, born as **David Garrick**^[1]) was the original lead **vocalist** for **Spice** (from 1967 through 1969) and is most famous for singing in the legendary English **rock band** **Uriah Heep** between 1969 and 1976.

David Byron	
Birth name	David Garrick
Born	29 January 1947
Origin	Epping, Essex, England
Died	28 February 1985 (aged 38)
Genre(s)	Rock , Hard rock , Progressive rock , Heavy Metal
Instrument(s)	vocals
Website	david-byron.com

Contents
1 Background
2 Discography
2.1 With Uriah Heep
2.2 Solo
2.3 With Rough Diamond
2.4 With The Byron Band
3 References
4 External links

Background

[[edit](#)]

Despite his **vocal** range (paired with a sense of dynamics), and a charismatic stage presence, Byron was dismissed from Uriah Heep in 1976, at the demand of keyboardist **Ken Hensley** (the band's primary songwriter), who gave the ultimatum "it's him or me" to band manager **Gerry Bron**, citing Byron's increasingly erratic behaviour due to alcohol abuse.^[*citation needed*]

He unsuccessfully attempted to revive his career with Rough Diamond (a band also featuring former members of **Humble Pie** and **Wings**), a second solo **album** (***Baby Faced Killer***), and The Byron Band. Mick Box and Trevor Bolder of Uriah Heep invited Byron to re-join the band in 1980, but Byron refused. He died of **alcohol** related complications in 1985. The coroner's report cited **epilepsy** and fatty liver.

Discography

[[edit](#)]

With Uriah Heep

[[edit](#)]

- *Very 'eavy... Very 'umble* (1970)
- *Salisbury* (1971)
- *Look at Yourself* (1971)
- *Demons & Wizards* (1972)
- *The Magician's Birthday* (1972)
- *Uriah Heep Live* (1973)
- *Sweet Freedom* (1973)
- *Wonderworld* (1974)
- *Return To Fantasy* (1975)
- *High and Mighty* (1976)

Solo

[[edit](#)]

- *Take No Prisoners* - 1975
- *Baby Faced Killer* - 1978
- *That Was Only Yesterday - The Last EP* - Recorded 1984, released 2008

With Rough Diamond

[[edit](#)]

- *Rough Diamond* - 1977

With The Byron Band

[[edit](#)]

- *On The Rocks* - 1981
- *Lost And Found* - Recorded 1980-82, released 2003

References

[[edit](#)]

- ↑ Dead Rock Stars Club - accessed December 2007

External links

[[edit](#)]

- David Byron official tribute website
- Uriah Heep official website
- Official website for pre-1986 Uriah Heep
- Official US Uriah Heep fan website
- David Byron at Allmusic



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navigation

- [Main page](#)
- [Contents](#)
- [Featured content](#)
- [Current events](#)
- [Random article](#)

search

interaction

- [About Wikipedia](#)
- [Community portal](#)
- [Recent changes](#)
- [Contact Wikipedia](#)
- [Donate to Wikipedia](#)
- [Help](#)

toolbox

- [What links here](#)
- [Related changes](#)
- [Upload file](#)
- [Special pages](#)
- [Printable version](#)
- [Permanent link](#)
- [Cite this page](#)

languages

- [Česky](#)
- [Deutsch](#)
- [Français](#)
- [Norsk \(bokmål\)](#)
- [Polski](#)
- [Português](#)
- [Suomi](#)
- [Svenska](#)

Bernie Shaw • **Mick Box** • **Trevor Bolder** • **Phil Lanzon** • **Russell Gilbrook**

Ken Hensley • **David Byron** • Gary Thain • Lee Kerlake • John Lawton • John Wetton • Paul Newton • Ian Clarke • Keith Baker • Peter Goalby • John Sloman • Bob Daisley • John Sinclair • Gregg Dechert • Chris Slade • Mark Clarke • Nigel Olsson • **Alex Napier** • Steff Fontaine

Studio albums	<i>Very 'eavy... Very 'umble</i> • <i>Salisbury</i> • <i>Look at Yourself</i> • <i>Demons & Wizards</i> • <i>The Magician's Birthday</i> • <i>Sweet Freedom</i> • <i>Wonderworld</i> • <i>Return to Fantasy</i> • <i>High and Mighty</i> • <i>Firefly</i> • <i>Innocent Victim</i> • <i>Fallen Angel</i> • <i>Conquest</i> • <i>Abominog</i> • <i>Head First</i> • <i>Equator</i> • <i>Raging Silence</i> • <i>Different World</i> • <i>Sea of Light</i> • <i>Sonic Origami</i> • <i>Wake the Sleeper</i>
Live albums	<i>Uriah Heep Live</i> • <i>Live at Shepperton '74</i> • <i>Live in Europe 1979</i> • <i>Live in Moscow</i> • <i>Spellbinder Live</i> • <i>King Biscuit Flower Hour Presents In Concert</i> • <i>Future Echoes Of The Past</i> • <i>Acoustically Driven</i> • <i>Electrically Driven</i> • <i>The Magician's Birthday Party</i> • <i>Live in the USA</i> • <i>Magic Night</i> • <i>Between Two Worlds</i>
Compilations	<i>Anthology</i> • <i>Lady in Black</i> • <i>The Lansdowne Tapes</i> • <i>A Time of Revelation</i> • <i>Uriah Heep: The Collection</i> • <i>Remasters: The Official Anthology</i> • <i>20th Century Masters: The Millennium Collection: The Best of Uriah Heep</i> • <i>Rainbow Demon: Live & in the Studio 1994-1998</i> • <i>Chapter & Verse</i> • <i>Very Best of Uriah Heep</i> • <i>Easy Livin': Singles A's & B's</i> • <i>Loud, Proud & Heavy: The Very Best of Uriah Heep</i>
Songs	"The Wizard" • "Sweet Lorraine" • "Stealin'" • "Lady in Black" • "The Magician's Birthday" • "July Morning"
Related articles	Discography • The Gods • Spice • Toe Fat • Colin Wood

Categories: Alcohol-related deaths | English male singers | Uriah Heep members | 1947 births | 1985 deaths | People from Epping



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