

GLENDA COLLINS DISCOGRAPHY

Compiled by PAUL R. MOY

2016 EDITION



JOE MEEK  **AND BEYOND**
DIGITAL PUBLICATIONS

GLENDA COLLINS DISCOGRAPHY
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I hope that fans will find this first-ever comprehensive discography of “Joe Meek’s favourite girl”, with the same level of detail as can be found in my Honeycombs ones, of use. However, due to a smaller output I have listed together all of her dedicated UK releases, numerous anthologies and a DVD in which she appears. My grateful thanks to Craig Newton for his assistance.

There appears to be difference of opinion as to whether “Find Another Fool” or “Head Over Heels in Love” was the A-side of her third, and final, Decca 45. Glenda says “Head Over Heels”, but then goes on to add “the B-side, written by the famous husband wife songwriting team Barry Mann and Cynthia Weil, really should have been the A-side”. On checking with the leading authority www.45cat.com, I found that they have listed “Find Another Fool” as the A-side and also cited the **Melody Maker** review of December 30, 1961. My discography, therefore, follows this.

I also need to point out the erratic styling of “If You’ve Got to Pick a Baby”, which appears on other releases as either “If You Gotta Pick

a Baby” or even “If You’ve Gotta Pick a Baby”. In fact, on **This Little Girl’s Gone Rockin!** CD the rear panel has “You Gotta” and fold-out inset “You’ve Gotta” despite also featuring cuttings of contemporary reviews and the sheet music – correctly “You’ve Got”; “Something I’ve Got to Tell You” also gets retitled “Something I Got to Tell You”. A real headache for this compiler!!



Glenda is seen here performing "If You've Gotta Pick a Baby" *[sic]* at the launch of John Repsch's book **The Legendary Joe Meek: The Telstar Man**, Lansdowne Recording Studios, London, 30 October 1989 – available exclusively on The Joe Meek Society DVD **John Repsch Presents The Legendary Joe Meek Book Launch**.

PAUL



Glenda Collins was born of Jewish parents in Stoke Newington, London on 16 December 1943. She lived in Liverpool before moving back to London when aged about three.

Much about her life can be found in Mark Newson and Rob Bradford's excellent 14-page article for **Thunderbolt** No. 73 Feb. 2015. In it Glenda refutes the story that she could not get into the school choir on the grounds that her voice sounded "like a foghorn". John Repsch's insert notes for **This Little Girl's Gone Rockin!** are likely to have been based on the interview given to **POP Weekly** No. 40 Week Ending 1st June [1963] in which Glenda is quoted: "I was told I had a voice like a foghorn and wasn't allowed to join the school choir". However, it now seems highly likely that the journalist had actually got her mixed up with Helen Shapiro!

After cutting demos of "Bye Bye Blackbird" and "Sixteen Reasons" at Levy Studios, Bond Street, Glenda subsequently landed a recording contract with Decca as their answer to Helen Shapiro. Her first record, "Take a Chance", was favourably reviewed in [Glasgow] **Evening Times** October 21, 1960: "Lovely newcomer GLENDA COLLINS, who sounds much more mature than her 16 years, makes a promising debut ..." After all three

Decca singles, released over a fourteen-month period, failed to chart her contract was not renewed.

Accompanying her father to an audition with Joe Meek late in 1962, who had been specifically chosen following the record producer's "Telstar" success, Glenda was immediately signed up as his first major girl singer.

Speaking about the release of "I Lost My Heart in the Fairground" (H.M.V.), on which she was backed by The Tornados, **POP Weekly** readers learnt: "My chief trouble was that nobody really let me sing out. Joe Meek did. He wrote the number specially for me and really let me get the REAL me on disc for the first time. I suppose most singers feel dissatisfied with their work on disc ... but for the first time I'm pretty pleased. But around the middle of last year after those Decca discs, I decided the time had come for me to take a break from the business. I wanted to go out and meet audiences all over the place – any place – and really settle in on the personal appearance business. That went on for weeks and months ... but then I got that pang to record again. Joe Meek was a positive angel on it all."

She took up judo "as a nice cosy little hobby", adding: "I felt I needed some sort of mental and physical recreation and relaxation. I use touches of Yoga as well ... but that poses special problems for a girl. I mean, it's all very well to stand on your head for long periods of thought and meditation. But the difficulty

comes when you find you've got to go to the hairdresser's right afterwards and pay out a lot of money for a really good set. Still it's worth it if my hobby helps me be in the best possible form for some of the big breaks that are coming my way."

Joe then teamed Glenda up with The Outlaws (which included Ritchie Blackmore) for "If You've Got to Pick a Baby". After "I Lost My Heart in the Fairground" fell just short of the charts, she was all set to have success with her second H.M.V. release following an appearance on **Ready Steady Go!** The record had also been voted a hit on **Juke Box Jury**; but a lack of available copies thanks to the Christmas shutdown at E.M.I. put paid to her hopes!

None of the next four singles charted either, resulting in H.M.V. dropping her from their label.

She continued to work, performing cabaret and end-of-pier summer seasons. Importantly, Glenda chose to stick with Joe – and he returned her faith in him by securing a contract with Pye early 1966.

"Something I Got to Tell You" had already been recorded by The Honeycombs, with drummer Honey Lantree on lead vocals, for their 1965 **All Systems Go** LP. Glenda's version of this Ken Howard and Alan Blaikley number, now called "Something I've Got to Tell You", was a highly commercial performance. Despite being considered to be her best-ever chance of scoring a hit, the fact that by now Joe Meek was so out

of favour with radio stations, it went the same way as all of her previous singles.

Her final release was a protest song written by Joe. "It's Hard to Believe It", which has an intro very similar to "Telstar" and warns about nuclear missiles, was initially rejected by Pye who only accepted it following a rewrite of the anti-war lyrics. Copies of this rare 45 are now prized by Meek aficionados.

At the end of 1966 Glenda cut a considerable number of tracks with The Riot Squad for a joint LP, *Glenda Collins & The Riot Squad*, scheduled for release on Pye. The 1997 CD **This Little Girl's Gone Rockin!**, which RPM Records ill-advisably marketed as "The Complete Glenda Collins", contains only a few of them.

Following Joe Meek's death, she took an office job and only returned to singing in cabaret and at weddings; but came out of retirement in the late 1990s to record a track for Russell C. Writer's anthology **Cult Themes from the 70's Volume Two**, which also has The Honeycombs final recording (MK II line-up minus Allan Ward).



Glenda in 2015



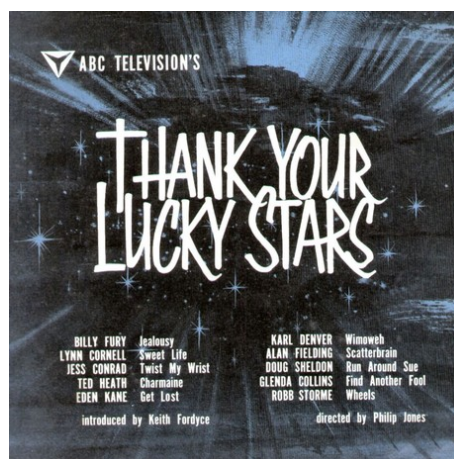
**UK RELEASES
IN CHRONOLOGICAL
ORDER**



TAKE A CHANCE // CRAZY GUY
DECCA 45-F 11280
OCTOBER 1960

OH, HOW I MISS YOU TONIGHT //
THE AGE FOR LOVE
DECCA 45-F 11321
FEBRUARY 1961

FIND ANOTHER FOOL // HEAD
OVER HEELS IN LOVE
DECCA 45-F 11417
DECEMBER 1961



**ABC TELEVISION'S THANK YOUR
LUCKY STARS LP**
**GLEND A COLLINS FIND
ANOTHER FOOL**
ACE OF HEARTS ACL.1108
1962

**I LOST MY HEART IN THE
FAIRGROUND // FEEL SO GOOD**
HIS MASTERS VOICE
POP 1163 MAY 1963

**IF YOU'VE GOT TO PICK A BABY
// IN THE FIRST PLACE**
HIS MASTER'S VOICE
POP 1233 NOVEMBER 1963

BABY IT HURTS // NICE WASN'T IT

**HIS MASTER'S VOICE
POP 1283 APRIL 1964**

LOLLIPOP // EVERYBODY'S GOTTA FALL IN LOVE

**HIS MASTER'S VOICE
POP 1323 JULY 1964**

JOHNNY LOVES ME // PARADISE FOR TWO

**HIS MASTER'S VOICE
POP 1439 JULY 1965**

THOU SHALT NOT STEAL // BEEN INVITED TO A PARTY

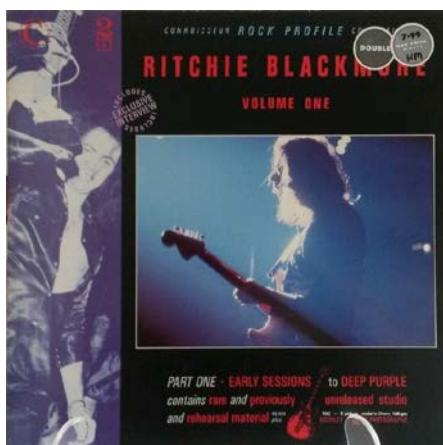
**HIS MASTER'S VOICE
POP 1475 SEPTEMBER 1965**

SOMETHING I'VE GOT TO TELL YOU // MY HEART DIDN'T LIE

**PYE 7N.17044
FEBRUARY 1966**

IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE IT // DON'T LET IT RAIN ON SUNDAY

PYE 7N.17150 JULY 1966



RITCHIE BLACKMORE – ROCK PROFILE – VOLUME ONE 2-LP SET / CD

**LP SIDE ONE / CD: GLENDA COLLINS IF YOU GOTTA PICK A BABY / THOU SHALT NOT STEAL
LP SIDE TWO / CD: GLENDA COLLINS BEEN INVITED TO A PARTY**

**CONNOISSEUR
COLLECTION RP VSOP LP
143 [LP] / RS VSOP CD 143
[CD] 1989**

**FIRST APPEARANCE
ON CD OF THESE
TRACKS**



BEEN INVITED TO A PARTY! / THE SINGLES COLLECTION 1963-1966 LP / CD

LP SIDE ONE / CD: I LOST MY HEART AT THE FAIRGROUND / I FEEL SO GOOD / IF YOU'VE GOTTA PICK A BABY / IN THE FIRST PLACE / BABY IT HURTS / NICE WASN'T IT / LOLLIPOP / EVERYBODY'S GOT TO FALL IN LOVE

LP SIDE TWO / CD: JOHNNY
LOVES ME / PARADISE FOR TWO
/ THOU SHALT NOT STEAL /
BEEN INVITED TO A PARTY /
SOMETHING I GOT TO TELL YOU
/ MY HEART DIDN'T LIE / IT'S
HARD TO BELIEVE IT / DON'T
LET IT RAIN ON SUNDAY

CONNOISSEUR

COLLECTION CSAP LP 108

[LP] / CSAP CD 108 [CD] 1990

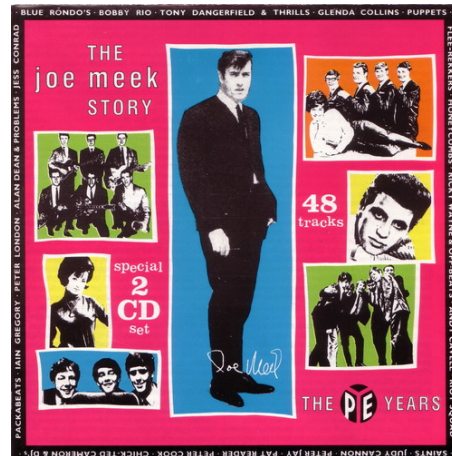
ALTHOUGH STATES
"FIRST TIME ON
C.D.", THREE TRACKS
HAD ALREADY
APPEARED ON THEIR
RITCHIE
BLACKMORE
COMPILATION THE
PREVIOUS YEAR



**HERE COME THE GIRLS –
BRITISH GIRL SINGERS OF THE
SIXTIES LP / CD**

LP SIDE 2 / CD: GLENDA COLLINS
IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE IT

**SEQUEL NEX LP 111 [LP] /
NEX CD 111 [CD] 1990**

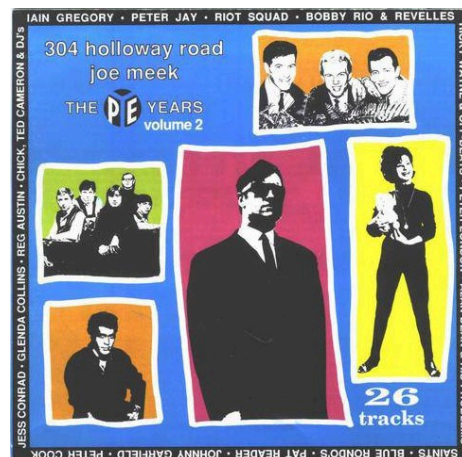


**THE JOE MEEK STORY / THE PYE
YEARS 2-CD SET**

VOLUME 1: GLENDA COLLINS
IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE IT

VOLUME 2: GLENDA COLLINS
SOMETHING I'VE GOT TO TELL
YOU

SEQUEL NED CD 171 1991



**304 HOLLOWAY ROAD / JOE
MEEK: THE PYE YEARS – VOL 2
CD**

**GLENDA COLLINS SING C'EST LA
VIE (PREVIOUSLY UNISSUED)**

SEQUEL NEX CD 216 1993

FIRST APPEARANCE
OF THIS TRACK, CUT
AT THE BACK END
OF 1966 AS FOLLOW-
UP TO "IT'S HARD TO
BELIEVE IT"



**THE DEEP PURPLE FAMILY
ALBUM CD**
**GLENDIA COLLINS & THE
OUTLAWS IF YOU'VE GOTTA
PICK A BABY**
CONNOISSEUR
COLLECTION VSOP CD 187
 1993

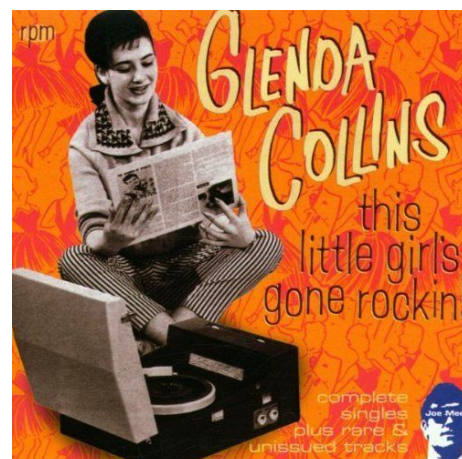


LET'S GO! / JOE MEEK'S GIRLS
 CD
**GLENDIA COLLINS THIS LITTLE
GIRL'S GONE ROCKIN' / I LOST
MY HEART AT THE FAIRGROUND
/ BABY IT HURTS**
RPM RECORDS RPM 166
 1996

FIRST APPEARANCE
 OF "THIS LITTLE
 GIRL'S GONE
 ROCKIN'"



HERE COME THE GIRLS – SIX CD
**GLENDIA COLLINS SOMETHING I
GOT TO TELL YOU**
SEQUEL NEM CD 718 1995

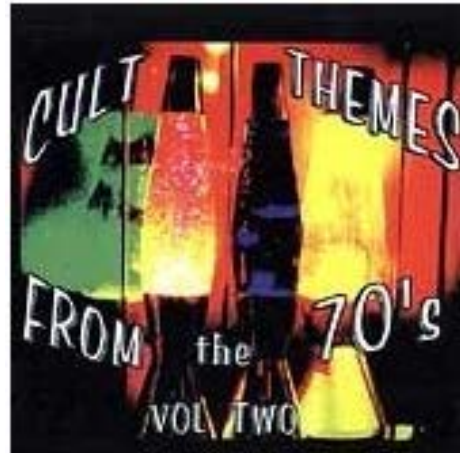
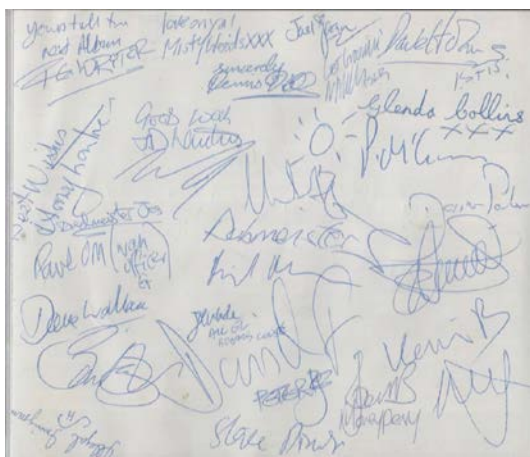


**THIS LITTLE GIRL'S GONE
ROCKIN! CD**
**TAKE A CHANCE / CRAZY GUY /
OH HOW I MISS YOU TONIGHT /
THE AGE FOR LOVE / HEAD
OVER HEELS IN LOVE / FIND
ANOTHER FOOL / I LOST MY
HEART AT THE FAIRGROUND / I**

FEEL SO GOOD / IF YOU GOTTA
PICK A BABY / IN THE FIRST
PLACE / BABY IT HURTS / NICE
WASN'T IT / LOLLIPOP /
EVERYBODY'S GOT TO FALL IN
LOVE / JOHNNY LOVES ME /
PARADISE FOR TWO / THOU
SHALT NOT STEAL / BEEN
INVITED TO A PARTY /
SOMETHING I GOT TO TELL YOU
/ MY HEART DIDN'T LIE / IT'S
HARD TO BELIEVE IT / DON'T
LET IT RAIN ON SUNDAY / SING
C'EST LA VIE / THIS LITTLE
GIRL'S GONE ROCKIN' /
PREVIOUSLY UNRELEASED:
RUN TO ME / YOU'RE GONNA
GET YOUR WAY / YEAH YEAH
YEAH / SELF PORTRAIT /
[SECRET TRACK / 29] SING C'EST
LA VIE [ALTERNATE VERSION
WITHOUT MALE VOCAL]

RPM RECORDS RPM 182
1997

FIRST APPEARANCE
OF FIVE
PREVIOUSLY
UNRELEASED
TRACKS, AND DECCA
45s ON CD

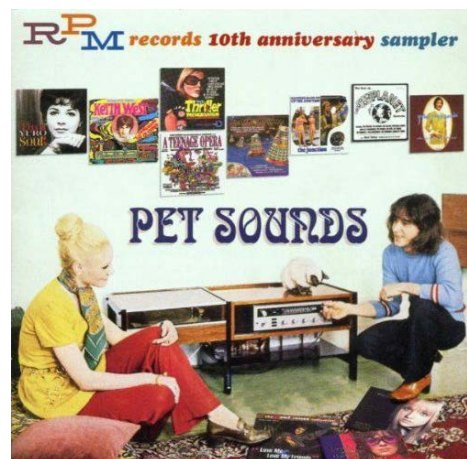


**CULT THEMES FROM THE 70's
VOLUME TWO CD**

**GLENDIA COLLINS THE
PROTECTORS (AVENUES &
ALLEYWAYS)**

**FUTURE LEGEND
RECORDS FLEG.12CD 1999**

FIRST APPEARANCE
OF THIS NEWLY-
RECORDED TRACK; A
FEW COPIES EXIST
SIGNED BY THE
ARTISTS – SEE
PREVIOUS COLUMN



**RPM RECORDS 10TH
ANNIVERSARY SAMPLER CD**

**GLENDIA COLLINS IF YOU GOTTA
PICK A BABY**

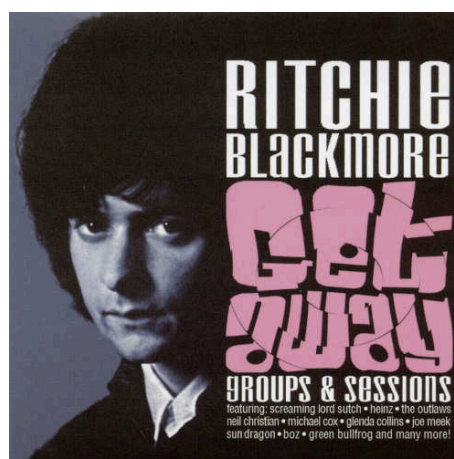
RPM RECORDS RPM 2001
2001



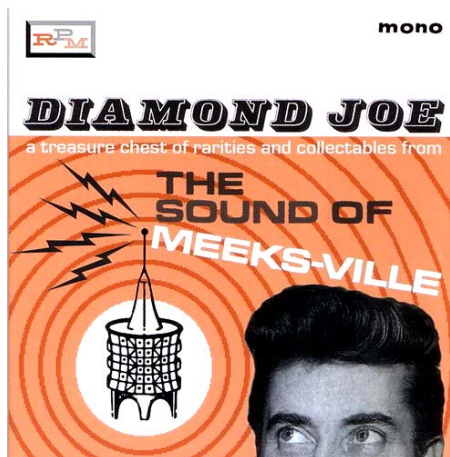
**JOE MEEK / THE ALCHEMIST OF
POP / HOME MADE HITS &
RARITIES 1959-1966 2-CD SET**
DISC 2: **GLEND A COLLINS**
SOMETHING I'VE GOT TO TELL
YOU / IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE IT
CASTLE MUSIC CMEDD 496
2002



THE RIOT SQUAD / JUMP! CD
GLEND A COLLINS & THE RIOT
SQUAD YOU'RE GONNA GET
YOUR WAY / YEAH YEAH YEAH
CASTLE MUSIC CMRCD 703
2003



RITCHIE BLACKMORE / GET
AWAY / GROUPS & SESSIONS 2-
CD SET
CD 1: GLEND A COLLINS IF YOU
GOTTA PICK A BABY /
EVERYBODY'S GOT TO FALL IN
LOVE
CASTLE MUSIC
CMEDD 1029 2005



DIAMOND JOE / THE SOUND OF MEEKS-VILLE CD

GLENDIA COLLINS IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE IT (STEREO VERSION)

**RPM RECORDS RPM 325
2007**

**FIRST APPEARANCE
OF THIS TRACK**



**JOHN REPSCH PRESENTS THE
LEGENDARY JOE MEEK BOOK
LAUNCH – OCTOBER 30TH 1989
[LANSDOWNE RECORDING
STUDIOS, LONDON] DVD
GLENDIA COLLINS IF YOU'VE
GOTTA PICK A BABY**

**THE JOE MEEK SOCIETY
JMS 6 2012
LIVE VERSION**



JOE MEEK: TELSTAR AND BEYOND! PROMO CD

**GLENDIA COLLINS BEEN
INVITED TO A PARTY / BABY IT
HURTS**

**MUSIC SALES FILM & TV
[NO CATALOGUE NUMBER]
2008**

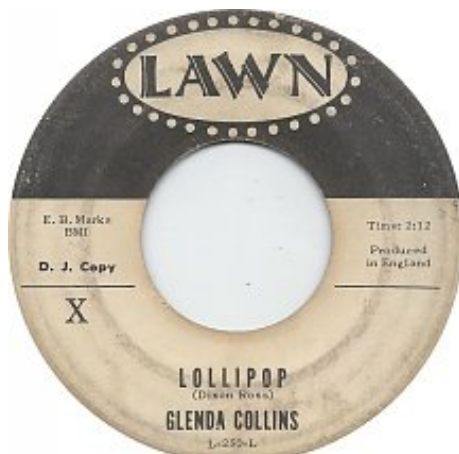
OVERSEAS RELEASES



**IF YOU'VE GOT TO PICK A BABY
EP**

**IF YOU'VE GOT TO PICK A BABY /
I LOST MY HEART IN THE
FAIRGROUND // IN THE FIRST
PLACE / FEEL SO GOOD**

FRANCE: LA VOIX DE SON
MAÎTRE 7 EGF 690 1964
PICTURE SLEEVE



LOLLIPOP // EVERYBODY'S
GOTTA FALL IN LOVE
USA: LAWN L-250 1965



IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE IT: THE
AMAZING WORLD OF JOE MEEK
CD
GLENDA COLLINS SOMETHING
I'VE GOT TO TELL YOU / IT'S
HARD TO BELIEVE IT
USA: RAZOR & TIE MUSIC
RE 2080-2 1995

FIRST-EVER US JOE
MEEK COMPILATION

MEMORABILIA



SCRAPBOOK VOLUME ONE –
THE ARTISTES 1994

PRODUCED BY THE JOE
MEEK APPRECIATION
SOCIETY – COPIES SIGNED
“BEST WISHES & LOVE /
GLENDA COLLINS / XXXX”



THUNDERBOLT No. 73 FEB. 2015
14-PAGE ARTICLE

GLEND A COLLINS ALPHABETICAL LIST OF COMPLETE CATALOGUE OF RECORDINGS

RECORDING LOCATIONS

- (A) Levy Studios, Bond Street, London.
(B) Decca Studios, Broadhurst Gardens, West Hampstead, London.
(C) 304 Holloway Road, Islington, London.
(D) Lansdowne Recording Studios, Lansdowne House, Lansdowne Road, London.
(E) Skyline Studios, Annexe, Lintons Lane, Epsom, Surrey.

FIRST UK APPEARANCE / UNRELEASED

BABY IT HURTS (C)
45 (A-SIDE)

BEEN INVITED TO A PARTY (C)
45 (B-SIDE)

BYE BYE BLACKBIRD (A)
DEMO UNRELEASED

CAN I GET A WITNESS (C)
UNRELEASED

CRAZY GUY (B)
45 (B-SIDE)



DEAR BUDDY (B)
UNRELEASED

**DON'T LET IT RAIN ON SUNDAY
[BACKING TRACK / PART GUIDE
VOCALS BY GLENDA] (C)**
UNRELEASED

**DON'T LET IT RAIN ON SUNDAY
(C)**
45 (B-SIDE)

**EVERYBODY'S GOTTA FALL IN
LOVE (C) aka EVERYBODY'S GOT
TO FALL IN LOVE**
45 (B-SIDE)

FEEL SO GOOD (C)
45 (B-SIDE)

FIND ANOTHER FOOL (B)
45 (A-SIDE)

HEAD OVER HEELS IN LOVE (B)
45 (B-SIDE)

I (WHO HAVE NOTHING) (C)
UNRELEASED

**I LOST MY HEART IN THE
FAIRGROUND (C)**
45 (A-SIDE)

**IF YOU'VE GOT TO PICK A BABY
(C) aka IF YOU GOTTA PICK A
BABY / IF YOU'VE GOTTA PICK A
BABY**
45 (A-SIDE)

**IF YOU'VE GOTTA PICK A BABY
(LIVE) (D)**
JOHN REPSCH PRESENTS THE
LEGENDARY JOE MEEK BOOK LAUNCH
– OCTOBER 30TH 1989 DVD

IN THE FIRST PLACE (C)
45 (B-SIDE)

PARADISE FOR TWO (C)
45 (B-SIDE)

IN THE MIDNIGHT HOUR (C)
UNRELEASED

PUT A RING ON HER FINGER (C)
UNRELEASED

IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE IT
[ORIGINAL VERSION REJECTED
BY PYE] (C)
UNRELEASED

RADIO LONDON JINGLE FOR
THE TONY BRANDON SHOW /
YEAH YEAH YEAH (1965) (C)
UNRELEASED

IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE IT (C)
45 (A-SIDE)

RUN TO ME (C)
THIS LITTLE GIRL'S GONE ROCKIN! CD

IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE IT
(STEREO VERSION) (C)
DIAMOND JOE / THE SOUND OF
MEEKS-VILLE CD

RUN TO ME [STEREO VERSION]
(C)
UNRELEASED

JOHNNY LOVES ME (C)
45 (A-SIDE)

SELF PORTRAIT (C)
THIS LITTLE GIRL'S GONE ROCKIN! CD

LOLLIPOP (C)
45 (A-SIDE)

SING C'EST LA VIE (C)
304 HOLLOWAY ROAD / JOE MEEK: THE
PYE YEARS – VOL 2 CD

LOVE STORY (C)
UNRELEASED

SING C'EST LA VIE [ALTERNATE
VERSION WITHOUT MALE
VOCAL] (C)
THIS LITTLE GIRL'S GONE ROCKIN! CD

MAGIC STAR (C)
UNRELEASED

MOCKINGBIRD (C)
UNRELEASED

SING C'EST LA VIE [STEREO]
[DIFFERENT MALE VOCAL] (C)
UNRELEASED

MY HEART DIDN'T LIE (C)
45 (B-SIDE)

SIXTEEN REASONS (A)
DEMO UNRELEASED

NICE WASN'T IT (C)
45 (B-SIDE)

OH, HOW I MISS YOU TONIGHT
(B)
45 (A-SIDE)

SOMETHING I'VE GOT TO TELL
YOU (C) aka SOMETHING I GOT
TO TELL YOU
45 (A-SIDE)

TAKE A CHANCE (B)
45 (A-SIDE)

THE AGE FOR LOVE (B)
45 (B-SIDE)

THE FIRST TIME I SAW YOU (C)
UNRELEASED

THE PROTECTORS (AVENUES &
ALLEYWAYS) (E)
CULT THEMES FROM THE 70's VOLUME
TWO CD

THE WHITE CLIFFS OF DOVER
(C)
UNRELEASED

THIS GIRL [BACKING TRACK] (C)
UNRELEASED

THIS LITTLE GIRL'S GONE
ROCKIN' (C)
LET'S GO! / JOE MEEK'S GIRLS CD

THIS LITTLE GIRL'S GONE
ROCKIN' [OUT-TAKE] (C)
UNRELEASED

THOU SHALT NOT STEAL (C)
45 (A-SIDE)

WALK ON BOY [MULTIPLE OUT-
TAKES] (C) aka JOHN HENRY
BROWN
UNRELEASED

YEAH YEAH YEAH (C)
LOOPED VERSION OF RADIO LONDON
JINGLE THIS LITTLE GIRL'S GONE
ROCKIN! CD

YOU'RE GONNA GET YOUR WAY
(C)
THIS LITTLE GIRL'S GONE ROCKIN! CD

YOU'RE NOBODY TILL
SOMEBODY LOVES YOU (C)
UNRELEASED

NOT BY GLENDA

LOVE DON'T MEAN A THING
ACETATE ACQUIRED BY JOE MEEK
AND INCORRECTLY CREDITED TO
GLENDA COLLINS
UNRELEASED

THE HONEYCOMBS NEWSLETTER
Edited by PAUL R. MOY
facebook.com/paul.moy.16

NEW SERIES APRIL 2015

**GLENDA COLLINS: "I WAS POTTY
ABOUT 'HAVE I THE RIGHT', I
ADORED THAT RECORD"**

The latest issue of Thunderbolt: The Joe Meek Society Magazine (No. 73 Feb. 2015) has a leading article about 'Joe's favourite girl', Glenda Collins.

Asked whether she minded Joe speeding up her voice slightly (as many artists - notably Dennis Delli - hated this practice), Glenda replied: 'No, not really. It never particularly bothered me, although I know a lot of Joe's other singers were furious when he messed about with their voices.'

She was potty about 'Have I the Right?', although Martin Murray has told me that The Honeycombs were never at 504 Holloway Road at the same time as her. 'Something I Got to Tell You' had already been recorded by them, with drummer Honey Lantree on lead vocals, for their 1965 All Systems Go LP. Glenda's version of this Ken Howard and Alan Blakley number, now styled as 'Something I've Got to Tell You', was a highly commercial performance. Despite being considered to be her best-ever chance of scoring a hit, the fact that by now Joe Meek was so out of favour with radio stations, it went the same way as all of her other singles. She had previously recorded 'If You've Got to Pick a Baby' (rare French EP pictured), covered by The Honeycombs on the B-side of 'Eyes'.

In the late 1990s, Glenda came out of retirement to record 'The Protectors (Avenues & Alleyways)' for Russell C. Writer's anthology Cult Themes from the 70's Volume Two - but feels that it was 'a poor choice of song on Russell's part'. The Honeycombs, in their last-ever session and with a reformed line-up of Denny, Peter, John and Honey, fared better with 'Live and Let Die' which is also included (Future Legend Records FLEG.12CD 1999).

IF YOU'VE GOT TO PICK A BABY



GLENDA COLLINS

CONGRATULATIONS TO - NAME - WHO WON GLENDA'S
THIS LITTLE GIRL'S GONE ROCKIN! CD

HELEN SHAPIRO



It seems appropriate, considering that Decca signed Glenda Collins as their answer to Columbia's Helen Shapiro, we take a brief look at the relatively short career of Britain's top female singer for 1961 and 1962 as voted for by readers of **New Musical Express**.

Helen was born of Jewish parents in Bethnal Green, London on 28 September 1946.

She enrolled in the Maurice Burman's famous singing school, and was spotted by John Schroeder, A&R boss Norrie Paramor's right-hand man at Columbia. The deep, almost masculine quality of the 14-year-old contrasted dramatically with the conventionally sweet, high tones of the other girls. Schroeder and Paramor wanted to stress the juvenile angle by writing and choosing material that almost made an issue of her age.

"Don't Treat Me Like a Child", her debut 45 released on 10 February 1961, depicted Helen as a typical put-upon teenager and carried a universally applicable message in its title. It reached No. 3 following her appearance on ABC TV's **Thank Your Lucky Stars**.

The next two releases, "You Don't Know" and "Walkin' Back to Happiness", both topped the charts and sold more than a million copies each.

So while Helen's records aped the standard features of contemporary American discs, her publicity pictures depicted her in her school uniform working at her desk or chatting with classmates in the playground.

The hits continued throughout 1962: "Tell Me What He Said" (No. 2), "Let's Talk About Love" (No. 23), "Little Miss Lonely" (No. 8), and "Keep Away from Other Girls" (No. 40). There were four other relatively minor ones in the following two years, none higher than No. 33. She then found herself, at the tender age of 17, a has-been!



50th Anniversary 3-CD set, 2011