

JUST HELP YOURSELF

Just Help Yourself tells the classic story of the difficult path to fame trod by so many bands and artists in the 1960s. The story of Rhydyfelin rock group The Senators (later the Squires), of founder Vernon Hopkins' discovery of Tom Jones, and their launch towards international stardom. This is the bands story from their gigging days in south Wales when Tom and Vernon were as close as brothers, to their eventual and inevitable painful falling out in 1969 when Vernon and the band were cast aside by manager (and fellow South Walian) Gordon Mills: since then Hopkins has seen Tom on only a handful of occasions. This is a no-holds-barred account of their time together, gigging in Working Men's Clubs in South Wales, then living a hand to mouth existence in London, waiting for their breakthrough. When fame finally did arrive, with it came the uncoupling of the star singer from the band by an unscrupulous manager. ***Just Help Yourself*** gives new insight into Tom Jones himself, and into the world of pop music in the Sixties and early Seventies in a grittily authentic narrative. Hopkins experienced both the pop star high life, touring America, Australia and Europe with Tom, and the low points. The music business really was and is as cut throat as reported.

Executive Producer: Dave Bradfield
Script Consultant: Vernon Hopkins
Script Writer: PT Rose
Studio Producer: Lorraine King
Producer: Karen Struel-White
Producer: Tara Smith
Producer: Clive Silver
Producer: Doreen Kliopp
Producer: Bill Bristow

Cast:

First Voice: Stephen Smith
Lord Denning: Ron Meldon
Tom Jones: Lyndon Jeremiah
Bill Wyman: Chris Hawkins
Dorothy Squires: Dreena Morgan-Harvey
Violet Shenton: Jane Cummings
Ava Gardner: Orna Klement
Ann Beaulieu: Donna Freed
John Lennon: Paul Whittaker
Freda Woodward: Ceri Williams
Elton John: Peter Jones
Joe Meek: Steve Dewitt
J G Ballard: John Fenner
Landlady Mu: Christina Grant
Chris Ellis: David Brayley
Alphonso the Waite: Charles Willson-Watkins
Mrs Gee: Judy Murdoch
Ponty John, the driver: Gabe Cameron
Tony Cartwright: Anton Mullan
Pete the Greek: Ferhat Kalay
: Sarah Dorsett
Tom Jones Snr: Wyn Thomas

Mickey Gee: Dave Brookes

Chris Slade: Peter Hawkshaw

Gordon Mills: Afwaaz Bhachu

Andy Davies: Danny Williams, Engelbert Humperdink, Frank Chapman, Roger Daltry,
Barry Gibb, Rod Stewart, Lance de Gault, Elvis Presley, Wilson Pickett, Mick Jagger