

The monthly news for stereo types.



No. 41, May 2016

Hello Brian

In this months newsletter, I've included articles which I hope will be of interest to a wide cross section of our customers.

There's new low priced crystal clear outer LP sleeves.

There's Audio Technica's new Hi-Res headphones.

Graham Slee pushes the performance of phono preamplifiers with his new Accession.

There's a Fozgometer for vinyl devotees who want to get the last ounce of performance from their turntables.

And Origin Live have upgraded their turntables with new motors.

Musical regards,

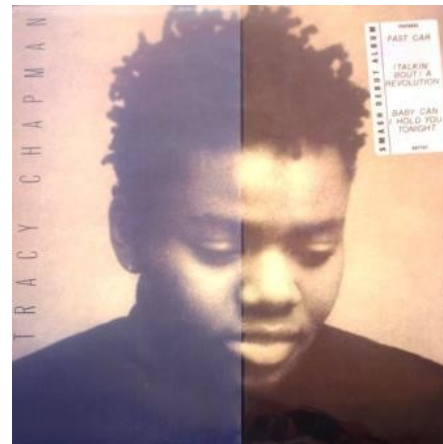
Brian Maddern



Another price breakthrough on LP sleeves - this time crystal clear outer sleeves

For many years now our most popular outer sleeves have been the Ultimate 9224, crystal clear, 2.5mil thick, and large enough for gatefold and double LPs. The problem is that due to freight costs from our supplier in USA and exchange rates the price has risen steadily.

Now we have found an alternative from Europe, not quite as thick (about 2mil), and a couple of mm smaller (320 vs 324), but much cheaper. The Blake sleeves are also crystal clear compared to the common cloudy LDPE sleeves but we can sell them for 40% less than the 9224, and there are substantial discounts available for quantity purchases. [DBOS](#)



Graham Slee Accession

Graham Slee has built up an enviable reputation over the last 13 years that we have been distributing his products in Australia, and he now has an impressive range of products. His latest is a top of the range phono pre-amplifier for the vinyl enthusiast. It has some really useful features - fixed or variable output levels - front panel volume control - selectable EQ settings - and loading options. It is designed to be used with cartridges of at least 1.6mV output, but can be teamed up with an [Elevator](#) for use with low output moving coil cartridges.

The [Accession](#) uses a different kind of equalisation technology which reveals much more musical detail. Available in silver or black finish our first shipment is sold out but we will have more stock in a few weeks.



Musical Surroundings Fozgometer

As many of you will already have discovered, getting the azimuth (or axial tilt) adjustment of your phono cartridge just right is one of the keys to achieving spectacular 3-D soundstages. But how do you know when the settings are right? In the past, you had two basic options: You could check settings by eye and hope for the best, or you could buy a good test record and expensive test gear and go to work. Now, Jim Fosgate's Fozgometer provides an ingenious and not too expensive solution, which is designed to be used in conjunction with The Ultimate Analogue Test Disc.

The [Fozgometer](#) is a small battery powered tool that is very simple to use. You first go through your normal cartridge set-up routines, making adjustment as needed for overhang and horizontal cartridge alignment, tracking force, vertical tracking angle, and anti-skating. Then you connect the tonearm leads and it measures channel separation, channel balance, and signal direction quickly and accurately. Readings are taken without touching the meter, leaving your hands free to work with the tonearm. The LED's indicate Left, Center, and Right signal (test tone) positions. If you find an imbalance between the channels you can alter the vertical orientation of the cartridge until you get the best reading.

THE ULTIMATE ANALOGUE TEST LP IS INCLUDED with the [Fozgometer](#).



New Audio Technica Hi-Res Headphones

Audio Technica released 3 brand new "Hi-Res" headphones last month and we have added them to our product lineup.

With the advent of Ultra HD and 4K for our TV screens, technology is improving the way we watch movies and television every year. But where are we with music? As the trend towards high resolution digital files continues, away from the lossy MP3 format, it was decided to

identify products that are capable of reproducing this higher quality audio faithfully. The agreed definition of Hi-Res Audio is "lossless audio that is capable of reproducing the full range of sound from recordings that have been mastered from better than CD quality music sources."



[ATH-SR5 - \\$269 With Free Postage](#)

With powerful 45 mm high-resolution audio drivers, the ATH-SR5 On-Ear Headphones let you hear your music like never before, with all its strength and detail, while also giving you the comfort and convenience of a lightweight, portable design.



[ATH-SR5BT - \\$369 With Free Postage](#)

The ATH-SR5BT Wireless On-Ear Headphones give you phenomenal Hi-Res Audio with the convenience of **Bluetooth®** wireless technology operation. Up to eight devices (smartphones, tablets, music players, etc.) can be stored in the memory of the ATH-SR5BT for quick connection to your chosen devices.



[ATH-MSR7NC - \\$549 With Free Postage](#)

The ATH-MSR7NC headphones combine the Hi-Res Audio technology and design features from the original ATH-MSR7 with newly developed **active-noise cancelling** technology to bring you the ultimate listening experience.

[ORIGIN LIVE TURNTABLES UPGRADED](#)

Origin Live have announced an upgrade to their turntables, and revised the prices.

This is mainly due to the inclusion of a costly new motor upgrade which has significantly improved performance. The new motors increase drive torque between 2 and 4 times that of previous decks.



Subjectively the sound improvement is dramatic with more punch, increased pace, dynamics and slam in the bass. Because the new motors are smoother running, resolution and all other aspects are also improved.

The [new decks are designated "MK3-1"](#) on their label to supersede the old MK3. These are in production as of 12th April 2016.

Older MK2 & MK3 decks can be upgraded to the new motor and power supply specification. If you are interested in doing this please contact us as it may be better to consider a trade-in to one of the new models.

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