POWER PACK: punk singer Poly Styrene.

FOR the past year every move the Sex Pistols have made seems to have caused an uproar. For the man behind Britain's top punk rock band it has been twelve months of almost nonstop controversy. Here we examine how he put them where

BanITHOUT 29-year-old Malcolm McLaren there would be no Sex Pistols. It was Malcolm who found the band members and moulded them into a dynamic, abrasive unit,

True, they didn't take a lot of finding-they used to hang out at his shop in London's King's Road.

But it was McLaren who channelled their music into what the Blank Generation needed, a generation on the dole without much recognisable

all changed.

"Punk is the gross enemy of apathy. The spark of life and energy which has now turned and the street kids were powerly-sirleken garbage—financially and spiritually.

"Punk action then turns into an outright frontal attack on the

System

"Don't forget this was a generation brought up on distant pop-stars who sang about sex and love from their tax havens. When they went to gigs they turned up in big livnousines.

Studs

Nineteen-year-old Jean

band, not standing miles away with yards of boun-cers in between. So gigs are small and cheap.

Scrap

"Our next recording company was A and M. That was even shorter lived . . . seven days in all," McLaren recalled.

Old Grey Whistle 'res.
Derek Green of A and
M records said: "The
Sex Pistols were the
quickest success I ever
had. But I changed my
mind. I did not want
to be involved in what
they did outside their
myste"

Perform

"That's why the record companies have been having palpitations lately.

Having established the fundamentals, McLaren started wheeling and dealing Business meet-ings on behalf of the band occupy almost every waking minute of his life.

mousines.
"Under the old system ands couldn't make out littles and couldn't make out littles are the couldn't make the couldn'

pulled out after two and a half months. The band and I wanted an interview with Sir John Recethe chairman. We wer in Holland at the time. "The message came back. No interview. No reasons. Just tell them they can have the money. That was £50,000." EMI refute this, saying we mutually agreed terminate the con

PARTNERS: Malcolm McLaren and Vivienne Westwood. Picture: BILL KENNEDY

On tour McLaren con-tinues with the hard work. We'd be dining and the cry would go up. "Paris for Mr. McLaren. Los Angeles for Mr.

Working

ense sales conversation with a Dutch record com-pany man, he would be working like mad.

were discarded.

At home in London, as well as running the Sex Pistols, he contributes ideas to Seditionaries, the punk centre for London, a shop run by Westwood.

And meanwhile he is the second of the second of

IN the pecking order of punk there is a definite hierarchy.

After the Pistols come The Clash and The Stranglers, two groups who have been variously banned or not allowed to play-part of a punk

Her band has strength and power.
Poly has successfully bridged the gap between black and white. She is white, but has a black and between the black and between the black and between the between the black and black and

Jacket, winkle-pickers and vividity unattractive bright pinks and greens, Her lyrics, like the Pistols, are full of labs at our society—"My mind is like a plastic bag, it never knew what I

Here's everything for a Merry Christmas.

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Bett The Clash seem to have neglected their humble origins lately and were rumoured to have cane iled gigs in Ireland to go away to Jamaica; very "non punk."

punk."

The Jam were seen riding round in a Rolls-Royce, so that disposed of them.

After these more famous bands comes the Irish Brixton axis, places where it is good to have come from.

come from.

At least with Brixton
or 'Ireland as a background there is less
chance of being considered a "poseur." or
fake, the worst crime in
the book.

I had a closer look at
two more bands: X-Ray
Spees and R ad lat ors
from Space.

got

Power

wannes to so when Heft
solve wan a war was used to
say work hard at school
and you'll get a good job.
But all the jobs were the
"Then I started getting
a band together. That
gave me a purpose in
Foly is the only girl
singer I have heard
among punk bands whose
soor above the massive
noise and keep its charand the sum of the sum of the sum
handle in ter esting
band with plenty to say
about society is Radiatitle 2b-year-old lead

a purpose in life

in the front of his mouth said:
"Our theme is: Reevaluate your whole life.
Don't follow leaders.
Think for yourself. You
must find your personal
solution.
"In a way, society has
died. It is very difficult
to know what's wrong.

Tough

"We take an aggressive stance — it is quite the reverse of the hippie world of the Sixtles with Love and Peace. "We are hard, tough

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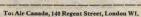
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DISCIPLES: Jean Mahoney and Doug Stow. Picture: PETER STONE

punk wearing a swastika he supports Hitler. He's probably wearing it for no reason at all.

Little Dour Stow. a 19-vear-old printing worker, said: "I got interested in punk because it was out-rageous. It shocked think-something I never got taught at school. "The lights get started by the Teds. The National Front have got well into them and have set the Teds on te us. "The Teds all hang out at the main line stations late at night, waiting for any punks to show up.

against them. Punk's really good for people. After a gig you are so exhausted you just want to go straight home. to go straight home.

"Those Teds don't half slam into the punk girls sometimes. One girl got put through a plate glass wind ow in Oxford Street.

"Tim interested in the words of the songs. They really get into your head."

Obviously.

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