

■ **MUSIC:** Website cult status for celebrity dad singer

Steve Getz his fans going by crooning tunes on the internet

by **Elise Brewerton**
The News

BY DAY he is Steve McKindland, and works at a DIY store.

But by night he's Steve Getz – a crooning cabaret star with fans across the world.

Steve, 48, from Kennedy Close, Waterlooville, has hit the big time in cyberspace after 2,000 people downloaded a single he released on-line.

The huge interest in his cover of the Frank Sinatra classic *A Foggy Day* catapulted him to the top of the jazz chart on internet music site Soundclick.com.

That put him ahead of 11,318 rivals – and he now receives fan mail from Israel, Belgium, Nigeria, America and the UK from people who have found him on the unsigned artists' website.

Steve – who adopted the surname Getz as his showbiz name, is a design consultant at Wickes in Waterlooville during the day but finds the transition into a rat pack-style crooner easy – and his ultimate dream is to go full-time as a singer.

'I only do the day job for the money. Obviously, if everything goes well for me, my dream would be to give up work and really go for the music,' he said. 'And it seems that so many people are interested at the moment – I may well get there.'

Steve, who has even released an album called *Being Frank* in tribute to his hero Sinatra, added: 'Its amazing to think there are people all over the world who would probably never hear me sing. Now they have my music on their PC or mp3 player and they have voted me number one.'

Steve's wife and children are supportive of his hobby and love the attention he gets.

He added: 'My daughter really thinks she has a celebrity dad now. She thinks my success is great.'

Steve has played in jazz bands all his life but gave up to find work until five years ago, when he started playing the pub circuit again.

■ To download Steve's music go to www.soundclick.com/stevegetz.

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Steve McKindland at work in Waterlooville PICTURE: IAN HARGREAVES (054520-2)

ORDINARY FOLK WHO MADE IT BIG

- **Jane McDonald** – was a cabaret singer on a cruise ship until she was spotted by a BBC documentary team and hit the big time.
- **Will Young** – was just a student until he went on *Pop Idol* in ITV and now has number one singles and albums under his belt.
- **Mariah Carey** – was a waitress in a cafe in Los Angeles when she was spotted by Sony boss, Tony

- Mottola – who she later married and divorced.
- **Sting** – otherwise known as Gordon Sumner – was a maths teacher in his native Newcastle before his pub band – The Police – hit the big time in the early 80s and he shot to worldwide fame.
- Comedian **Harry Hill** was a doctor before his hobby of stand-up comedy took off – and he gave up the day job.