



Boys Own

When Terry Farley, Andy Weatherall, Cymon Eccles and Steve Maize started Boys Own magazine in 1987, they were writing about their triple obsessions of football, funk and left-wing politics. By the spring of 1988, it was "The only fanzine to get right on one matey". From then on they satirised the fledgling

scene mercilessly while continuing to be musically right on the button.

Terry Farley

WE were the first people to write about these things. We only printed two or three thousand copies. We never made any money, but we never expected to. We inspired a lot of people to be even more cliquy than they already were.

We'd done a few parties in 1987. The music was very Weatherall: Beastie Boys and Van Morrison. Once '88 happened, we went from doing parties for our mates to everyone wanting to be our mate.

Me and Weatherall came from DJing in the back rooms of clubs like Spectrum and Shoom. It was very easy to play the same 20 house tunes back then, so we played something different. We saw ourselves as being a bit anti mass-media. So we were pushed as heroes of anti-commerciality even then.

When first started playing at Spectrum, I was playing reggae in the VIP bar, but when it took off, I went to the middle floor to play Balearic. The first 200 people who'd come when it opened used to come up there and never go downstairs because they thought it was full of teds. So I

used to play anything which somehow connected. Stuff that people would play me back at their houses after clubs. "You should play this, it'd sound great off your nut", that sort of thing. So old soul records became E records.

Boys Own summer 1989 party, East Grinstead





The sun rising at a Boy's Own party,
East Grinstead, summer 1989 (David
Swindells)