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Home time for band member

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• By [Lucie Richards](#) »

THE Floyd Effect are bringing their tribute show to the legendary Pink Floyd to Basingstoke next month – and for one band member, it will be a welcome return to the town.

Basingstoke-raised Gordon Reid, the band's keyboard player and backing vocalist, runs a professional audio equipment company in Cambridge, and joined the band three years ago after breaking up with a girlfriend.

The 50-year-old said: "I realised that I hadn't been playing regularly for years and years – work had taken over – but I wanted to. So I typed into a search engine 'keyboard player wanted, Cambridge' and I found an advert for a keyboard player for a Pink Floyd tribute band, and I thought: 'I can do that'.

"I have been a Floyd fan since the early 1970s so I called them, we played a few notes and that was that."

All the band members have day jobs but they manage to fit in about 25 gigs a year.

Reid, who went to Queen Mary's College in the 1970s and was in a student band called Hot Matron in 1977, said: "It's hard work no question. It's a lot of people, a lot of effort and a lot of travel – you have to be dedicated to make it work.

"It's all about the music, there's no profit in it, and we keep putting money into it, investing in sound systems and lighting – it's a very serious hobby!

"It sounds like a horrible cliché but when you are on stage in front of a few hundred people and they love it and you love it, then everything else doesn't matter."

Reid puts the eight-piece band's success down to the fact that while there are a couple of big tribute bands that play at big venues, there was no-one putting on a good show – with lasers and lighting – in the medium-sized venues.

And the musician is no stranger to Central Studio, where the April gig will take place.

He said: "I did one gig with a band called Cheesecake in July 1978, which is the same day Bob Dylan played at Blackbushe Aerodrome!"

Floyd Effect are performing at Central Studio on April 10 at 8pm and tickets, which cost £15 in full or £12 with concessions, can be booked at the box office, on 01256 418318 or online at centralstudio.co.uk.



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