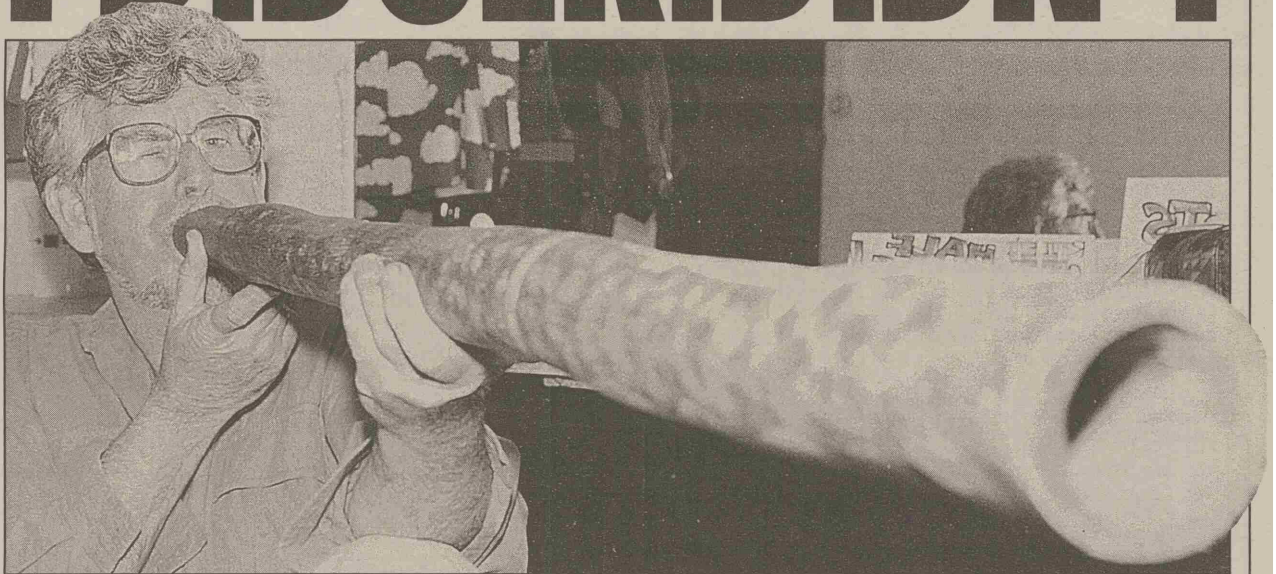


# I DIDGERIDIDN'T



WIND OF CHANGE: Rolf finally admitted yesterday he didn't play the didgeridoo on his 60s hit Sun Arise. The sound was a cunning studio invention

## Rolf reveals didgeridoo was not on Sun Arise hit

By MARK OLIVER

TELLY favourite Rolf Harris blew a 35-year secret yesterday. He DIDN'T play the didgeridoo on his Sixties chart hit Sun Arise – and nor did anyone else.

The record, which got to No3 in 1962, first introduced the deep drone of the Aboriginal instrument to the British public. And Aussie Rolf was always assumed to have made the sound. Now he has confessed he couldn't play the didgeridoo in those days – and the music was mocked up in a recording studio with fiddles.

Animal Hospital presenter Rolf, 67, said: "Nobody in this country had ever heard of the didgeridoo then.

"But at the time I couldn't play it. I was trying to learn."

He painstakingly practised the double breathing technique necessary for the instrument, but couldn't get a sound out of it.

It was months later before he realised he needed a smaller mouthpiece.

Rolf revealed: "I played some tapes to arranger Johnny Spence and producer George Martin.

### Tremendous

"They got eight bass fiddles all playing bottom E at once – the players were bored out of their minds by the time we finished. They were disgusted.

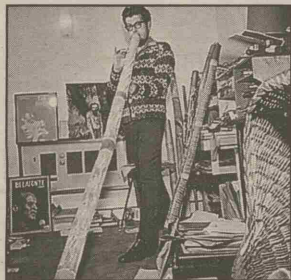
"But it created that droning noise and everybody thought that was the didgeridoo.

"I never lied about it, but I didn't go around telling everybody it wasn't!"

Now Rolf is putting the record straight by playing two didgeridoos on a re-make of Sun Arise to be released in nine days.

It comes complete with up-to-the-minute club mixes by 808 State, already a hit on the student circuit.

Rolf said: "We have laid two didgeridoos on the track, one on each side, which gives a tremendous sense



THEN: Star Rolf tries a tune in 1962

of space and a rich depth of sound which I really love." And the instrument features on two tracks of his new album, Can You Tell What It Is Yet?

One is a song about sacred Aboriginal site Ayers Rock called Raining On The Rock and the other his version of Alanis Morissette's One Hand In My Pocket. The album, to be released on October 20, also includes his renditions of Lou Reed's A Perfect Day and the Beatles' Ob-la-di Ob-la-da.