



Avalanche of entries for music festival freebies

WITH the whirl of life reaching centrifugal force in the lead up to Christmas, The Guide has been somewhat remiss in announcing the winners of our many giveaways. In fact, we've only just dug ourselves out from under the avalanche of entries. No, we're not keeping the goodies for ourselves, instead we're giving them to:

■ **Cheryle Greaves** and **Hayden Donnelly** have each won double passes to see **Tim Finn, Bic Runga, Dave Dobbyn, Boh Runga** and **Che Fu** when they perform at Gisborne's Brunton Road on February 18 as part of the 2010 Winery Tour.

■ **Keith Twiddy** and **Michelle Elliott** have both won single passes to mega-music fest the **Big Day Out**, to be held at Auckland's Mt Smart Stadium on January 15. **Mountaineater! Muse! The Mars Volta! They'll all be there.**

■ And **Mariam Abubakar** won the double pass that gives entry for all three days of this year's **Rhythm & Vines New Year's Eve** music festival, on December 29, 30 and 31. **Empire of the Sun! The Editors! John Butler Trio!**

Meanwhile, there have been a few developments with the latter two events.

The **Big Day Out** team yesterday announced a whole new slew of acts, including industrial metal act **Fear Factory**, **Blowfly**, **Concord Dawn**, **House of Shem**, **Batucada Sound Machine** and **Dead Prez**.

And from camp **R&V** came the news that, "due to health issues within the band", Scottish rock band **Biffy Clyro** had cancelled its appearance. "We're gutted," said team **R&V**. "Biffy is one of the best bands in the world."

The band itself has reported that both **Simon Neil** (vocals/guitar) and bass player **James Johnston** "require minor medical procedures for conditions that, whilst not yet serious, will become debilitating if not attended to".

"It has become apparent that the only window in which these operations can take place will be in the same period that we were planning to perform in Australia and New Zealand," they added.

But while the trio planned to rebook dates in Sydney and Melbourne for around May, there was no news on a rescheduled New Zealand show. — THE GUIDE



Scottish rockers **Biffy Clyro** . . . "health issues" mean they'll be a no-show for **Rhythm & Vines '09**.