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## Joe Cur: Biography

Born in 1953, in Bromley, England as Norman Smith, Joe Cur, the **1.** \_\_\_\_\_ singer of the Clown Killers, has become a rock legend, **2.** \_\_\_\_\_ fans for more than four decades. After abandoning his Economics degree at Manchester University, he set up a band with guitarist Pete Donnelly, Joe Cur took the Clown Killers to the top of the music world with major **3.** \_\_\_\_\_ like 'Motorbike Madness' and 'Tears of a Clown Killer', propelling the band and himself to a status unknown by most performers.

### Early Life and Musical Influences

Singer, songwriter, actor and producer Norman Michael Smith was born in 1952 in Tooting, London. The oldest son of a Baptist **4.** \_\_\_\_\_, Smith was a good student and popular among his classmates. He developed an interest in mainstream and soft rock at an early age and got his first guitar when he was 14. He and his schoolfriend Ian Peters soon started a band together called The Fireboys, with Joe Cur (as he already called himself artistically) as its singer.

When he **5.** \_\_\_\_\_ eighteen, Joe Cur was accepted to study Economics at Manchester University. It was here he came into touch with **6.** \_\_\_\_\_ student Pete Connelly, who introduced him to hard rock and heavy metal. These were formative years for the singer, who decided to **7.** \_\_\_\_\_ with his friend Ian Peters and The Fireboys, and **8.** \_\_\_\_\_ of university, **9.** \_\_\_\_\_ of parental pressure for him to stay. With no financial support, he was **10.** \_\_\_\_\_ to working night shifts as a security guard, which enabled him to focus on writing songs, one of which was 'Motorbike Madness', the hit that catapulted him to success.

- |     |             |               |               |              |
|-----|-------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|
| 1.  | a) MAIN     | b) FIRST      | c) LEAD       | d) TOP       |
| 2.  | a) ENJOYING | b) DELIGHTING | c) ENJOYED    | d) DELIGHTED |
| 3.  | a) HITS     | b) SUCCESS    | c) EXITS      | d) TRIUMPH   |
| 4.  | a) PRIEST   | b) VICAR      | c) RELIGIOUS  | d) PREACHER  |
| 5.  | a) BECAME   | b) GOT        | c) HAD        | d) TURNED    |
| 6.  | a) FELLOW   | b) COLLEAGUE  | c) OTHER      | d) CLASSMATE |
| 7.  | a) GIVE UP  | b) SPLIT UP   | c) BREAK DOWN | d) DROP OUT  |
| 8.  | a) GIVE UP  | b) SPLIT UP   | c) BREAK DOWN | d) DROP OUT  |
| 9.  | a) ALTHOUGH | b) WHEREAS    | c) IN SPITE   | d) DESPITE   |
| 10. | a) REDUCED  | b) LOWERED    | c) HUMBLER    | d) LESSENER  |