

Nottingham Chronicle

Keeping you informed

Exclusive! Sabbath Bubonics' frontman Pete in foreign disease scare. At least one dead.

By Vari Sella

80's supergroup rock star Pete Zahutt (54), the local lad who flew to superstar status as lead singer with the radical thrash metal band Sabbath Bubonics before launching a solo career and having hits with 'Anne Thrax' and 'Snot Funny', was today at the centre of an international disease outbreak. So far at least one person has died. Reports suggest that the outbreak's source may be his giant cat imported from America.



(Left to right) Pete and Cyndi in happier times; a plague pit where victims were buried; the virus that could wipe us all out

GPs and hospitals around the region have been put on alert for signs of the disease, which include swollen glands, pneumonia and death.

Pete Zahutt, or 'Slicer' as he is known to his legions of fans around the world, said, 'no comment, man. It's like doin' me brain in just to think about it.' He went on to state, from his 15th Century manor house in Middle-of-Nowhere, Derbyshire, that 'some government group' is investigating the outbreak and complained that while nobody would tell him exactly what was going on he believed his TV had been bugged. Mr Zahutt spent several decades, none of which he can remember, in drug, alcohol and sex therapy, but is believed to have completely recovered having been nursed back to health by his wife Cyndi Wonga (22), the celebrity model and Strictly dancer.

Further investigation suggests that Slicer may be right to be concerned. The cat in question, a giant American breed known as a Maned Coon Cat, was recently brought over from the loving couple's ranch near Santa Barbara. 'Cyndi is in tears, and her make up is all smudged' said Slicer. It seems the cat died, but only after passing on the disease to at least two people. Slicer and Cyndi have been approached by the health authorities and offered support, and a mysterious government group, working out of the notorious animal research centre at Sutton Bonington, are believed to have contacted Pete and Cyndi.

Plague – everything you need to know

Although often considered an ancient disease, the virus (called *Yersinia pestis*) still circulates and causes disease across much of Asia and Africa, and in the USA.

The Black Death caused millions to die in Europe and around the world through a series of waves of disease, transmitted by rats and their fleas.

The Derbyshire village of Eyam, was nearly wiped out when its inhabitants voluntarily put themselves in quarantine after the disease was introduced from London in 1666

Last seen in Britain in the early twentieth century, when it got into wildlife in East Anglia and killed several people.



In the USA, plague is common in prairie dogs and pet owners, and was responsible for nearly wiping out the endangered black footed ferret.

In a statement released by the investigations group, an anonymous spokesperson said that the risk for this outbreak is minimal. However, bubonic plague, also known as the Black Death, was responsible for the killing around one third of Europe's population, and still causes epidemics in parts of the developing world. Health authorities have released few details of this epidemic but confirmed one death and one treated case, and that further investigations are under way.

'I can't say any more, man,' said Slicer. 'We've been told by the government not to say anything to anyone. I can tell you – the CIA never treated me like this. England's really changed since we've been away.'

This story of incompetent disease control comes close on the heels of a recent outbreak of Hanta Virus in local rats being investigated by another shady quasi-government group.

(story continued on page 6; Cyndi's guide to 'lingerie I've nearly worn' on page 15)