

# 4-4-2 HOPE TO SCORE WITH ENGLAND SONG

**TWO** North Hertfordshire musicians hope to achieve their goal and shoot to the top of the charts.

Together lead vocalist and guitarist Neil Murray, 48, and Jimi McCafferty, 36, who plays the drums, front the band 4-4-2 and are releasing a single supporting the England football team.

The two are part of an eight-man group put together by Barry Ratcliffe of BURBs (British Underground Rock Bands) and they are covering Dexy's Midnight Runners' 'Come on Eileen'.

'They could be set for glory with their version 'Come on England' which they hope will spur on the likes of David Beckham and Michael Owen to glory in this summer's European Championship.

Neil lived in Letchworth for 15 years before moving to London five years ago and learned to play the guitar at Letchworth Folk Club.

Jimi still lives in the town with his two daughters.

Barry Ratcliffe got involved after being approached by Steve Fox, nephew of Dexy's drummer the late John Bortill, who was keen to support the team during Euro 2004.

The track was premiered on talkSPORT radio earlier this year to an enthusiastic response across the nation.

Comments from listeners included 'I had tears in my eyes', 'sheer musical genius' and 'number one for sure' with many listeners asking where they could find a copy.

The answer to that of course is in all good record stores.

While England will be competing with the likes of France and the cream of Europe, 4-4-2 will be taking on The Farm who are performing the official England anthem for this summer's European Championships.

The Farm's song is a re-release of the 1990 hit 'Altogether Now'.

If 4-4-2 get the top spot their song

would join anthems such as New Order's 'World in Motion' in 1990, which included a rap by winger John Barnes helping it catapult to number one.

More recently, in 1996 'Three Lions' shot to number one after the Lightning Seeds teamed up with comedians David Baddiel and Frank Skinner.

Neil said: "The song is still true but with a more 'clubby' feel to it with quite a live groove. We reckon it will go to number one but if not, definitely top ten. We are really excited."

Asked how he feels about supporting the English side, Scotsman Jimi said "I've been down here a long time and met lots of English people who are happy to support Scotland so I don't mind returning the favour and, of course, Scotland are not in this tournament.

"Seriously though, the single has been very well received so far so I hope it will do well."

The 4-4-2 anthem is released a week tomorrow.



■ Top Scot: Jimi McCafferty

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— Neil Murray, pictured right