



## VARIOUS ARTISTS

### The Deeply Vale Box

OZIT/MORPHEUS

#### East Lancashire's punky Woodstock immortalised

Punk drew a dividing line between generations in 'that London', but the situation in the hinterlands

was never quite so clear-cut. The four annual Deeply Vale free festivals near Bury from 1976-'79, were a weirdly egalitarian idyll where Steve Hillage and punk co-existed in a state of pre-lapsarian harmony. These 6CDs, compiled by one of the festivals' organisers, Chris Hewitt, mix lo-fi and hi-fi, old and new, in appropriately benign and bewildering fashion. Hence, the 1978 Fall's live reading of Vince Taylor's "Brand New Cadillac" is preserved along with five minutes of stage commentary on the festival's joint-rolling contest. Libertarian principles are upheld in words by Accident On The East Lancs' pot-smoking punkarama "We Want It Legalised", and in spirit by Graham '808 State' Massey's punky-fleabag band Danny And The Dressmakers, shriek-and-hope masterpieces like "Ernie Bishop's Dead Body" and "How Hot Is A Match?" encapsulating the impishly anarchic spirit of the times.

**EXTRAS:** Witnesses share memories in a book **8/10** which also documents how heroin, selfishness and intransigent farmers spelled the festival's demise. Light up your free joss sticks and you can almost feel the 1980s coming.

**JIM WIRTH**