

DAVID'S BOOK

Happiness is an elusive thing because it means all kinds of different things to different people. We got round to wondering just what makes David Cassidy really happy, and it was our lucky day when he told us about some of the chapters in his own special book on this very subject.

Far be it from us to even suggest that David Cassidy's career is over... or even past its peak. All we're saying is that the dreamy D.C. has already got several scrapbooks full of cuttings and photographs, each one a happy memory.

As the great man himself says: "When I'm old and grey and can walk down the road without being recognised I'll still have my scrapbooks and my memories and nobody can take those away."

Well, we know a few thousand fans who wouldn't mind the scrapbooks so we got together with David and asked him to pick out some of the highlights of his life so far and tell Mirabelle readers all about them.



HAPPINESS IS FAMILY AND FRIENDS WHO ARE THERE TO DOUBLE THE GOOD TIMES AND HALVE THE BAD

"I remember five happy years with my parents until they divorced, then another five good years with my mother and her parents in West Orange, New Jersey.

"I remember seeing Hollywood for the first time and falling in love with the place.

"I can remember friends and faces and lots of good times at the Rexford High School in Beverly Hills. Leaving there and working with the Los Angeles Theatre Group. I don't recall much of the work I did with them but I'll never forget the time I played opposite a great actress called Evelyn Ward... my mother.

"Seventeen, and New York here I come. I went to stay with my father and his new wife. There I discovered that stepmothers in real life are very different from those in fairy tales. I became firm friends with Shirley who was starring in a show called 'Maggie Flynn' on Broadway.

"I remember the special friendship I forged with Ruth Aarons who had been a longtime friend of my family

and was manager to my father and Shirley. Without her, where would I be? Ruth says: 'I didn't sign David, I inherited him'. Well, let her go on thinking that if she wants to but it just so happens I inherited her.



HAPPINESS IS WHEN YOU SEE THOSE DREAMS THAT ARE NUTHIN' MORE THAN WISHES COMING TRUE

"Nobody needs to remind me about 'Fig Leaves Are Falling'. It was taken off after just three performances but somehow I managed to escape with my head held high and some good reviews for my scrapbook.

"Then there was the television season I couldn't put a foot wrong. I got lead parts in 'Ironside', 'Marcus Welby', 'Bonanza', 'Medical Centre' and 'The Mod Squad'.

"The Partridge Family—here are enough happy memories to fill a dozen scrapbooks! Shirley had already been signed to star in the series when I tested for the part of Keith. Only when the producers had okayed me, and Shirley had given it the go-ahead, did we let on that we knew each other rather well.

"Meeting Susan Dey for the first time is something nobody forgets, me included! Maybe we liked each other too much for romance, who knows? Only that working together for so long did us both a lot of good.

"Bouncing Bonaduce and the kids were really enough to put ten years on anyone! But they were so full of freshness and keen enthusiasm that they kept me going without knowing it. They'll never know how they kept a tired man sane. And thanks, Danny, for showing me how to make foolproof water bombs!

"I remember the strange way I got to be a singer. They wanted me to mime to music parts to the voice of a singer. But miming has never been one of my strong points and while I never imagined I'd give Tony Bennett any cause to worry, I figured I'd be able to get by with my own voice.

"The day they gave me the thumbs up to take care of the vocals myself is a very happy memory indeed.

"Then there was that first recording session as The Partridge Family and seeing 'I Think I Love You' sell

five and a half million copies. Learning that the record had entered the charts in Britain was enough reason for us to celebrate several days running.

"Somehow we couldn't believe that a team of actors and actresses of varying degrees of experience had stumbled upon one of the biggest hits of 1970, but the seven subsequent Gold albums were all the convincing we needed.



HAPPINESS IS A PARTRIDGE LEARNING TO FLY ON TWO WINGS

"Even a member of a very happy family has to remind himself that he is still an individual now and again. So when my first solo single 'Cherish' won a Gold Disc that rates as one of my all time happiest memories.

"Learning that I had a fan club with almost a quarter of a million members knocked me out. Most of them seemed to be at my first ever stage performance. It was in April, 1971 at the Auditorium in Seattle, Washington. The show business magazine Variety said I arrived: "... with the force of an atomic bomb". It was a happy, memorable night.

"Spring of '73 and I'm in London for my first tour. They tell me it's the first time somebody has done six concerts at the Wembley Empire Pool over a weekend. I wished they'd waited until after before telling me.

"Every concert was jammed tight, everything was going great, then I got a cold and my voice cracked. But in spite of all the panics, the hysteria, the bad throat and anxious getaways that visit is an experience I wouldn't have traded for the world.



HAPPINESS IS HELPING OTHERS

"Being asked to lend my name and face to the 'Keep Britain Tidy' campaign was an honour. Young people