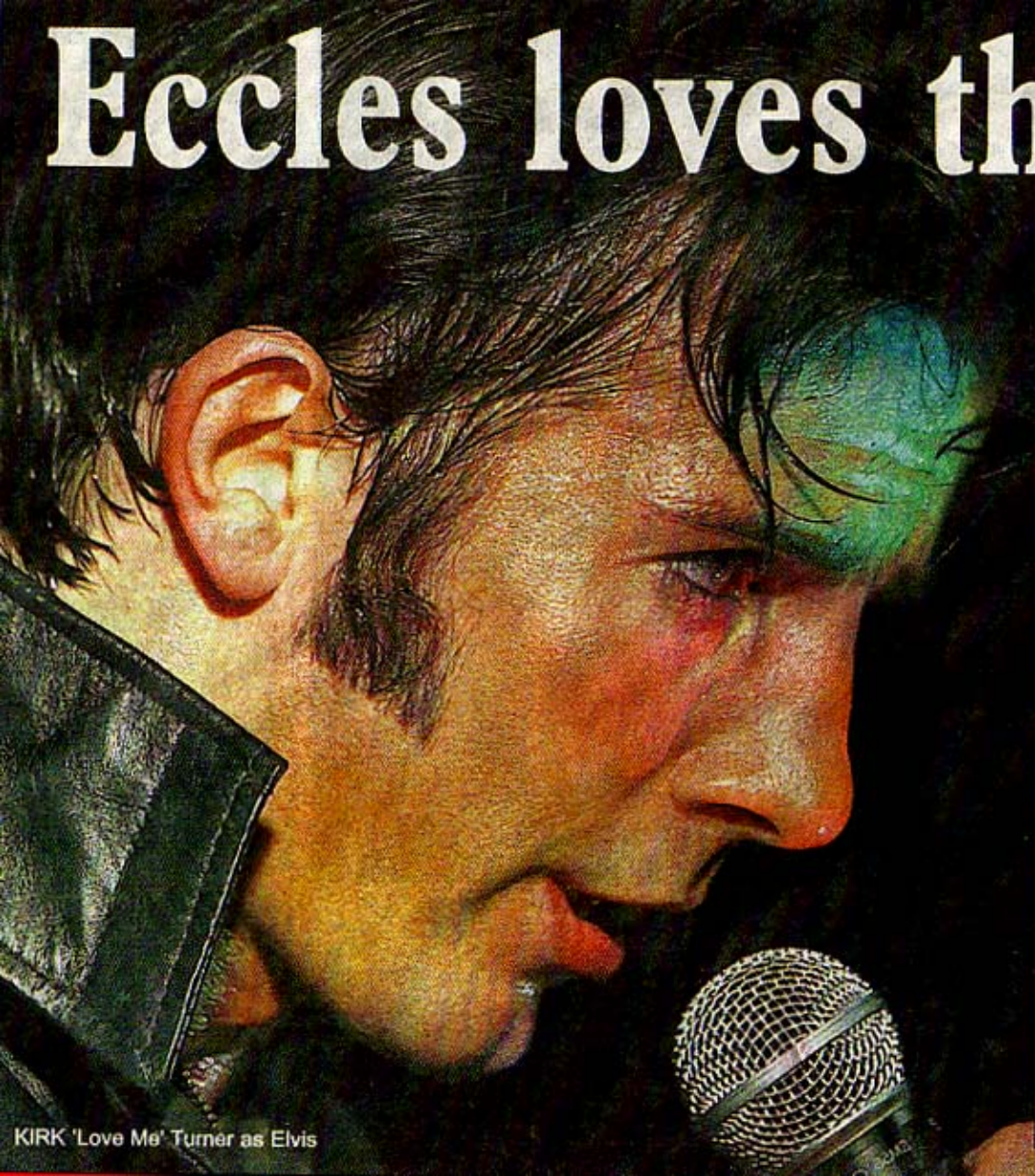


Eccles loves the King



ELVIS fans packed out an Eccles social club to see Salford's answer to The King in all his glory.

Kirk 'Love Me' Turner performed his Journey to Gracelands show to a sell-out crowd at the Taylor Brothers Sports and Social Club on Sunday night.

The show gave Kirk, 28, a chance to practice his moves before entering the European heat of the world Ultimate Elvis contest in Blackpool next month where he will compete against more than 100 Elvis tribute artists.

If he wins the Walk A Golden Mile In My Shoes event the former Hope High School pupil, from Claremont, will get the chance to battle it out to compete at Elvis Week in Memphis in August - the 30th anniversary of The King's death.

Kirk, a former amateur boxer who works as a sales support co-ordinator for Bupa, said: "Sunday went very well and it was packed.

"They have already started selling tickets for another of my shows on August 11 which

by Emma Fitzgerald

should also be a sell-out.

"The show was just what I needed as a rehearsal for my biggest challenge of all - the Ultimate Elvis Contest at the Norbreck Castle on June 8 where I will be entering the '68 Comeback Special category.

"I'm not going into the competition with the attitude of winning. I just want to be a part of this wonderful event and add my personal contribution and my tribute to Elvis as a professional tribute artist should do each and every time they perform.

"What I have learned from my Barton Athletic Amateur boxing days is that you lose some and you win some and the experience you get from each competition is worth more than gold dust."

Kirk will travel to the contest with parents Christine and Barry and girlfriend Faye Armstrong.

For tickets for the August show, costing £5 each, contact Trish on: 0161 789 3016.