

### 1: BayLUG September Meeting | Bill Ward's Brickpile

*Bill Ward was born in Birmingham, England, in His interest in drumming began as a toddler and by age 15, he was playing gigs. Ward played in several bands before meeting up with Tony Iommi in The two of them worked together in the group Mythology before they met up with Ozzy Osbourne and Geezer Butler in the band Polka Tulk Blues. The blues band later changed their name to Earth, but that moniker was destined not to stay with them long.*

May 29, When King Records decided to discontinue inch albums at the end of , they made a clean break, switching completely to inch LPs starting in the series. The early issues in the 12" album series combined the releases of the King, Federal, and DeLuxe labels. All of the original King albums on this page used the "King Long Playing" logo shown above. Federal albums used a similar logo with "Federal" instead of "King. The DeLuxe label near left was black with silver printing, with "DeLuxe" in silver on a straight line at the top of the label; there is a line under the logo. The Federal label far left was black with silver printing, with "Federal" in script above the center hole in a straight line at the top of the label. It matches the sought-after green silver-top Federal singles, but Federal has never released a label like this on an album. This is probably the only early Federal album issued in stereo. We would appreciate any additions or corrections to this discography. Just send them to us via e-mail. Both Sides Now Publications is an information web page. We are not a catalog, nor can we provide the records listed below. We have no association with King Records, which is currently owned by Gusto. Should you want to contact Gusto, or should you be interested in acquiring albums listed in this discography which are all out of print , we suggest you see our Frequently Asked Questions page and Follow the instructions found there. This story and discography are copyright , , by Mike Callahan. Reissued in with the "vivid sound" banner at the bottom of the jacket see right. Original issue was on the DeLuxe label with a DeLuxe cover, a drawing of three harmonicas and blue and red graphics on a white cover. Cover and label are DeLuxe. The album may also have been later released on the King label. This second cover also had the number on the cover, indicating it was issued before April, , when the pricing prefix was dropped. The original cover was blue with red chairs, with the King "long playing" logo on the front. Later reissued as King with the name changed to Big "J". Stereo issue as King released in At this point, the album price was dropped from the catalog number. Reissues of the first 33 albums after this point do not have the price code. Label is a silver-top Federal label, which was never used for albums, only singles. Cover photo is from an EP. Reissued in as King with a new King cover and label. Reissued in as King with a new King jacket and label. Reissued in with "vivid sound" banner at bottom of front cover see right. There is a picture of dominos on the cover. Can anyone confirm that there is a Federal cover? Reissued in the late s with a yellow King cover and a King label record. It has the Federal number at the top of the front cover. This would not be the way an original Federal cover would look; the logo on a real cover would be in the lower left. The label is a green gold-top Federal, poorly printed. Federal never used this label for any of its albums. There are two extra songs at the end of each side. Although the stereo record had the King logo on the front and back of the jacket the mono version had no logo on the front , it had a Federal label. The stereo Federal label is blue. Front cover title is in yellow lettering, although there are copies known with white lettering. Photo is in color. It has "Sing their all time hits" in a red band at the bottom of the album cover. Photo is black and white. Has anyone ever seen a Federal cover? Reissue is on the King label.

### 2: meeting | Bill Ward's Brickpile

*Original BLACK SABBATH drummer Bill Ward says that he is "very much at peace," more than six years after he parted ways with the band for the final time. Ward was on board for the SABBATH reunion when it was first announced in November, but backed out soon after.*

History[ edit ] Initial career and success[ edit ] The Miracles in , clockwise from top left: The group that later became the Miracles was formed in by five teenage friends from Detroit, Michigan , under the name the Five Chimes. During this early period, the group suffered some problems as Robinson caught Asian Flu and had to be bedded for a month, [24] leaving wife Claudette Robinson to lead the Miracles on tour until he recovered. Claudette herself had her share of problems, having suffered her first miscarriage that occurred after a car accident and Pete Moore was drafted to serve in the United States Army. Smokey and Claudette Robinson made plans to begin a family, but the rough life of touring caused Claudette to have several miscarriages. In early , Claudette decided to retire from the road and remain at home in Detroit after another miscarriage, her sixth. From this point on, Claudette did not tour with the Miracles or appear in any official group photographs or on television, although she remained as a non-touring member of the Miracles , and continued to sing backup with the group in the studio until During this period, their music had made its way abroad, influencing several British groups along the way. Members of the Beatles, in particular, publicly stated that the music of the Miracles had greatly influenced their own. Around this time, the group was starting to be billed as Smokey Robinson and the Miracles on several of their albums. The Miracles sang the original theme to the 20th Century Fox film of the same name. It was subsequently released in the U. About that final tour, Miracle Pete Moore stated: The following year, in , after releasing the much-covered single " Give Me Just Another Day ", the group had their first top 20 hit in three years with the million-selling funk song, " Do It Baby ". The group immediately had problems after signing with Columbia, starting with the release of their first Columbia single, "Spy For Brotherhood". Expecting controversy from the single as well as possible threats from the FBI , Columbia pulled the song from the airwaves. Following his reunion with the original Miracles on Motown 25, Robinson became dependent on cocaine , which affected his life and career. He broke the addiction in the late s and revived his singing career, with the Grammy-winning Top 10 hit single, " Just to See Her ". After the release of a 35th anniversary commemorative compilation album in , Ronnie White and Bobby Rogers decided to regroup the Miracles yet again, with Dave Finley returning to the fold and Sydney Justin , a former NFL player and former member of Shalamar , as lead singer. Sydney Justin is still the lead singer of The Miracles after 22 years of performing worldwide. Two years later, Ronnie White died from a longtime bout with leukemia , leaving the remaining Miracles as a trio until Tee Turner joined the group in Pete Moore died November 19, , on his 79th birthday. In both editions, they were immortalized by rock musician Bob Seger , who grew up a Miracles fan. Legacy[ edit ] The Miracles and their music have had worldwide impact, influencing scores of artists of many different musical genres around the globe. The original lineup of the group has consistently been revered by several critics in major rock and music magazines and have received numerous honors and awards for their contributions to the music industry. They have also been inducted into the Hit Parade Hall of Fame as of They were that good, and everybody knew it. But if the Supremes got in with Diana Ross and the Vandellas made it in with Martha Reeves and the three other Tops made it in with Levi Stubbs, how could the Miracles, who were much more important, not get in with Smokey? We are the premier group of Motown. We were there before there was a Motown. We set the pace for all the other artists to come after us. We were a little older, and the other artists looked up to us. How could we not be in there? He said they received many, many calls over the years from angry Miracles fans. I was surprised by that. You have to be thankful and grateful for that. It further stated the Miracles were "the heartbeat of Motown in the s, one of the best vocal groups ever formed and owners of some of the greatest records Rock has ever produced. At this special showing, as an expression of her gratitude, Ms Robinson stated: I am very grateful that the GRAMMY Museum has provided a platform for fans to experience the history of the Miracles and include items from my private collection to be displayed. The Miracles along with Mr. Thank you for the amazing

opportunity. Someplace in Detroit there should be a statue of Smokey Robinson and the Miracles.

### 3: The Cabal by Bill Ward

*Bill Ward was born in Birmingham, England, in His interest in drumming began as a toddler and by age 15, he was playing gigs. Ward played in several bands before meeting up with Tony Iommi in The two of them worked together in the group Mythology before they met up with Ozzy Osbourne and Geezer Butler in the band Polka Tulk Blues.*

Biography[ edit ] Early years and Black Sabbath[ edit ] Bill Ward started to play drums as a child, listening to the big bands of the s and his major influences were Gene Krupa , Buddy Rich and Louie Bellson. By the late s he was drinking during gigs , something he had never done before. Ward once again left for health reasons before the band toured in support of Born Again. He again rejoined Black Sabbath in the mids, though the band did not record or tour during this period. On one occasion, Ward even received third-degree burns. Bill and I were in the studio rehearsing one day and out of the blue I asked him, "May I set you on fire, Bill? He was wearing these polyester pants so they burned really quickly and he was on the floor screaming and crying. I could not help him because I was so busy laughing. It actually turned out to be quite serious. I felt really bad for him. He was sent to the hospital. Our Bill is going to have his leg off. Iommi claims that Ward almost died after a prank-gone-wrong during recording of Black Sabbath Vol. The band found several spray cans of gold DuPont paint in a room of the house; finding Ward naked and unconscious after drinking heavily, they proceeded to cover the drummer in gold paint from head to toe. In he went to work on a solo album, which featured a huge array of guest musicians, including former Black Sabbath bandmate Ozzy Osbourne and his guitarist, Zakk Wylde. Released in January , Ward One: It would be seven years before he released his second solo album, When the Bough Breaks , in In he released the song "Straws" as a single for charity. The song would reappear on his album Accountable Beasts. Ward made a brief return to the band for a South American tour in with Tony Martin fronting, before finally rejoining the band for the two shows at the Birmingham NEC, England on 4 and 5 December , which made up the Reunion album. When what was billed as the original line-up reunited for the Ozzfest tour in , Mike Bordin played drums. Ward then had to skip all but the last two band appearances in while he recovered from a heart attack suffered during the tour rehearsals that May. As the band rehearsed, Ward stopped and asked if he could lie down for a spell. He then asked for his assistant and informed the band that his arm had gone numb. Iommi and Butler then left for a short time, not knowing that Ward had actually suffered a heart attack. Upon returning to the rehearsal space a frantic Ozzy Osbourne informed them "Bill has had a heart attack! Bill has had a heart attack! Ward plays a variety of metal, hard rock, and some classic rock. However, Ward later decided not to participate in the tour or continue participation in the band because of musical differences with "a couple of the other bandmembers" and a reported concern about extended touring. Ward said that he had failed to reach an agreement regarding his contract. Unfortunately for you, our instincts were correct as you were in hospital several times during This would have meant that our world tour would have been canceled. So how is all of this my fault? Stop playing the victim and be honest with yourself and our fans. Ward was due to play a string of dates with his new band in December but had to cancel these when he was hospitalised with heart problems in November. Iommi says he quit smoking , gave up alcohol, adopted a vegan diet, and no longer uses drugs of any kind.

### 4: Elvis Presley and the Million Dollar Quartet | Official Graceland Blog

*Gary Chang had worked with Robbie on his first album that Daniel Lanois produced and Gary was instrumental in my meeting and then playing with Robbie. Apparently Gary called Robbie and apparently said, "You're an A-hole if you don't check out this drummer from New York, Billy Ward."*

His father had been found dead in the bedroom of his Sherman Oaks hillside home. I had just talked with Bill Thursday afternoon. A day later he was dead of an apparent heart attack at the age of 70. The coroner will announce the exact cause of death this week. I met Bill 10 years ago while writing my first book, *Los Angeles Radio People*, and we became fast friends. We were about the same age, struggled through a couple of marriages, managed stations in Los Angeles, and earlier in our career we both worked for Gordon McLendon. What impressed me about Bill was his humility. He made major contributions to the history of LA radio, yet he never wore it. He was more apt to pass along his success to others. He always had a moment for a silly cowboy joke or to pose for a silly photo. His first radio job at age 15 was in Waxahachie, a few miles from his hometown. He became station manager in 1960. Bill was hired by Metromedia in the late summer of 1960 to program KLAC and within a year was promoted to general manager. By the spring of 1961 he was elevated to president. He left Metromedia in the spring of 1962 and moved back to Los Angeles as president of Golden West Broadcasters, where he became manager of KMPC, in addition to his duties as president of the company. Bill orchestrated the format change of the station. The station was sold in early 1963 and Bill retired. He hired me as a consultant to KMPC in 1963 on a 3-month contract which turned into an almost 4 year position as program director and mid-day disc jockey. We had much more than a working relationship. Our lunches and birthday celebrations continued until the present. He introduced himself and told me a cowboy joke. I was a 70s rock and roller from Arizona, and Bill was from a map dot in Texas. We took an instant liking to one another that day and remained friends up until our last conversation about three weeks ago. He was laid back in his management style, but was a very dynamic and enterprising radio executive. Bill was big hearted, kind and generous to those he cared deeply about. He was always ready to lend an ear, or quick to lend money to those who were struggling. He was a dedicated father who was enormously proud of his kids and their accomplishments. And, boy did he love his dogs! Bill knew going into the format that the Autrys would eventually sell the station, but he made very clear to all of us that we were going to do something new and exciting and he was right. Top 40 format on a country station playing the hits. Great jingles, great announcers, wonderful production. Simply one of the best. The thought of being wooed by the competition was intriguing, so I went to the KTLA lot for the meeting. Bill and I hit it off from the start. I did so, Cox countered, and Bill effectively got me a huge raise. Bill loved technology and kept on shooting photos of us with his digital camera. We compared cell phones, talked radio, and discussed the business today. I still treasure the photo of all of us sitting at the delicatessen table holding our hands up to our ears in our best Gary Owens pose. It was at this luncheon that he offered me the gift of a CD he had made. Bill loved making CDs for various occasions. In this particular instance, it was to memorialize and celebrate the acquisition of his latest pup, Satchmo. Track 1 was Bill telling the heartfelt story of how Satchmo picked him out from all the other puppies in the litter of dogs. Both, however, brought tears to my eyes more than once. But every time I looked at it, something inside me made me leave it right where it was. This past Friday night I was getting ready to visit my mother in our hometown of Hemet. I glanced at the desk and saw the CD. Saturday morning came and I gathered them both in the living room to hear the CD. My mother and sister were moved by the story as well. Bill had built it with other tracks featuring Louis Armstrong singing many of his hits. Then, my cell phone rang. It was Don Elliot asking me if I had heard the news. Bill had passed away in his sleep last night and Don had just heard about it himself. The news came as a shock. We had only had lunch a few days earlier, and Bill looked great. He was happy and enjoying life. It was *What a Wonderful World*. I knew it was a sign from Bill. It all made sense: Once again, you played an important part in my life. Gotta live it to the limit, folks! I worked for him two different times when the station calling itself KMPC got ratings. I know he was very generous to this column. There was no HINT of a possible problem. Man, oh man, oh man. He was extremely intelligent and combined his intellect

with common sense. He was quiet and unassuming but also a strong and excellent manager and leader. He understood all facets of broadcasting and he also understood people. His death is a real loss. He also took a big chance on me. He was one of the good ones. Bill finally called me into his office. I thought that this was it; I was going to be replaced as a news guy as I was still really still wet behind the ears. That was not the case. I immediately said Harry Newman. I thought Harry was one of the best straight jocks I had ever heard. Bill said to get him a tape. I called Harry, who was working at a station in Pottstown, Pennsylvania and as I thought, Harry rejected the offer out of hand. After about 30 minutes on the phone with him, I convinced him to cut an audition tape for Bill. Harry sent me that tape. I listened to it in the production room. He came into the production room, listened to the tape of Harry and walked out. The next morning, Bill called me into his office after I had done the last traffic report of the morning. I lost touch with Bill, as radio people do, but in I arrived in the market from Honolulu. My father was in the process of dying in a hospital. My goodness, it was as if no time had passed. Bill and I just went on as if the years were yesterdays. Radio has lost one of the premier gentlemen and country programmers in this professions history. Bill was somewhat of a mentor of mine years back. While there, the program director at the time, Hap Trout, was promoted to sales manager and Bill, who was at our sister station KBBQ, was to over see the programming in the Desert, starting with finding a new pd. The general manager and Bill wanted me to interview for the job. Now it was time for me to return to the station. They were running promos announcing my return, etc. I went in on a Friday to prepare to go back on the air the following Monday. The pd and Bill wanted me to return to afternoon drive so the pd could do mornings. Round and round we went Bill suggests we adjourn to think about it and would I meet him for breakfast the next morning? Again, I stood my ground knowing that I had a contract and my gm on my side. So, we take a ride - all the way up to Idyllwild and back. The bottom line was that I stayed on the morning shift and 2 weeks later, this new pd gets busted by the Palm Springs pd for selling pot to some kids in the news van in back of the Desert Sun [co-owned by KDES at the time].

### 5: Bill Ward (British artist) - Wikipedia

*October 20, Tony Iommi Talks Bill Ward's Return To Sabbath. With Black Sabbath ready to hit the road for its farewell tour, The End, in January, fans are still wondering if drummer Bill Ward might return to his stool after sitting out the group's last album and tour, reportedly over business disagreements.*

The Cabal is a well written, very topical and fast paced thriller. Powell is a very likeable and well rounded character and I enjoyed seeing the progression of his relationship with Afina, from the first book in the series. I look forward to reading more from Bill Ward. The first few pages dragged me in and I was hooked. I also loved the way the book is right up to date – an unnamed president of the United States no one likes for example, the pressure the Cabal put on him not to sign the Paris Climate Agreement. I shall be looking out for the next one. Fast paced and quickly into the action. I look forward to The Chairman raising his head in the future but due to the quickness of this book maybe that could have been expanded and concluded here. I like Powell and as always I look forward to meeting him again. Oct 13, David Applegate rated it it was amazing A great mix of political intrigue on an international stage with action. The Cabal is the third of them and, like the rest, the compulsion to read and read until I was finished was irresistible. Other writers would get hammered for that but Bill sails blithely along, dragging his reader breathlessly behind him, page after page. So what is it? Wish I could figure it out. The Cabal is a particularly thrilling novel. It tells the story of a sinister group of billionaires trying to save the world. It was a bad day for Powell, then, when a job he is asked to do accidentally puts him into conflict with this group and, in particular, with a menacing individual called The Chairman. In determining to protect a battered woman and her children, Powell suddenly finds himself targeted by a series of hit-men, particularly a highly professional, deadly dangerous ex-IRA killer. Whatever it is, keep on doing it Bill. This reviewer, for sure, will be reading everything you write from now on. It is composed of the planets powerful international leaders, where wealth is no limit. When she snoops into his computer she discovers an email that once shared with her friend, and implicates Powell, risks all their lives. As Powell comes on board to protect the wife and her children, the intense action begins: The cast of characters is familiar with the addition of the cabal members. As Powell follows the threads, involving his friends, the action continues to intensity right down to a satisfying ending. No doubt, I will continue to be a fan, and hope there will be another Power book to follow. Also, having read all his books as they are released meeting Powell, Afina and Jenkins is like catching up with old friends. A group of the super rich and powerful have joined together to make the world a better place unfettered by politics or the need for public approval. Manipulating terrorist attacks along with assisting an unpopular American President with secret understandings with Russia is all part of the course to achieve their greater aims. That is until Powell becomes involved in helping one of those people. Bill Ward dishes this up for me in spades with his vivid imagination. A sinister group of powerful and wealthy international leaders purporting to save the world are quite I like reading about clandestine Cabals, Cartels, Secret Societies and their immoral Conspiracies. A sinister group of powerful and wealthy international leaders purporting to save the world are quite happy to murder anyone who gets in the way of their plans. The hero Powell is a worthy assailant to tackle the ruthless Chairman of this group, whose idea of promoting his favorite politician is to have someone shoot him. Not fatally of course. Just enough to raise sympathy. The book delivers fast paced action from well-developed characters with whom I connected instantly. An excellent easy to read political thriller, I highly recommend it. Not to be missed. I must also mention the story is incredibly topical. Roll on the next one!

### 6: Bill Ward | Biography & History | AllMusic

*Bill Ward was born in Birmingham, England, in His interest in drumming began as a toddler and by age 15, he was playing gigs. Ward played in several bands before meeting up with Tony Iommi in*

Formed in Aston, Birmingham, in , Black Sabbath - singer Ozzy Osbourne, guitarist Tony Iommi, bassist Geezer Butler and drummer Bill Ward - unwittingly tapped into the ennui and anxiety that ran through the lives of young urban rock fans during a time period of televised war, civil unrest and down-turning economic fortunes to paint a picture sharply at odds with the perceived peace and love ethos of the day. Forged in the industrial heartland of the Midlands, Black Sabbath endured more than their fare share of hardship as they honed their sound to evolve from heavy blues rock into something quite unique while slogging it out on the British and European live circuits. All of which makes their rise from a then derided outfit to lionised originators then to international musical institution all the more remarkable. But with huge success comes even bigger pitfalls. Speaking to Bill Ward via telephone from L. A long, long time ago! What was the first music you remember having an impact on you, and who inspired you to move behind a kit? The first music that I listened to was American jazz. So as a child in " I was born in " I was listening to a lot of these jazz records. That was my first impression and I loved all that. And in England there was The Shadows. They were a huge fucking influence. They were a great band; Tony Meehan on drums and Jet Harris on bass; really great. Is it true you were trained as a jazz drummer? Come and sit behind the kit. I was amazed by them. The essential ingredient to any successful band is the musical chemistry that exists between the players. Can you remember the moment when it clicked for you as far as Black Sabbath were concerned? I was just amazed by his appearance and there was something really odd about him. He was unusual, so different; he stood out a mile. I had really long hair, Geezer had really long hair and so did Tony but actually, Oz was a skinhead. Back then there was always trouble between long-haired people and skinheads and lot of people got hurt. I felt the rawness of everything. Geezer, at the time, was playing rhythm guitar but there was something about the four of us that felt incredibly comfortable. The signals were that it felt good. We all recognised at the same time that we had something good there and that was when we played at the Aston Community Centre. It was actually at the Aston Community Centre and Tony came up with the famous three notes. See, this was a band that was jamming together all of the time. My job is to get that song which is a whole different set of thinking. Black Sabbath played the Star Club in Hamburg. Did the legacy of The Beatles have any impact on the band? I was very excited to be in Hamburg and I was very excited to be at the Star Club. I consider those days of our lives to be really, really good days. They were full of hardship and they were full of all different kinds of problems every day. We were so fortuitous because we always showed up on time, we played eight shows a day in the Star Club and we were playing on hallowed ground. Not only had The Beatles performed there but a lot of the Liverpool bands had gone there and everyone was going there. If you could survive Hamburg, then you could do well pretty much anywhere else. Those were remarkable days and now, at my age, I embrace them. Just wonderful, warm feelings and I think, my God, they were absolutely fantastic. There are, to my mind, a couple of things that seem to get overlooked when it comes to Black Sabbath: Where did that come from? Where you listening to much funk back then? When people look at our stuff in hindsight, they now realise how much jazz was being played in Black Sabbath. And I think it comes back from the childhood things that we learned and the influences of stuff that we picked up at the ages of around 13 and 14 through to our 20s like the blues. Also, we came from a city that had reggae. A lot of the drumming with Black Sabbath is behind the beat. It was like apple pie and custard to us. I think I learned all those things listening to jazz and music that was that little bit different. I can remember a time when Ozzy and I were about 21 and one of our favourite artists that we listened to at the time was Moondog. I think it was real and it was done at a time when I was definitely in study. I was around all these guys. All these guys, to me, are such good rock drummers but they are all versed in some aspect and depth in jazz. They swing and they have all sorts of rudiments and they way they all put it down is marvellous. I think we were guys who were maturing a little bit and we were becoming more and more conscious of things that were going on around us. Maybe we were taking things

much more seriously and kind of falling out of the bubble. Keep in mind that one of the most important things was that we were all, pretty much, pissed off guys. We were kind of at odds with the counter-culture. Some of those things: You had to watch your arse back then to make sure you got home safely and not get your fucking head kicked in. I was angry about a lot of things. All I know is, I went on into the blackness of where we lived and into the dark where the gas lamps still existed. The morbidity of that darkness reflected in my life, probably in some ways was a form of depression. But we were all angry young men and that really shows up in the music. Because we let our vulnerability be so pronounced in the music, it hit a chord with the people who listened to it. They were vulnerable and pissed off too. The leap from Master Of Reality to Vol. How much did the change in environment and drugs of choice play a part? Master Of Reality, I always felt, was the last album in terms of the constant touring. We went around the world multiple times and we played just about everywhere. We needed to take a break so we decided to make our next record in California and so some of the sunshine and some of the effects of that bled into Vol. And this included the aftermath of the counter-culture; there were still a lot of people still wearing flowers in their hair and this is in and that was still very prominent, especially in California. Geezer, Ozzy and myself even visited a lot of the hippy ranches and communes. They were all singing and banging tambourines. A song came out of that. We went to Laguna Beach in southern California and we came back absolutely impressed. Things like that were a huge influence and by that time I was using cocaine and become addicted to it. Black Sabbath recorded an incredible amount of music in a very short space of time on top of all the touring. Where the drink and drugs consumed a coping mechanism or the fruits of your labour? All of that was going on and I think that it just fired the way that we were: Tony Iommi once set you on fire and the rest of the band nearly killed you by covering you in gold paint. What kind of a strain does that put on relationships? He was having all sorts of problems, especially when his father passed away, but until then we were having a perfectly good time. I felt that everyone having a good time because I was having a good time. He left for a short while and then he came back, thank God. Then I recognised we had another huge problem when we finished Never Say Die and we wanted to move on to another album and of course that was when Oz was asked to leave. Why did it fall to you to tell Ozzy he was fired? Because I usually had to clean up all the shit. Most of the time I always got the shit jobs that nobody wanted to do. But Oz was like a brother. But at the time, I thought maybe I was the best guy to do it. I kind of volunteered to do it: That was the day the band imploded. What was it like stepping behind the mic? Ozzy really liked that song. The alcohol was, without question, the robber of everything. Alcohol had become more important than Black Sabbath, our audience, my family, everything and that included me. I crossed the line. I blew a gig we were supposed to be playing and I literally placed more priority on the drink than I did the gig. Part of my life today is ensuring that will never happen again.

### 7: Bill Ward (musician) - Wikipedia

*William "Bill" Ward is Vice Chair of El Pomar Foundation. He is the retired President of Ward Transport, Inc., a family-owned trucking company, and is a past chairman of the American Trucking Association.*

An official statement posted on his website reads: Further, I will not be playing at Lollapalooza on August 3, This statement is even more painstaking to write, as I was particularly excited to play alongside Tony Iommi after the recent treatments he underwent. I wanted that to become a reality. My brother Jimmy lives in the U. I waited in line with my son and paid x amount for the concert tickets. Upon hearing this news, I felt horrible. I have had to stand up for myself and in doing so realize my actions indirectly, although unintentionally, are upsetting and hurting a lot of you. I made a solemn vow after the last European and Ozzfest concerts that I would never again enter into what was, in my opinion, a totally unsatisfactory contract. I was not willing to participate in that offer. I was not prepared to watch another drummer play a Sabbath set, while I was to play only three songs. I was taken aback somewhat by the date, and the fact it was Birmingham. I had no prior knowledge of the date and location, and I felt totally excluded. We contacted the representative for Black Sabbath to see if something could be worked out. In the meantime my drum crew and I, along with our US endorsers, finished all the necessary planning for a swift departure to the UK. There were two stress points: Jetlag time was taken into account as well as drum practice, a drum practice room in the heart of Birmingham, accommodation, and travel arrangements were all in place to meet with any band rehearsals that may have transpired before the Birmingham show. My ideal thought was to play in full the Birmingham show, in full Download, and in full Lollapalooza. On the night of May 9 I asked for a brief letter to be sent to the representative asking to find out if we were at an end. On the morning of Thursday, May 10, I received a reply in the affirmative. After consulting with my advisors and crew a decision was made to let go and stop. All of you are important. Saying no to Birmingham is very difficult for me. My family grew up in Birmingham. Black Sabbath grew up in Birmingham. There are many complicated issues and unseen and unspoken agendas on hand. My fight has never been with them. Even the ones who thought they did. But, I have written it, and now it can go into the universe. I stand for the boy in the U. With all my heart and strength, I love you, Bill Ward" With Ward still holding out for a "signable" contract, the band will presumably still keep to their plans to record a new Black Sabbath record. It still remains unclear who will play drums for the band on both their upcoming live shows as well as future recordings.

### 8: Black Sabbath drummer Bill Ward demands apology from Ozzy Osbourne | Music | The Guardian

*William Thomas Ward (born 5 May ) is an English musician and visual artist, best known as the original drummer of the British heavy metal band Black Sabbath. He also performed lead vocals on two Black Sabbath songs: "It's Alright" from the album Technical Ecstasy and "Swinging the Chain" from the album Never Say Die!.*

### 9: Bill Ward on Spotify

*Bill Ward was the City of Chesapeake's first and so far only African-American mayor, leading the city from to*

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