

Written by Charles Waring

Monday, 09 April 2018 21:29 - Last Updated Wednesday, 11 April 2018 15:35



The Temptations are a veritable soul music institution. In a storied recording career that stretches back to 1961 and the dawn of Motown Records, the legendary vocal quintet have witnessed myriad changes in personnel and had many fine singers come through their ranks - including David Ruffin, Eddie Kendricks, and Dennis Edwards, to name but three - but their one constant and ever-present figure has been co-founder, **Otis Williams**. He's been the solid rock behind the group that has given them stability and continuity during fifty-seven years of blood, sweat, toil and tears that has yielded a plethora of hit records and heaps of awards and prestigious accolades.

At 76, **Otis Williams** has no inclination to hang up his microphone just yet. *"As long as I can keep doing the dance steps, I'll keep going,"* he laughs, though, sadly, you feel that the time when the curtain comes down on his career is drawing ever closer. But for the moment, though, The Temptations are still a viable and going concern and are set to bring their unique vocal magic and stupendous back catalogue to the UK this coming November when they co-headline a joint eight-concert tour with fellow Motown legends,

the Four Tops

. The two groups, who have enjoyed a long but friendly rivalry, have been touring together for many years now and enjoy the camaraderie of being together on the road.

"We've been doing this for about four decades so it's like old hat to us,"

laughs softly-spoken Otis.

"They travel on their own bus and we travel on our bus and then we get to the gig," he says, describing the two groups' on-the-road routine. "We laugh and talk and enjoy one another's company, and then we go and do the show and then go to the hotel and rest up and then go on the bus to the next gig. So we're like pedestrians - we just work and take care of what we do."

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[http://www.4mat.com/ot-is-williams-on-the-temptations-uk-tour-2018-04-09](#)

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