

[Home](http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/) (<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/>) [Showbiz](http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/showbiz/) (<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/showbiz/>)

[Celebrity interviews](http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/showbiz/celebrity-interviews/) (<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/showbiz/celebrity-interviews/>)

## Pop legend Gary Numan applies for US move to safeguard family from England's 'job culture'

**Aug 19 2011** (<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/showbiz/celebrity-interviews/2011/08/19/>) Exclusive by John Dingwall



ELECTRO pop legend Gary Numan is hoping to emigrate to the United States because he no longer believes his family is safe from England's job culture.

The million-selling singer/songwriter, 53, has applied for a Green Card and is planning a move to Santa Monica, in California, with wife Gemma, 42, and their three daughters.

He began the application process days after the recent riots in London, Birmingham, Manchester and Liverpool and following threats made to his wife close to their East Sussex home.

Numan, best known for his No.1 hits Are 'Friends' Electric? and coffin. application absolutely Cars, revealed: "We are trying to emigrate to America. We will know within the next month if we are successful."

The couple's home is nestled between the resort towns of Eastbourne and Tunbridge Wells and couldn't be further from the urban decay that many associate with thugs and gangs.

Numan said: "We live right out in the country. It is very rural and there are no big cities.

"You would think it would be the most peaceful place in the world and it is very pretty and relatively affluent.

"Yet the other day my wife was walking down the High Street and a bunch of kids between 12 and 14 were telling her what they would like to do to her. "She had my children with her. You've got to be kidding.

"Every village and town in England has a bunch of thugs running around in it. "The riots were the nail in the coffin. I have been sitting on the application for the last two months, asking Gemma if she is absolutely sure because once it is done, it's done forever.

"The day after the riots, I got onto the lawyer and said, 'let's do it - get on with it'. "I do love being English and I am not anti the country but I have got to think of the children.

"America clearly has its own problems, but Santa Monica is great. It has beautiful beaches and the Pacific ocean. There is not one bit of trouble and not one surly or aggressive person there.

"Everyone is friendly. You ask the teenagers there for directions and they are polite and helpful.

"Do that here and you are as likely to get stabbed as you are to get directions. The fact is the English are pretty miserable.

" Numan, real name Gary Webb, is considered the godfather of the electropop music scene and shot to fame in 1979, as Tubeway Army, before releasing songs under his stage name. Though he was pilloried in the press for his overly stylised image and a comment in support of Margaret Thatcher, the singer is back in vogue.

Foo Fighters' Dave Grohl, Kanye West, Trent Reznor of Nine Inch Nails and Basement Jaxx are just some of the acts who have paid homage in recent years. And he is back with a new album of his own, called Dead Son Rising, and planning to return to Scotland as part of a UK tour, with a date at Glasgow's ABC, on September 20.

He recalled: "My first ever big concert was in Glasgow on September 20, 1979. It was an important date for me. Everything started there. I have fantastic memories. It was the first time I had played in front of a big crowd and the first time I had experienced fan hysteria.

"The police had to escort the coach because it was under siege.

"It was a tragedy they got rid of that venue. The excitement and the amount of interest was amazing.

"The support for Margaret Thatcher was blown out of all proportion. I only voted Conservative once but it has stuck with me forever. I said I didn't believe anyone who would rather have a Mini than a Ferrari.

"It was as if any ambition was a slap in the face to the working man. People would throw insults one minute and then tell me they loved me the next. It took some getting used to because I was still living with my mum and dad."

He eventually moved out of his parents' home and later married Gemma, who had been a member of his fan club, in 1997.

The couple underwent lengthy IVF treatment before Gemma became pregnant. But she miscarried late into the pregnancy.

A further treatment led to the birth of Raven, 'The now eight, while both Persia, six, and Echo, four-and-a-half, were conceived naturally. The rocker admits: "I love being a dad, to be honest. I moan about it a lot but I worship the ground they walk on. It took us seven years to have Raven. There were lots of horrible things and we lost a baby.

"Ivf is an amazing thing to be able to do, but it can be a difficult process to go through.

"When we had Raven we were still in the deep mindset that we couldn't have children naturally. "So

when Gemma got pregnant with the second one, Persia, it was actually a shock." The couple were unsure whether they wanted a third child.

"When she discovered she was pregnant we both thought, 'oh no'," he admitted. "We had found one child amazingly easy. When we had two it was as if we had 10 because they never slept at the same time.

"We thought the third would be a nightmare. We talked about whether we should keep it or not.

"We really didn't think we would because the thought of having another one was horrific at the time.

"I looked through my baby book when I got back from tour and there was a photograph of the eight-week-old embryo and it was a proper little thing. I just decided we were being stupid and that we should have it. What a brilliant decision that was. She is amazing.

"There was an endless list of pros and cons. At the end of it all, there is just an emotional part that you can't ignore. Some people seem to be able to just say, 'no, don't want it', easily. It's no big deal to them and I don't know how they do it.

"Thank God we didn't because we have a brilliant, beautiful little girl with a massive personality."

## Users' Comments (2)

POWERED BY  Pluck



**Honestjohn** (<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/community/profile/?UID=273157-ncms&plckUserId=273157-ncms>) wrote:

What a clown does he think Santa Monica is safer than Turnbridge wells. Looks like some one wanting some free publicity.

(<http://www.pluck.c>

(<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/community/profile/?UID=273157-ncms&plckUserId=273157-ncms>) on dailyrecord.co.uk

### Permalink

(<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/showbiz/celebrity-interviews/2011/08/19/pop-legend-gary-numan-applies-for-us-move-to-safeguard-family-from-england-s-yob-culture-86908-23355696/?plckFindCommentKey=Comment!a3da-909f714af239>)

[Recommend \(5\) \(#none\)](#)

[Report Abuse \(#none\)](#)



**JJ888888** (<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/community/profile/?UID=294035-ncms&plckUserId=294035-ncms>) wrote:

Looks more like a paper wanting to make a story. I saw numan in LA in nov 2010 and he was planning to move then. the scum of the earth rioting is just the nail in the coffin and i dont blame him

(<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/community/profile/?UID=294035-ncms&plckUserId=294035-ncms>) on dailyrecord.co.uk

### Permalink

(<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/showbiz/celebrity-interviews/2011/08/19/pop-legend-gary-numan-applies-for-us-move-to-safeguard-family-from-england-s-yob-culture-86908-23355696/?plckFindCommentKey=Comment!>)

[Recommend \(2\) \(#none\)](#)

[Report Abuse \(#none\)](#)

**cf30-407a-a1db-3ae12af59a25)**

You must be logged in to leave a comment.  
[Login](#) | [Register](#)



- **Comments (2)**  
**(#sitelife-commentsWidget-bottom)**
- **Recommend (#none)**