

What a

HOUND DOG

Rebecca Harris, 43, from Wednesbury, couldn't help falling in love with her son's rockin' obsession...

YOU'VE
GOTTA
SING!

Rushing through the front door, my son Ben, 11, scrambled into the living room. Clutching at the TV remote, he flicked the channel to his favourite after-school show, *Horrible Histories*.

Ben was completely obsessed with history – it was his favourite subject at school. Known for its deep dive into historical figures – kings, queens and even Hollywood celebrities – *Horrible Histories* enthralled him.

As I started cooking dinner, I looked back at the TV.

Ben's eyes were glued to the screen. More accurately, they were glued to Elvis.

Swaying and crooning, the episode was demystifying rumours about Elvis being arrested for his sexy dancing.

And Ben was fascinated. Once the show finished, Ben ran upstairs to his bedroom.

I heard the door slam shut. *What could he be doing up there?* I wondered.

I padded upstairs and slowly opened Ben's bedroom door. Swinging his hips in time to *Suspicious Minds* blasting from his Alexa, Ben was replicating the famous crooner's dance moves.

He must've copied them from Horrible Histories! I thought.

While I laughed off my son's new fascination and returned downstairs, I never suspected it to become something bigger.

But so began Ben's all-

consuming love for Elvis Presley.

We'd played Elvis in the house before, but we never expected it to be to Ben's taste!

As Christmas approached, I expected Ben to ask for a new football kit, as he's the goalie for our local team.

But what he asked for took me and his dad, Ashley, 41, by surprise.

'Mum, please can I have this Elvis outfit?' he begged, showing us an image of Elvis' infamous white-one piece on his phone.

Bemused, I logged onto OnBuy and found an exact match from Smiffys Fancy Dress for just £50. Jewel-encrusted and all!

And the look on Ben's face when he opened his present under the tree on Christmas Day was priceless.

The next day, Ben emerged downstairs clad in his Elvis suit.

And he looked just like Elvis the Pelvis!

Setting up his karaoke machine, he really did put on a Boxing Day show for us, blasting the King of Rock and Roll's classics.

His older brother, Jacob, 14, went red with embarrassment.

As there aren't really any Elvis fans in the family, Ben's new obsession came as a surprise to us.

But we were

He begged
for Elvis'
iconic
white suit!



We weren't Elvis fans

Our Elvis the Pelvis



don't fully get it.

One friend gave him a newspaper advert for a special Elvis coin.

'I saw this and thought of you,' he said.

Ben eagerly filled out the form and sent off for it when he got home from school.

burning with love.

Since then, Ben's performed countless times for us. He thrives off performing at every family occasion.

He's listened to all of Elvis' music, even the more obscure songs like *Polk Salad Annie*.

He knows all the words, too!

Despite his unique obsession, Ben is what you'd expect a normal 11-year-old to be like – always playing football with his friends.

But for me, the best bit of his obsession is that it's different – it's not the normal stuff you'd expect like playing Xbox.

His school friends have been so supportive even though they

It's now been added to his Elvis collection, including his T-shirts and CDs.

We've even been to see Elvis tribute acts, with Ben donning his Elvis sunglasses each time.

One night, we headed to our local – Churchill's Bar.

Ben was the loudest one there, singing along and getting the tribute's attention.

'This one's for you, little Elvis!' the tribute act pointed at him the crowd.

Ben's face just lit up, elated.

A trip to Graceland is next on Ben's wishlist.

We just have to save up first!

Now that Lisa Marie's died, he wants to visit her grave.

I know Ben will keep on crooning and he's even mentioned becoming an Elvis impersonator.

But for now, his performances are just for family eyes only, as he can get a bit shy busting out his moves in public.

We can't help falling in love with his adorable act, so hopefully the public will one day, too.

Our little hound dog!



Jamming away