

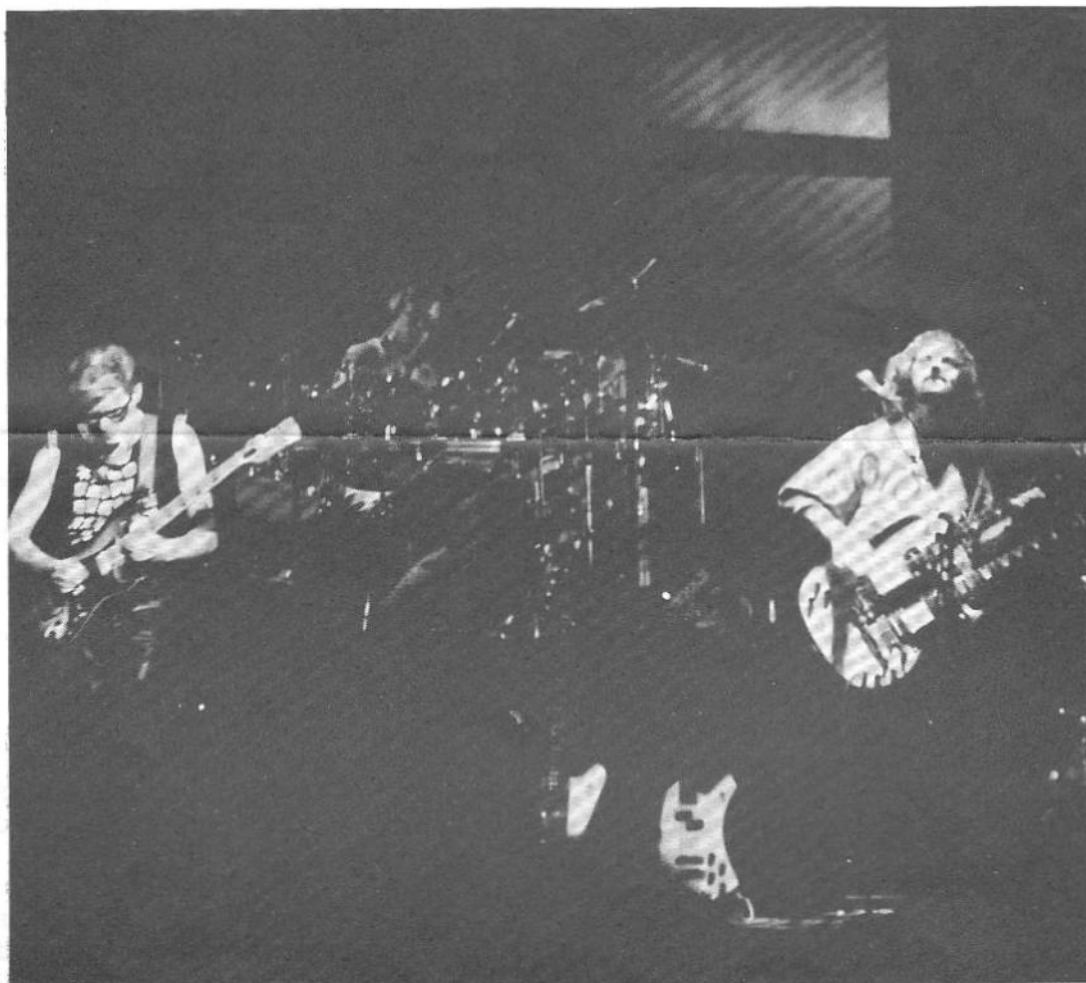
Friends of
BARCLAY JAMES HARVEST

P.O. Box 9
STOCKPORT
Cheshire SK2 6RG

NEWSLETTER NO : 29

JUNE, 1984

LIVE AT BIRMINGHAM!!!



Dear Friend :

Hope you are all well and happy after the tour and album. I'm whacked. Things have been CHAOTIC here and just as I was about to see the top of my desk for once, it's all started again. Still it just means that our family is fast increasing.

I have some bad news and some good news so I'll spill the bad first and then give you the good to help you recover.

Sadly BJH had to cancel part of the Euro tour. John had a rather nasty accident at the Lyon gig on June 2nd. Unfortunately he took a fall from the stage at the end of the show and broke his finger. As he was already suffering from a bust rib and had carried on so far, the boys had no alternative but to cancel. They are very unhappy about it, particularly as they were enjoying it so much.

The goods news is twofold. Firstly, they will reschedule the missed dates during September. Secondly it is being whispered around the office that they will be playing Wembley Stadium, also during September and I can report that the whisper is getting louder daily. I do not, however, have a firm date for this as yet.

ALBUM SUCCESS

Victims of Circumstance (VOC) certainly did well for the boys ... gold in Switzerland, about to go gold in France and Germany and with the VOC single making number one in France, BJH: are very pleased indeed.

THE TOUR

The response has been incredible. Almost to a one did you approve and how. I'll print a selection of your views in a second so that those who couldn't get to see the boys can feel some of the atmosphere and those of us who saw a concert can relive it.

SOUTHAMPTON - Dear Chrissie, My son and I saw BJH in concert at Southampton and I just had to write to say how much we enjoyed it. We both liked the new line up in backing vocals and the lighting display was absolutely out of this world and as for the boys themselves, they really do defy description - roll on the next concert. Yours Peter and Andy.

MANCHESTER. Three years is a long time to be away and having seen the band in Frankfurt and Paris during the meantime, the question was could the band regain lost ground. With a new album and also ROC to promote it was obvious before the start there wasn't going to be much room for many oldies - even if they are classics and as it turned out most of the show was taken up by the new albums, but who cares. If the band are to move on in different directions then you can't keep playing MOCKINGBIRD 12 years on, and who knows, tracks like SIDESHOW might become BJH classics. I don't see why not. Having got the support out of the way, the stage was set. This was the first night of a massive 55 date sven nation trek, as well as playing their home town, and as was expected there were slight problems in the early stages of the concert. They opened with FIFTIES CHILD and as mentioned there were some problems with the sound etc. I thought it wasn't loud enough! But as first night nerves etc disappeared, the BJH we know started to produce the goods.

With an excellent light show and brilliant lasers two girl backing singers and a new keyboard player, the band turned in an excellent overall programme. Playing for nearly 2½ hours they played 6 tracks from ROC, including an excellent version of the title track, lasers and all. The new album stood up well with SIDESHOW being a high point. Lyrics wise, JOHN and LES have written their best for a long time on the new songs. The girl backing singers add a new dimension to the band and I personally hope they aren't dropped, either for future albums or tours. As usual, JOHN LES and MEL were up to their usual high standards and also new boy BIAS BOSHELL and, of course, KEVIN MCLEA both played well.

With CHILD OF THE UNIVERSE and POOR MAN'S MOODY BLUES thrown in for good measure and, of course, not forgetting - as if they would be allowed to - HYMN, it was a good night for the band. The fans at the end of the show made sure of that.

The band have certainly come a long way since 1966, nearly 20 years and this must be their most important European tour to date. I wish them all the luck in the world and thanks for a good night at Manchester - Steve Heap.

LONDON - Dear Chrissie, No doubt you have a lot of letters concerning the recent tour. I would just like to add my comments and thanks. I and my two friends saw the group at Hammersmith. I was very impressed as were my two companions, by the band's performance. I am quite a new convert to the music of BJH but this did not spoil my enjoyment of the concert at all. We were left standing outside the doors for 20 minutes after we arrived, due to a delay caused by the lighting arrangements. However, after seeing the extraordinary and marvellous light show the delay was well worth it. The group played impeccably, if not a bit late, and the addition of the two female backing vocalists added a new dimension to the songs, both old and new. The laser effects on Berlin, ROC, and the butterfly rising into the air on Hymn were incredible and met with suitable gratitude by the sell out audience. Thank you BARCLAY JAMES HARVEST for a great evening. Yours sincerely Jonanthan Pettit. P.S. Congrat's to Kevin for his success with 99 Red Balloons.

Well as you will see from that small selection of the literally hundreds of letters on the subject, a good time was had by all. As yet I've not received much in the way of reviews from abroad.

ANOTHER ALBUM CHART PLEASE

That's been the cry reflected in many of your letters lately. And as I'm here to please, that's what we'll do. I'm doing 2 charts - an album one (Top 10) and a track one (Top 20). To participate and I want EVERYONE to get off their bums this time please, let me know your top 5 albums and top 10 tracks in the order of preference. I'll then compile it. Closing date is Friday 31st August 1984.

QUESTION TIME WITH ME

I can feel my face going red already but here goes ...

1. WHEN YOU TOOK OVER FOBHJH HOW LONG DID IT TAKE YOU TO LEARN ABOUT BJH AND TO ADJUST TO RUNNING THE FAN CLUB?

I'm still learning about BJH. Quite often I find myself unable to reply to questions you send in so I have to tap my sources

and I'm sure if you asked them they'd say I drive them mad a lot of the time. Adjusting to running the club was the easy part. I've run clubs for a long time and so it was simply a matter of modifying certain systems to my own way of doing things. The biggest problem I found was dealing with the members. Most of the clubs I had run previously had me dealing with "boppers" and FOBJH members were a different kettle of fish.

2. WHAT IS YOUR FAVE BJH SONG AND ALBUM ?

EYES OF THE UNIVERSE is my fave album and I have two equal favourite songs - BERLIN and HYMN.

3. WHEN DID YOU FIRST HEAR ABOUT BJH ?

In about 1976. At the time I was working for other Polydor bands and a friend of mine, who worked then at Polydor, used to know BJH quite well and spoke of them often.

4. HOW DID YOU GO ABOUT FORMING THE CLUB ?

I didn't. It was started by WOOLLY's wife, JILL. As it expanded she found it too much to cope with on her own and asked Lindsay (Brown) to see if he could find her some help. I'd dealt with Lindsay for many years and he approached me. Three months later, I was running it all on my own as JILL left when WOOLLY did.

5. DO BJH OFFER ANY IDEAS FOR THE NEWSLETTER OR FOR THE CLUB IN GENERAL ?

They don't really interfere with the club- they leave it to me mostly but sometimes they come up with ideas. When I say they don't interfere it sounds bad, what I mean is they leave the administration of it to me (thanks a lot guys) but are very interested in what's going on. Think they'd go in for the competitions if I let them. They are very co-operative and helpful, right down to JOHN carting this typewriter in the boot of his car for me.

6. HOW MANY TIMES HAVE YOU SEEN THEM IN CONCERT AND WHICH WAS YOUR FAVOURITE?

Three times over here and once in Paris. Each one was my favourite at the time but I very much enjoyed the atmosphere at Paris Hippodrome.

7. DO YOU HAVE MANY PEOPLE THAT HELP YOU RUN THE CLUB?

Not enough! I have help from the boys, their management team etc but in terms of actual hard slog and routine day to day management of it, my main source of help, STEVE HEAP, has deserted me to do his own thing in Israel so now I have to rope in my family and friends particularly at Newsletter time

8. ROUGHLY HOW MANY MEMBERS DO WE HAVE OUTSIDE THE BRITISH ISLES?

It's hard to say without physically counting them, but membership currently stands at over 2500, and I'd estimate 80% were British. However we are daily increasing in size and lots more members are coming from abroad.

9. DO POLYDOR KEEP YOU UP TO DATE WITH THE BANDS ACTIVITIES?

Mostly. My main source of info was FORBES CAMERON who sadly no longer works with us. Also another of my sources is Jan Kaley (Lindsay Brown's secretary) and of course the boys and David Walker and Lindsay Brown and Simon Renshaw.

10. IS THERE ANY CHANCE OF A FOBJH CONVENTION.

This was suggested by Steve last year but only 40 odd members expressed interest. We therefore decided to dispense with the idea and it may be that if enough people do show some interest in the future it can be revived. The boys themselves thought it a good idea though.

11. WHAT OTHER BANDS DO YOU LIKE AND DO YOU GO TO CONCERTS ?

I don't know if I dare say. I'm not really into other bands as such. I just like various songs and the last 2 albums I bought were as diverse as DIONNE WARWICK and THE BOOMTOWN RATS. I go to a few concerts, mostly when friends of mine are working on them though. I quite like the music of BILLY JOEL and, it goes without saying, BARCLAY JAMES HARVEST.

12. HOW LONG HAVE YOU WORKED FOR THE BARCLAYS AND DO YOU ENJOY YOUR JOB.

5 years and I LOVE IT, Sometimes. Sometimes I look at the mass of mail before me and it's like any other job but when I read the letters and hear the boys songs, I LOVE IT again.

13. WHAT OTHER ARTISTES HAVE YOU WORKED FOR ?

Oh dear, I don't know if I can remember them all but let's see. I started out with THE WALKER BROTHERS, then came MUNGO JERRY SWEET THE RUBETTES ROD STEWART PETER FRAMPTON HUMBLE PIE AMEN CORNER and many more too numerous to list.

14. WHAT ARE THE WORST AND BEST MOMENTS IN YOUR TIME WITH BJH ?

The worst was Berlin. Well the Barclays flew everyone out to the concert and no one could get hold of me as I was at my father's in Blackpool for a visit. I ask you Blackpool or Berlin ?????

The best was the feeling I had at MANCHESTER APOLLO on this tour when I turned to Steve and said "I'm proud to play a part in this" and I am!

And in answer to requests for my mugshot - here it is. Hope you are not too disappointed in me.



RAFFLE

One of our members, KEVIN GOODMAN of Stourbridge was lucky enough to be given special permission from BJH to photograph them at Birmingham. One of his photo's is the cover of this newsletter. He has kindly donated three colour block prints (solo ones) for us to raffle. They are super. Here's what to do. Each entry will cost 50p (five entries for £2). For each entry you should write your name, address and membership number clearly on a small slip of paper. I want them in to me by no later than 31 August. Winners will be announced in September.

SUMMER SALE

Finance is always a major problem with fan clubs. We have masses of old stock here and are unable to provide new stock until this has been sold. So to clear the decks so to speak I have decided to cut the prices of the old stuff in the hope that you will behave like everyone does at sale times and grab the lot. We can then produce new, more up to date merchandise. The price list this time therefore will reflect the sale price offers.

FOBJH AD's ETC

PAUL GJERDEN Odinsvei 26A N 1800 Askim Norway wants penfriends. He is 20 likes all kind of sport and good music and travel. Also would like other members in Norway to get in touch

FLORENCE BAUDOT of 29 rue Babzac, 21100 Dijon, France wants a penfriend. She is 15 and speaks French, German, English and Italian. She plays the recorder and flute likes to read and listen to music

ISAIAS DE OLIVEIRA MELLO of Rua Barreiro Grande No 53, Vila Medeiros Sao Paulo, SP CEP 02220, Brazil wants a penfriend. He is 27 and an amateur musician.

INFO REQUIRED. David Anderzon of 8 Crawfordsburn Road, Bangor, Co Down, N Ireland bough a replacement copy of BJH Live and during the course of playing it discovered side one was intact as were sides two and four but side three was an exact replica of side one. Is this a one off?

I M Simon of 1 Hawkstone Avenue Droylsden, Manchester M35 7RU offers for sale A MAJOR FANCY (Mint con) £5plus 70p postage ... ROCK ROLL WOMAN £2.50 JOHN LEES' CHILD OF THE UNIVERSE DEMO £5 ... LIFE IS FOR LIVING £1.50 ... LOVE ON THE LINE £1.50. All singles plus 30p postage. Will swap any single above for TAKING SOME TIME ON in mint condition.

PaulBaker of Great Yarmouth has found another BJH songbook RING OF CHANGES MUSIC BOOK. By International Music Publications Order ref 9311.

STEPHEN SYMONDS of 85 Grosmont Grove, Newton Farm Hereford, aged 28 wants members in the Hereford area to contact him. He is also keen on swimming and as many other types of music and bands as he can get to listen to.

David Mantripp Springwell Cottage Saffron Waldon Cambs CB10 1UE wants to form a band. He plays keyboards and as well as BJH likes Caravan, George Harrison, Mazlyn Jones, Tangerine Deam, Kate Bush and Peter Gabriel amongst others, He stills wants to hear from non-musicians in the area too. Telephone 0799 30534

RICHARD KULIK 28 J Barnley Street Old Trafford Manchester M16 9NF is selling JOHN LEES CHILD OF THE UNIVERSE/KES DEMO and BARCLAY JAMES HARVEST LIVE EP 1977 ROCK N ROLL STAR/MEDICINE MAN PARTS 1 AND 2 and wants copy of BOMBADIL BREATHLESS/WHEN THE CITY SLEEPS

Sabine Reiter Kranzer 28 8178 Gaissach Germany wants A MAJOR FANCY.

LILIAN FROM LEBANON

Thank you to the members who wrote to Lilian. I have just had the following letter from her ...

Dear Chrissie, Thank you very much for publishing my letter. I was very surprised, I cried a lot, I didn't expect something like this. I received a lot of letter from the FOBJH. They are so sweet, so nice. I like to thank them all specially Jamie G and Nigel H the first 2 letters were from them. I wish from the bottom of my heart my best wishes for all the FOBJH and BJH. I want to send you a special thanks for all your help to BJH and for all who help them. People like BJH must survive and bring love and peace in every heart. And like one of the friends said to me "cheer up and remember that there are now many friends joined together by BJH, thinking about good luck, love and peace" That's right let's cheer up and think for something other than the destruction and war. Love and sunshine
LILIAN KALINDJIAN.

REJOINERS

The following members should renew before the end of June (if possible)

45 to 80 ...515 ...1496 to 1557 ...1755 to 1776... 2127 to 2187

Before the end of July

87 ...530 to 544 ...1346 ... 1564 to 1585 ...1780 to 1800...
2188 to 2225

Before the end of August

99 ... 566 ... 1077 ...1355 ...1596 to 1609 ...1810 to 1834 ...
2226 to 2262

Fees ... UK £4.00 ... Europe £5.00 ... Elsewhere £6.00

Well that about wraps this newsletter up.

You may have noticed that I'm still not getting along too well with this machine! However having had it checked I am assured the fault is with the typewriter and not me (breathes a huge sigh of relief) and I hope to have it fixed before the next newsletter.

For those who didn't get to see a concert I list below the numbers performed by BARCLAY JAMES HARVEST ...

FIFTIES CHILD .. HOLD ON .. REBEL WOMAN .. WAITING FOR THE RIGHT TIME .. JUST A DAY AWAY .. I'VE GOT A FEELING .. SIDESHOW .. ROCK N ROLL LADY .. PARAISO DOS CAVALOS .. VICTIMS OF CIRCUMSTANCE .. POOR MAN'S MOODY BLUES .. LIFE IS FOR LIVING .. FOR YOUR LOVE .. LOOKING FROM THE OUTSIDE .. CHILD OF THE UNIVERSE .. BERLIN .. INSIDE MY NIGHTMARE .. RING OF CHANGES and finally, HYMN.

All being well I'll be back on your doormats in September. Good luck with the raffle and I'm looking forward to seeing the results of the two charts.

Cheers for now and have a luvly summer.
CHRISSIE

L - R FOBJH MUGSHOTS

Duncan Ellis ..Max Klaus .. Nigel Davison
Isais de Oliveira Mello .. Claire Powell ... Stephen Hibbard

