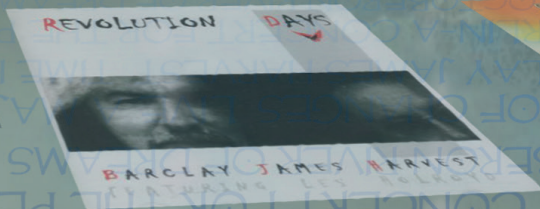
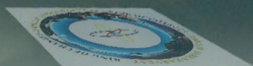


Nova Lepidoptera

The Barclay James Harvest Magazine

Number 60, March 2003



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Future News Bulletins

Although you are now holding in your hands the last ever issue of *Nova Lepidoptera* magazine [sob!], we must make it clear that this is by no means the end of the club or the other services which we offer.

We will issue printed news bulletins whenever there is any important news such as album releases or tour dates, and we will continue to offer a mail-order service for CDs, T-shirts and other BJH items. This is in addition, of course, to the Internet web site and e-mail news announcements.

This is how it will work: send us **NOW** a stamped, addressed envelope (UK) or, if you live outside of the UK, a self-addressed envelope plus an International Reply Coupon or the appropriate amount for postage (currently £0.37 to Europe and £0.68 elsewhere in the world). Mark the envelope with a number 1, and when the newsletter is published it will automatically be sent to you. When you receive it, send us another post-paid envelope marked with number 2, and so on. An up-to-date mail-order price list of CDs etc. will be included with each issue of the newsletter.

Of course, if you have access to the Internet, it is better for you to join the free news announcement list and get the latest bulletins sent automatically direct to your inbox. The web site will also include the latest news, plus articles, background information and archive material of more general interest. It also includes a secure order form so that credit card holders can order goods quickly and safely, whilst also allowing goods to be reserved pending other methods of payment such as cheques, International Money Orders or cash.

If you've just joined the online community, the web site address is

www.bjharvest.co.uk

You can join the free news list (and our online BJH discussion group) by following the Mailing Lists link on the front page, or you can join it simply by sending a blank e-mail to

ibjhfc-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

If you have any difficulties in accessing it, please contact us by e-mail at ibjhfc@bjharvest.co.uk, or by telephone or letter at the usual address.

As ever, we remain committed to providing news, information and a mail-order service to BJH fans all around the world - we're just dragging the vehicle into the 21st century!

What's Happening This Year

John and Woolly

There's no word from John as to whether he's ready to start recording and/or playing live again, so it seems unlikely that we'll see much activity in the first half of 2003.

Woolly, on the other hand, feels that the time is right to capitalise on the resurgence of interest in the band as a result of the studio and live collaborations with John and last year's reissues. He is keen to get working again, whether this takes the form of another joint effort or perhaps a new solo project.

If John does decide to pick up his guitar again, there are a number of avenues open, including another studio album, an "unplugged"-style DVD, showpiece live concerts with an orchestra, and tours in a variety of countries, including places where BJH have never performed such as Canada and the Far East.

As soon as we hear anything, we will let you know through the Web Site, the News e-mail list, and by our new News Bulletins per post.

Les and Mel

M Records, the company which issued Les's *Revolution Days* CD, went into liquidation towards the end of last year, and all stocks of the album, in the UK at least, are now exhausted. Les's first priority is to get the CD back in the shops, so it will be relaunched as soon as possible with new artwork and with at least one extra track which did not appear on the original version.

Later in the year it is planned to issue a CD and a DVD of the 2002 tour of France, Germany and Switzerland. Manager Alex Rose videoed many of the gigs, and the Bonn/Bad Godesberg show was professionally recorded for the soundtrack.

There are a number of possibilities for more live concerts in 2003, with approaches already having been received from France and Germany again. Regrettably, there's still no definite word on any live appearances in the UK.

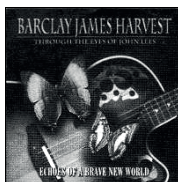
Again, as soon as anything transpires, we'll let you know by the aforementioned methods.

CD News

Unfortunately there is little to report on the reissue front, as we are still unable to bring you any news about the proposed Universal/Polydor remasters. We were hoping that they would be able to do as good a job as last year's EMI discs, which included a wealth of extra and previously unreleased material as well as being well-packaged. Fans will remain optimistic that one day the Polydor catalogue will get the treatment it deserves, but it looks as though we will have to be patient for a little longer.

There have been a couple of CD compilations issued in recent months, both targetting John and Woolly's output for Eagle. Released on October 14th, *Echoes Of A Brave New World* (Delta Records (47101)) is a single CD mixing tracks from *Nexus* and *Revival*.

Tracks are:-
A Devilish Intro (live); Festival;
Brave New World; Titles; The Iron Maiden; For No One (live); Hors d'Oeuvre; Mocking Bird; River Of Dreams (live); Float; Galadriel (live); Loving Is Easy; Sitting Upon A Shelf; Hymn; Star Bright



In a very similar vein is the German budget-price CD is called *Festivale*, apparently because they are under the impression that this is one of the track titles.

Track listing is:-
Brave New World; New Song (live); The Iron Maiden (live); Float; Sitting Upon A Shelf; Hymn; A Devilish Intro (live); Festival!; Hors d'Oeuvre; Mockingbird; Harbour (live); Titles; Loving Is Easy (live); Star Bright (live)

_ Other Short Stories _

... On Sunday, 17th November, in the French TV "TF1", during the "Auto Moto" programme, (cars and motorbikes), there was a report of the motorbike show "Supercross Paris-Bercy". The outro music was "Cheap The Bullet" from "Welcome To The Show". Thanks for this info to Michael Neumeister ...

... Rolf Tombült told us that "Hymn" was performed by a choir in a service at the St. Antonius Church (Roman-Cath.) in Rheine, Germany, on Christmas Eve. The pew leaflets even included an "attempt of a translation" ...

... BJH got a plug in *Cross Stitch Crazy* magazine, thanks to Kate Russell, who sent in a letter about her cross-stitch version of the *Gone To Earth* owl. The band and the fan club both get a mention in the mag!

Back in 1998 a dormant interest in BJH was rekindled mainly due to a new Internet connection and Keith and Monika's web site. Coincidentally, a bout of composer's block prompted me to produce a couple of MIDI files of BJH music to free up the creative juices. The reaction was very favourable and since then the number has risen steadily to encompass more than twenty of the bands 'greatest hits'.

The songs are not carbon copies of the originals, rather interpretations. This is down to not being able to decipher adequately the complexities of some of the arrangements, and my own musical limitations. I have to snatch fragments of time when I can and this may make the song flow a little disjointed.

Constructing the files begins with careful listening to the song in question. Numerous plays are required to determine the instrumentation and number of singers involved. This results in the creation of a framework within which to build the song, allocating the instrument tracks to MIDI channels (up to a maximum of 16) and fixing the tempo. Actual notes are often worked out using a guitar and the root note of the chords is played directly into the sequencer via digital piano. I then have to program in the remaining notes of the chords taking into account that not all of the strings are played all of the time and offsetting them by a few ticks to simulate strumming.

In no particular order bass, keyboards, vocals and lead guitar parts are then played more or less 'live'. A degree of fine-tuning is then performed to make the parts more realistic such as adding judicious amounts of pitch bend on solo guitar parts to simulate John's technique. Drum programming is the really tricky part for me as my sense of rhythm leaves much to be desired. Additionally, Mel's playing on 1970s songs is very complex (especially live versions) with loads of drum rolls and cymbal hits. I think I'm getting the hang of Mel impressions now.

Finally, when all the parts have been input and lyrics added comes the 'production' part. This involves setting the instruments within the stereo spectrum by panning and adding chorus and reverb to make the overall sound more alive.

2002 brought a sabbatical from production due to family commitments. Now I can devote some more time to Volume 3 and work has commenced. You have been warned!

On a technical note the equipment I use is: 1.3GHz AMD processor based PC; Yamaha SW60XG soundcard; Creative SoundBlaster Live! Player 1024 soundcard; Technics digital piano; Cakewalk Pro 3.0, Express 6.0 and Plasma XP 2003 Express sequencers; Magix Music Studio 7.0 sequencer; XG Edit sound editor.

David Witts

John Lees' Guitars - part 2



As promised in the last issue of NL, here comes the second and last instalment of our exclusive series about John's guitars.

Above, John is playing his **Washburn Harvest** acoustic guitar, demonstrating a number of his acoustic guitar songs to us.

This one goes back to about 1984, when BJH had a sponsoring deal with Washburn, where they would use Washburn guitars, and Washburn, in turn, could use the band's name to advertise their product.

Just before that deal or maybe as part of it, Washburn had developed this type of guitar and asked BJH to try four handmade copies out before going into mass production. John approved of it so much that he bought one of them, and Sam Brown, who was one of the two female singers on their 1984 tour and would come to fame later with her single and album "Stop", bought one of the others.

According to John, "what wasn't written on the Gibson (J45 acoustic guitar, as described in NL59), was written on this."

John Lees' Guitars - part 2

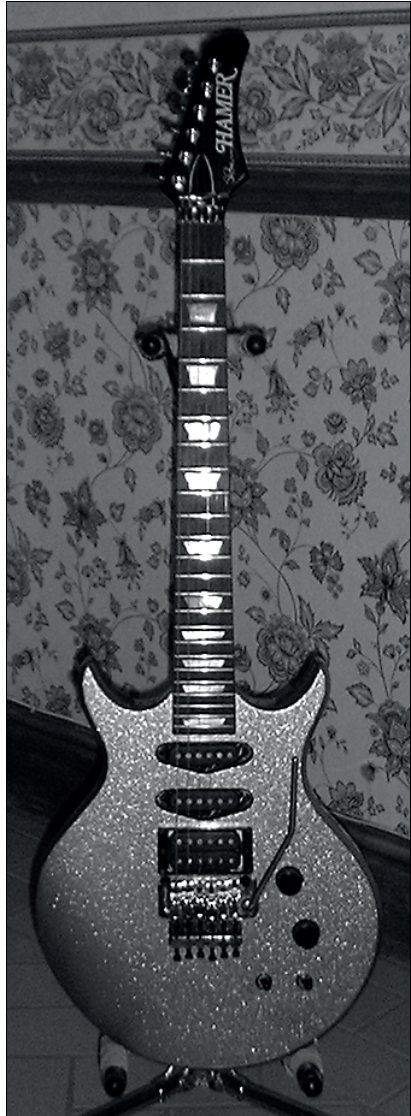
Below is the **mauve sunburst KET guitar** which John played mainly from 1980 to 1982. It is the best one out of three that he had made especially for the Berlin gig, which all say "John Lees" on their heads. At the end of 2001, he auctioned his other two KET guitars, both white, through our Web Site, but kept this one.



Quite a collector's item, this **Gibson "The Paul"** is one of only 100 copies that were ever made for the UK. John seemed rather proud of his copy...

John Lees' Guitars - part 2

Below, the **gold Hamer** on which John wrote and played "African" and suchlike. He owns three hand built and three custom built Hamers. When the red one got damaged, he replaced it with a manufactured one.



This **Gibson Marauder**, which is again quite a collector's item, actually belongs to Woolly, although John is looking after it together with his own guitars.



Feedback

I am just writing to thank Keith and Monika and all the contributors of NL in the past for one of the most professionally produced and interesting fanzines ever. The past issues have produced a wealth of information and material of one of the best rock bands in the world. I had intended to write a 2,000 word elegy to the last edition of the magazine but I realise this would defeat the real object of the ending of NL, which is to give Keith and

Monika some of the time that goes towards a "normal" family life. I have seen at first hand the amount of work that goes into the magazine from the editing, to the artwork, to the final despatch in envelopes. Nevertheless I shall still miss this marvellous fanzine bumping through my letterbox every three months. Thanks again Keith and Monika et al for a fantastic publication.

Damian Blakemore



Left to right: Ian Wilson, Chris Jago, Les, Mike Byron-Hehir, Mel, Colin Browne and Steve Butler

[photo: Greg Lellek]

Feedback



Left to right: Jeff Leach, Woolly, John, Craig Fletcher and Kevin Whitehead

[photo: Monika Domone]

I'd like to express my heartfelt thanks to Keith and Monika for all their efforts over the past 15 years, in producing such an informative and entertaining magazine. Without the 4 issues of *Nova Lepidoptera* being published each year, especially in those distant days of pre-Internet, BJH's revival may never have materialised!

In addition, this quarterly forum has enabled club members to meet and correspond with each other, so thanks are due to Keith and Monika again, and not forgetting our band, too, for the forging of many friendships over several years.

Finally, I must express my debt of gratitude to John, Les, Mel and Woolly for their music, which continues to be a source of contentment and, more importantly, inspiring us all with hope for the future of humanity in this troubled world. Thank you and God bless.

Richard Kierton

To everyone involved in the long run of NL. I started my subscription back in 1989, and met/ wrote to a lot of fun, friendly and generally fantastic people because of it. A thousand words couldn't express what this magazine has meant to me over the past 13 years, so I'll sum up with a simple, heartfelt 'thanks'.

Kev Crossley

Nova No More

IF, LIKE ME, you are one of those people who have never quite embraced the Information Technology Highway with its endless virtual possibilities, who still see that the LP has something more to it than the soulless CD and who knows that a real Hammond Organ and Leslie has to be better than any computer generation, then you will be marking the wake for *Nova Lepidoptera* with more than just a hint of regret.

Those who have produced *Nova* will be eager to tell you how difficult a child it was. That sometimes the lack of hard copy would have them clutching at almost any straw to fill its yawning pages ('Have we done Mellotrons yet?'). At other times, there would be a wealth of material which would necessitate the use of pruning shears.

They will also admit that the job was invidious, and that trying to please all the people all of the time was a chasm hard to bridge.

...but still the magazines came out, ever improving in style and artwork and for some the very tactility of *NL*, like the LP or a Hammond, was always worth the effort.

Keith & Monika, thanks for your good work.

NOVA IS DEAD!
Long live the Net?

Woolly

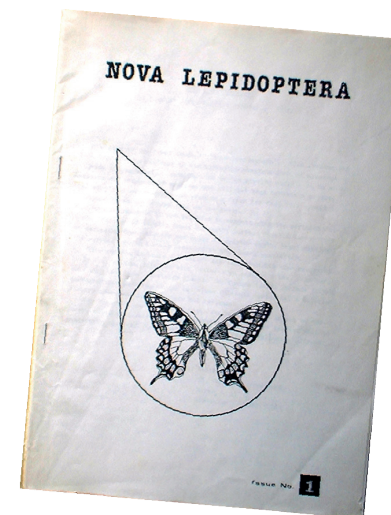
How It All Began ...

A Brief History of *Nova Lepidoptera*

To mark the final issue of NL we take a nostalgic look at the magazine's uncertain beginnings and its development during more than fifteen years of continuous publication.

The story of *Nova Lepidoptera* really begins with the decline and eventual demise of BJH's first fan club, *Friends Of Barclay James Harvest*, which was then run by Chrissie McCall, who worked for Kennedy Street Enterprises. In the mid 1980s, there were long periods when the band was inactive and FOBH struggled to maintain its membership and funds. There was little news to print and so newsletters became less frequent, making it difficult for fans to find out what was happening.

We were both members of the fan club and were unhappy with the situation, so Keith was looking for an independent fanzine about the band in the hope of finding out more about their activities, history and discography. When he found that there wasn't one, he decided to try to produce one himself and advertised it in places like *Sounds*, selling around 30 copies of the first issue, a photocopied A4 fanzine typed out by Keith's then wife, Madge, which appeared in March 1987, and included a UK albums discography plus features on BJH CDs and John's solo work.

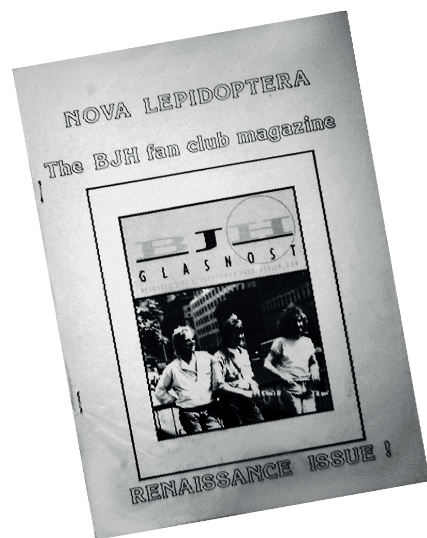


A second issue was produced, with sales soaring to the 50 mark! At this point, Monika subscribed to the fanzine (our first Berliner), offered to help especially with some designs, and we started a lively exchange of letters.

Keith also sent a copy of it to the fan club, offering his help, and when he got no reply, another one to the band's management. Imagine his surprise when a few days later, the telephone rang, and BJH's manager Lindsay Brown asked if he would be interested in running the fan club! As Keith was not the only candidate for this job, he had to prepare a plan as to how the club would be run. He did this with the help of Madge, and their friends Kevin and Helen Goodman, who were also early subscribers and played a big role in the early days of the club. Keith and

How It All Began ...

Kevin were invited to meet Mel and the band's managers at their central London offices, and after a three-hour meeting were given the go-ahead to form a new Barclay James Harvest fan club with *Nova Lepidoptera* as the official club magazine. Whilst it often seems like a full time job, Keith and Kevin turned down an offer of being paid for the work, in order to guard the magazine's independence.



After four fanzine versions of *NL*, the first official version, the "Renaissance Issue", was sent to over 300 founder members of the new fan club in May 1988, and featured double-sided printing, an interview with legendary DJ and BJH fan Alan Freeman, plus articles about the background to EMI's new CD compilation, *Another Arable Parable*, and the lyrics of John Lees. German club member Dagmar Müller,

who knew a lot of the old club's German members, translated the English magazines into German for all those who needed help with the language and became the club's representative for West Germany. Later, Monika joined her in this work, and when Dagmar moved to England, Monika took over the whole job.

In the meantime, Keith was separating from Madge, and subsequently Monika moved to England to be with Keith, which made us one of quite a few couples who have got together courtesy of BJH!

In all that time we were and still are close friends with Madge, by now Madge Liles, and she continued to help with the club for a while, particularly on the merchandise side. As recently as 2001 she could be found helping to man the merchandise stall at the London Astoria concert. Kevin and Helen's circumstances made it difficult for them to continue with the club work, but we keep in touch and offer each other moral support!

In the ensuing years, we've endeavoured to improve the production values of the magazine whilst retaining the essential flavour. The Letraset (wonky headlines a speciality) and manually typed pages gradually made way for a word-processor (no more re-typing whole pages!) and a choice of two typefaces. Number 16, the March 1992 edition, was the first to be produced by

... the NL Story

computer, using a DOS-based desktop publishing programme and a dot-matrix printer which allowed us to use any number of typefaces and font sizes, not forgetting those wonderful jagged graphics!

By NL35 the magazine sported a two-tone colour cover, courtesy of club member Paul Ferris taking over the printing work, and within a year the covers boasted full-colour designs. Unfortunately Paul's business folded in 1998, leaving us looking for a new printer and ways to maintain the quality of the magazine without breaking the bank. The solution was to reduce the format of the magazine to A5, allowing us to keep the full-colour covers and to print on glossy paper without increasing membership fees. NL41 was the first smaller issue, and helped us to keep membership fees frozen from March 1994 all the way through to now. Any surplus funds were ploughed back into the club, first in the form of small Christmas presents such as bookmarks and badges, then more recently as exclusive club CD singles including recordings unavailable anywhere else.

Back in December 1995 we announced in NL31 that a new forum had been set up to help promote the band and to keep fans in touch with the latest news - the first Barclay James Harvest web site. Little did we know then what an impact the Internet would have, or that eventually it would end up becoming more important than the

magazine as a way of disseminating information worldwide. To be honest, though, the writing was already on the wall for *Nova Lepidoptera*. Having kept it going through a divorce, a wedding and the birth of two kids, the demands of juggling work and daily life with all the fan club work were becoming too much, and something had to give. The old problem of filling the magazine when the band is dormant hasn't gone away, and whilst we're grateful to the band members for the occasional interview and contribution, it's become increasingly difficult to find anything new or worthwhile to say every quarter. Pleasing everyone has always been hard, and not just the fans!

So, all good things come to an end. The club community will carry on, as will the mail-order service, the web site and the new printed newsletter. Before we sign off NL for the last time, though, we'd like to thank everyone who has contributed. Without the band's magnificent music there would have been no point. Without Madge, the magazine would never have got off the ground, whilst Kev and Helen, Dagmar and Paul gave us invaluable help in those early days. Special thanks are due to Woolly for taking a real interest and for being able to see the fans' point of view. Finally, we'd like to thank all of you, the readers and contributors, for your loyalty and support for us and for the band, in many cases from the very beginning - we couldn't have done it without you!

Keith & Monika

Marketplace

LARGE COLLECTION FOR SALE,
includes records from Turkey and
South America. Please contact:

Stewart Renwick
16 Sunart Gardens
Bishopbriggs
Glasgow
G64 1HW

MANY CONGRATULATIONS to
Steven Heap, stalwart of FOBJH
and IBJHFC, whose wife gave birth
to their first child, Abbi Louise, on
December 20.

...AND ALSO TO Johan
Drejenstam, whose first daughter
was born on 26th January.

SET SALE from Keith & Monika:

- Halfway To Freedom/African
(live) German PS, 7", mint £3.00
- Cheap The Bullet/Shadows On...
German PS 7", mint £3.00
- Hymn/Our Kid's Kid UK PS 7",
excellent £3.00
- Life Is For Living/Shades of B Hill
UK PS 7", excellent £2.50
- Early Morning Onwards UK LP,
white sleeve, £5.00
- The Best Of, vol.2 LP, UK, £4.00
- 12" Waiting For The Right Time,
UK, £4.00
- 12" Victims Of C., UK, £4.00
- 12" He Said Love, UK, £4.00
(all 12" singles mint or ex)

Prices do not include postage.
Please ring or write or e-mail us
first at the usual club address to
reserve, and we will advise total
cost. See also the Special Offers
page on the Web Site for safe
payment by credit card.



Don't Forget!

To receive a printed news bulletin when there is some band
activity, send us a stamped, addressed envelope (UK) or self-
addressed envelope plus International Reply Coupon or
postage (elsewhere). Please mark the envelope with a **1**.

DO IT NOW!

BARCLAY JAMES HARVEST

THE TIDE

THE LIGHT

THE RIVER OF DREAMS

THE PEOPLE'S CHOICE

KEY CROSSLEY JAN 2003

