

Friends of
BARCLAY JAMES HARVEST

P.O. Box 9
STOCKPORT
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NEWSLETTER NO: 32

MARCH, 1985



FRIEND OF
BARCLAY JAMES HARVEST

AFTER THE DAY
ALRIGHT DOWN
GET BOOGIE (MUAL
ARTIST) A TALE OF TWO
GET BACK TO THE WALL
ARTIST BACK TO THE WALL
LAND CHAIN BELIEVE IN ME
BROTHER THRU SH CAPRICORN
IN BEYOND THE GRAVE
CHILD OF MAN
BREATHELESS
CHILD OF MAN
CRAZY (OVER YOU)
ELPH TOWN
N SHADOWS
MINE GALA
RBOUR
EHOLD ON
OVER YOU
HT MAKE
LIKE A VIOL
DRUG MILL
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T PAPER
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OPEN

Dear Everyone,

Got your coffee ready? Good then now is the time to sit back and enjoy the first 1985 issue of the FOBJH newsletter. I'm going to have a coffee break later and let JOHN do the work but before I do so I have some good news ...

WEMBLEY - THE TV SHOWING

At the time of going to press C.4 have scheduled the concert for May 16th. However, there is a slight possibility that they may change it so I can only suggest you keep checking your TV Times nearer the time.

WEMBLEY - THE VIDEO

After the C.4 showing of the Wembley concert the video should shortly after be on general sale.

BJH - ETHIOPIA AID

As some of you are already aware, LES and JOHN have recorded a single in aid of the Ethiopia appeal. Alongside a host of German acts they have released MOTHER AND CHILD REUNION under the collective name of FRANK FARIAN CORPORATION. Frank Farian is the mastermind behind Boney M and has a studio in Germany where the boys once recorded. They all became quite chummy and Frank asked JOHN and LES if they'd help out with the song. It is not on sale in this country but I daresay some of our German members would be happy to purchase a copy for you and it is in a good cause. If you want a copy write to me with sae and I'll see what I can arrange.

Now, my kettle's boiling so I'll just hand you over to JOHN

YOU ASK JOHN ...

- 1) ARE YOU GOING TO STOP TOURING AND PERFORMING OR IS IT JUST A RUMOUR BEING CIRCULATED IN GERMANY?

No, we're not going to stop. It's just a rumour - a foul rumour started by the press. We'll definitely be touring again.

- 2) WHICH OF YOUR CONCERTS IN EUROPE LAST SPRING DID YOU MOST ENJOY AND WHY?

All of them. I really enjoyed the tour.

- 3) WHAT DO YOU DO WITH YOUR PETS WHEN YOU TOUR?

Olwen looks after them because she doesn't come with me.

4) HOW DID YOU FALL OFF THE STAGE?

Purely by accident, an unfortunate accident.

5) HOW DO YOUR FRIENDS REACT TO YOU BEING SUCCESSFUL?

Believe it or not I only have two friends who are not in the business and one of them lives in America. The rest of my friends work in the business and they understand what it's like. Most of the other people just didn't stay around very long. They seem to think that because you have success in a band and travel a lot you've changed when really you haven't.

6) WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THE BAND AID SINGLE?

I thought it was great, the whole idea was fabulous. I'd been sending money anyway. Everyone's always saying "we must do something" but it was a shock when someone actually did. It was great. Bob Geldof did a great job getting all the right people together. Actually I wrote "Sideshow" about that.

7) WHY DO YOU WEAR TINTED OR DARK GLASSES MOST OF THE TIME?

I'm blind as a bat! I've always needed to wear glasses since I was a kid. Actually once I had contact lenses but the lights on stage are so strong they made my eyes too dry so I had to go back to glasses. I did stop wearing them towards the end of the last tour but I couldn't see anything. I do need them.

8) WHAT ARE YOUR HOPES FOR THE FUTURE?

To carry on writing songs and working in the business.

9) DO YOU PLAY ANY OTHER INSTRUMENTS BESIDES GUITAR AND KEYBOARDS?

I dabble on old woodwind instruments. I've a full set of Baroque recorders that I dabble on.

10) WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE OWN SONG AND BJH ALBUM?

I've not written my favourite song yet, Hymn and How Do You Feel Now came close but I've not done it yet and probably never will. My favourite album? It's got to be Gone To Earth.

11) HOW DID YOU CHOOSE THE VOC COVER AND IS THERE A STORY BEHIND IT?

Well, the actual cover is a poster for a Berlin burlesque cellar club in the 1890's. I've actually got an old book of posters and it's in that. I can't remember the name of the book offhand but can find out when I go home if you want (John was answering the questions in his studio). The guy who did the original poster was part of Berlin's equivalent of the Impressionists. Anyway

Lindsay and David commissioned a guy to design some album covers and he came back with the design and the title Victim of Circumstance, because he thought the clown's face with a tear was very appropriate. The clown is always a victim of circumstance trying to make everyone laugh. So, we had a cover and title before we had the album. Strangely enough I had written a song when the Korean plane was shot down by the Russians and the chorus was victims of circumstance. It was funny because I hadn't mentioned this and then this guy came up with it. Then LES wrote a sound around the title. Ring of Changes was the same - the title was there before the song and the album.

12) ARE THERE ANY STORIES BEHIND FOR YOUR LOVE AND INSIDE MY NIGHTMARE?

Yes, For Your Love is about the kids who hold up lighters at the end of our concerts. When I used to get depressed and feel nobody I used to think of these kids who must really like the music. In the darkest moments of everyone's life if they could just hold a flame up and everyone else did too it might force all the black and dark to go away. I went back to being a hippy for a split second! Inside My Nightmare is a very tragic story that happened near to where I live. Some young kids were driving a car, just out for a ride, and missed a corner. Three of them walked away and one was killed. They were very young and it really affected me. I kept thinking what if I'd just taken my girlfriend out for a drive and that happened to me at that age?

13) HOW MANY HOURS PER WEEK DO YOU WORK?

All the time. If I'm not working for myself I'm working for someone else. This weekend is the first time I took a couple of days off.

14) CAN YOU TELL US SOMETHING ABOUT YOUR RECORDING STUDIO?

It's a 24-track studio. It's not a commercial studio, it's purely a production one to expose songwriters and musicians and for myself to write and arrange and for the group occasionally to do work. It's not for public hire

15) WHAT IS YOUR REACTION TO PEOPLE WHO CANNOT ACCEPT THE INEVITABLE PROGRESSION OF YOUR MUSIC?

It's everyone to his own really. I don't think it's progressed that much actually. We are all aware of our flaws and failings as writers and it's always a matter of looking back as well as forwards. You can't dictate how you are going to write the songs and there is going to be an inevitable progression which in turn will affect the way you write. I'm always looking around to try and make sure that the songs I write are representative of BJH.

16) WHAT'S YOUR OPINION OF THE YAMAHA DX7 AND ROLAND JX3?

I have a DX7 and think it's really superb. I think the Roland is good value for money. Both very good.

17) IF YOU WEREN'T IN BJH WHAT KIND OF JOB WOULD YOU LIKE TO DO?

I don't know, something creative. Back to painting or something or group management. I'd try anything before I would get a normal job. I'd find something where I could work for myself, I couldn't work for someone else.

18) DO YOU GET NERVOUS BEFORE YOU GO ON STAGE AND HOW DO YOU CALM YOUR NERVES?

Not really, I was very nervous at Wembley but I couldn't do anything about it. There were so many people backstage that I couldn't even get in my dressing room. They were all drinking and smoking and it really freaked me out. I had to wait to go on stage in the bar and I was very wound up - I forgot my words. Normally I don't get nervous.

19) ARE THERE ANY PLANS TO RE-RELEASE A MAJOR FANCY.

Not to my knowledge. However, if people want it the only thing I suggest is to write to EMI and suggest a re-release. If enough people write they'll be forced to do something.

20) HAVE THE BAND EVER THOUGHT OF RELEASING A CONCEPT ALBUM?

No, I don't think it would work.

21) WHY HAVE THERE BEEN SO FEW JOINT COMPOSITIONS BETWEEN BJH?

This is a difficult one. Because we don't write together, we never have done. Only once - Early Morning, which was the first song we ever did. Other than helping out on lyrics and joining songs together arrangement wise, we have done nothing. It's a funny question. Our styles are so different.

22) SOME BJH SONGS INDICATE RELIGIOUS BELIEFS, WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOURSELF AS A REAL CHRISTIAN?

I am a Christian, but not practising. I believe in God. I have religious beliefs. Maybe I will become a practising one as I get older. I would like Ester to have some religious education, I'm old fashioned like that.

23) HOW DOES IT FEEL TO BE ON STAGE AND FORGET THE WORDS?

It's just a laugh. It happened at Wembley. You get so wound up you just have to laugh.

24) WHAT ONE THING OR PERSON OR EVENT HAS INFLUENCED YOUR LIFE MORE THAN ANYTHING AND WHY?

One thing more than anything else was the first time I heard the group's record on the radio. It was Early Morning and John Peel played it years and years and years ago. That's why I'm here now. I wouldn't be here if it hadn't been for that. It was the most exciting thing for me. We didn't know it was going to

be on. This guy we knew did know about it and he invited us round, turned the radio on and we were so shocked! I remember thinking I really wanted to make it and be a success as a song writer. It really spurred me on.

25) IN PUTTING GUITAR SOLOS TO YOUR MUSIC DO YOU JUST LET YOUR FINGERS WANDER UNTIL SOMETHING SOUNDS RIGHT OR DO YOU HAVE SOMETHING SPECIFIC IN MIND BEFOREHAND?

Both. Sometimes something sounds right and sometimes you have a specific idea.

26) WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT FGTH and WHAM!?

Great. Trevor Horn is very very clever and very very good. You can't knock it, the songs and commerciality, music is there to entertain. I like current music. I can't write like George Michael, it's not what I want for BJH. I think they are both very successful pop products. All the publicity and everything. George Michael has a really good voice. Well, I've not actually heard him in a studio but from his records his voice sounds really good. I think anyone who knocks them shouldn't unless they can get up there and do it better.

I'm busy writing at the moment for our next album. We have no idea when it will be done as we want it to be the best yet. We have too much respect for our fans to churn out rubbish and rush it. Thanks for sending in the questions, Hope the answers satisfy you to a certain degree and hope you keep on enjoying BJH. - JOHN

Well many thanks to JOHN for taking time out from his busy schedule to answer these difficult questions. LES will be next on the firing line so questions for LES please in by April 30th.

BJH - THE INSIDE INFO

FAVE GROUP

JOHN - Changes constantly
LES - Toto, Chicago
MEL - Steely Dan

SMOKE ?

JOHN - No
LES - No
MEL - Yes

PETS

JOHN - 4 Parrots, 3 dogs, 3 cats, 1 guinea pig, 65 rabbits, 1 dwarf!
LES - Horses, cats
MEL - 1 dog 3 cats

BEST FRIEND

JOHN - Wife, Olwen

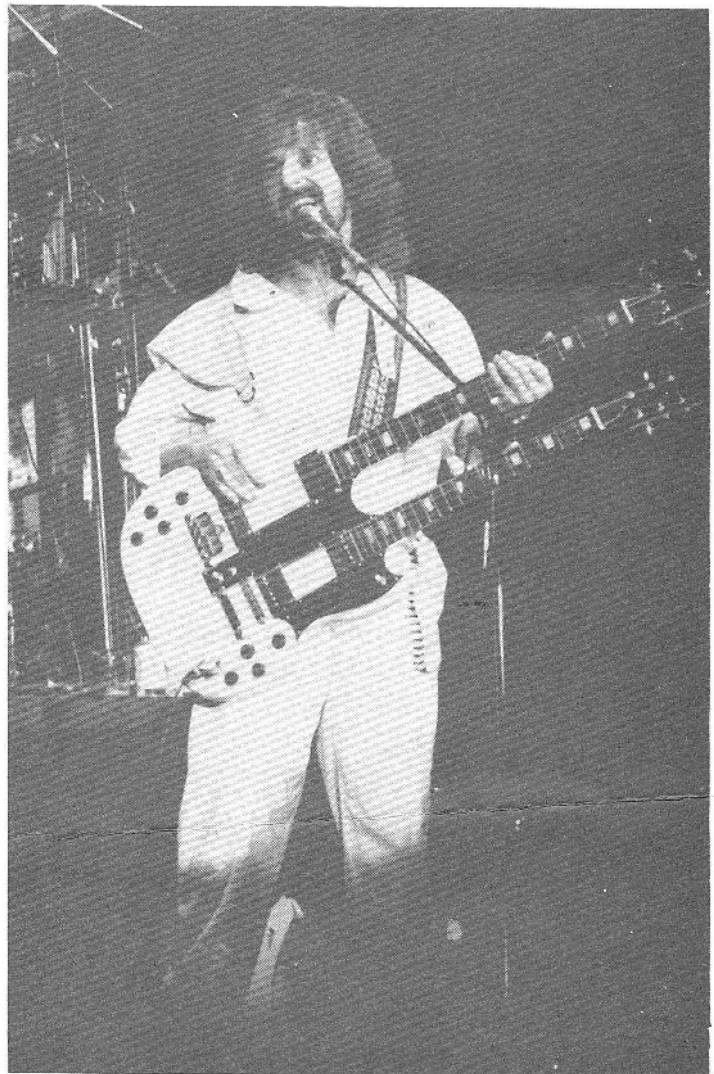
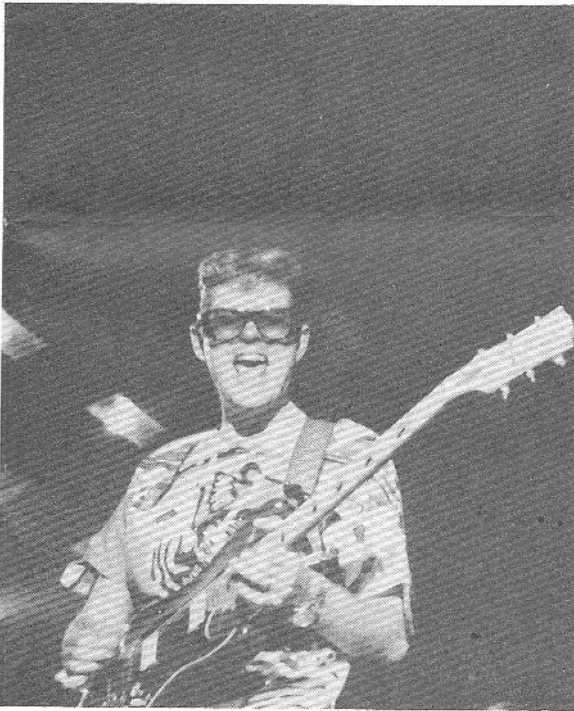
LES -None

MEL - Lots

INTERESTING SNIPPET FROM JOHN -

"I get most of my BJH news from the newsletter"!!!

The following photo's were sent in my members. MEL's fans, I'm sorry but no-one seems able to get a decent shot of MEL, his drums are always in the way!!



Well just about reaching the end again. Just time for a few ad's and the rejoiners. See you in June.

CHRISSIE

THE AD'S

Michaela Hoffman, Sudetenstr 19, 6252 Diet/Lahn, Germany wants penfriends please.

Gerald Muller, Birkengasse 1, 2354 Guntrandsdorf, Austria wants BREATHLESS/WHEN THE CITY SLEEPS and the 12" VOC/LOVE ON THE LINE and solo WOOLLY and JOHN. Also an American penfriend who likes sport and music

Laurence McDonald, Stuck Cottage, Rhubodach Road, Isle of Bute, Scotland PA20 QQY wants casset records of Grateful Dead cocert broadcast over Europe in March 1981, it was broadcast live from Rockpalast, Essen. Will pay £3½ for good quality tape (pref Dolby B or C) of the whole gig.

Rune Eriksen Huldretrakket 40, 5033 Fyllingsdalen, Bergen, Norway wants BEST OF BJH VOL 1. Also A MAJOR FANCY.

Raymond Monopoli, 3/32 rue Jacques Cartier, Bloc F, 54500 St. Avold, France is selling 5 photo's of BJH on their 1984 tour for £2.00. Payment by international money order please.

Siegried Scherrer, Seikerstr 2, 7970 Leutkirch, W Germany wants A MAJOR FANCY

Stefan Bierbraver, Seilerstr 15, 7970 Leutkirch, W Germany has a recording of 8 songs done by BJH at an open air concert in Wurzburg. If you want a copy send cassette and return postage.

T Seddon, 102 Corporation Road, Denton Manchester wants photocopies of any BJH press cuttings especially critics columns of albums from Gone to Earth to present. Also concert report cuttings.

THE REJOINERS.

Before end March ...

463-472 1260-1280 1717 - 1724 2086-2106

Before end April ...

1-10 478 486 2108-2119 2443 - 2472

Before end May

21-43 505-515 1308 1320 1410-1494 1733-1752 2120-2126 2473 2522

PRICE LIST ***

DESCRIPTION	PRICE UK	PRICE EUROPE	PRICE ELSEWHERE

Club t-shirt. Navy with silver FOBJH Motif	3.55	4.00	5.65
XII Badge	.50	.60	.65
Octoberon Badge	.35	.50	.65
Solo Photo's (pack of 3)	.80	1.10	1.40
Lyrics Poster	.70	.85	1.20
Solo Posters (pack of 3)	1.80	2.10	2.40
Eyes of Universe patches	.55	.65	.75
Black and white stickers (5)	.55	.65	.75
Black and white patches	.45	.55	.75
Scarf (navy & White)	2.45	2.75	3.80
Picture badge	.40	.60	.80

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USE SPECIAL ORDER FORMS WHERE POSSIBLE.

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ORDER FORM Please continue overleaf if necessary.

Name:

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Membership No:

Items Required :

