

BARCLAY JAMES HARVEST



FRIENDS OF BARCLAY JAMES HARVEST
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FRIENDS OF BARCLAY JAMES HARVEST
NEWSLETTER NO.8. JANUARY 1979 .

Dear Friends,

Happy New Year! Die besten Wünsche zum Neuen Jahr! An international flavour creeping in there to welcome all our new German-speaking members. In fact, I'd like to say welcome to all the members in the U.K, Eire, Germany, France, Norway, Denmark, Belgium, U.S.A, Canada, The Netherlands, and Libya who have joined since the Tours, pushing membership numbers up into the 900s.

Those of you who have been in the club from the start will realise that this quarter is one of the slackest times for the band as far as news is concerned, as they generally settle down to write and record, thus keeping themselves out of the public eye. For this reason, I have tried to make this newsletter more exciting by bringing news of the second club competition, another exclusive sweat-shirt offer, and, on the price list, several articles from the "XII" Tour, as well as two very special items imported for you from Germany. But more of this later.

Before I continue, I'd like to say "thank you" to all of you who sent Christmas cards to the band and myself.

TOUR '78.

Well, here we are, recovering after another sell-out Tour. As the band's reputation grows, the theatres and halls seem to shrink! The two nights played at both the Hammersmith Odeon and the Manchester Apollo were sold out, and it looked as though two nights were needed at other places on the U.K Tour also. All the halls were filled to capacity (and sometimes more!), with the exception of the Capitol at Aberdeen, where the band were making a return after an absence of some years. The other new gigs at Preston and Derby were also extremely successful, and were completely sold out.

The story in Germany, Switzerland, and France is similar, but even more satisfying. Halls needed to be made of elastic to house all those wanting to see the band, and, unfortunately, there were times when people had to be turned away. To ease the situation, the band played an additional five dates in Germany, revisiting some of the earlier gigs.....and selling them out again! Copenhagen was another city added to the European Tour, and although this was one place where there were still empty seats, B.J.H received rapturous appreciation from those hundreds who did go to see them, proving that there will always be a welcome in Denmark for the band.

For those of you who are wondering how the band were received in Spain and Portugal, I must quickly tell you that these gigs were cancelled before the Tour began, as negotiations could not be satisfactorily settled. However, they always have the opportunity to try again next year, and at least it gave the lads the chance to put in those extra dates in Germany, which were so badly needed.

ALBUM NEWS.

The band's first gold disc is expected to arrive some time in the New Year. "Gone To Earth" has been in the charts in Germany for over a year now and the 250,000 sales required for a gold disc have almost been achieved.

"XII" is doing well there too, and has reached No.18 in the official charts, and No.2 in a public-controlled popularity chart on the country's best-known radio station. Back at home, it has not been as successful, only briefly appearing at No.31 before disappearing back into obscurity.

Many of you will have heard about the mishap at the second Hammersmith gig, when John's pedal board broke down, causing an unscheduled interval of over half an hour. I was present at the concert and must say that I was extremely impressed with the audience's patience and understanding, and also with the performance that the band gave when they were able to return to the stage. This view has been reflected in the correspondence I have received about the occasion. Out of the dozens of letters on the subject that you've written, only one has been a complaint. To give a fair view of both sides, I have printed below an extract from that one letter:-

"From the start of the concert, the band appeared unsure on 'Nova Lepidoptera'. Either the amp in question was beginning to fail or the mixing again was poor. Mellotron appeared late in note signal on 'Poor Man's Moody Blues'. Again the start was indifferent, balance was poor.

Slowly the band was beginning to tighten up, when the trouble started. The durationtime of trying to save the concert was nearly 40minutes, and during all that time the very loyal audience had to talk amongst themselves. Only a slight impro by Woolly and Mel on their equipment broke the deadlock, and even they didn't pursue it.

On resuming the band was clearly shaken by it all.....

....The band is known for its high quality of sound and harmony on stage. Visual effects were never used, only very good lighting. To pursue presentation on stage, you have to do it well. Poor ice effects. Ballroom globe and coloured paper (!) didn't add much."

Well that's Alan Robertson of London's view. Far more typical are the following comments:-

"I was at the Hammersmith concert, which I'm sure you have heard about, and from looking at one point like it would be a disaster when John's pedal unit went awry, it turned out to be a great success in my opinion.....

.....It was the first time I'd been at a concert where a break of more than about five minutes was required to fix a 'technical problem'. It was a shame that it occurred at the beginning of 'Medicine Man' where B.J.H really let their hair down. Full marks to Woolly for entertaining us for the first $\frac{1}{4}$ hour of the 50 odd minute gap (Not that long, I think - Jill). When the group reappeared they were obviously very relieved; firstly that they could carry on, and secondly that no-one had decided to wreck the joint - John's handshaking with the fans was a nice gesture (very rarely seen nowadays). We were then treated to a superb '3rd Hammersmith concert' where the lads seemed to be putting everything into making up for the gap.....

.....So, from being a near disaster it became a memorable concert for the reason that B.J.H doubly repaid the fans' patience."

So says Max Waller of Isleworth - and he expresses the views of many, many others who wrote in to congratulate the band and all the others concerned with that particular gig. The only other comment I propose to print on this subject, however, is one that replies to the N.M.E's review of the concert.

Trisha Pemberton from near Aylesbury says, "I think Woolly did a grand job of keeping the audience amused. Congratulations! It must have been a nasty moment. I read a bad review for that gig which made me really angry, it was so unfair. O.K, so there were members of the audience singing football songs, but he failed to say that they were also singing, 'We all agree Barclay James Harvest are magic!'"

I think, now, that enough has been said about the only unfortunate concert of the Tour, although it has caused more correspondence than all the other gigs put together, so could not be totally ignored. I know that I, for one, thoroughly enjoyed every gig I attended in England and Germany, and was not only impressed by the bands performances, the stage sets and lighting, and all the hard work put in by the crew, but also by the enthusiastic audiences and the large quantity of F.O.B.J.H tee-shirts that were in evidence! For those of you who are sceptical about the importance of the club shirts, you may be surprised to hear that it was the band themselves who told me just how many they were seeing on the Tour. John and Woolly tell me that the front rows at the Edinburgh Usher Hall were a sea of white and blue, and it made them feel rather good to see so many faithful fans there.

I, too, have come across many of you on my travels with the band, and I only wish that there were more time to spend chatting, as all your comments about the band are very interesting to hear. Anyway, to round off, I hope that you enjoyed those concerts you managed to attend, and that we'll meet up with you again next time around.

POLYGLOT COP OUT AGAIN!

As many of you cannot have failed to have noticed, Polydor (U.K) failed to include the promised posters/lyrics sheets in the first 13,000 copies of "XII" that were released. However, those of you who bought the album as soon as it reached the shops (very admirably), need not miss out on the offer, as I have enough copies of this treasured item for all club members. If you did not receive the poster or you would like another one (!), just send a large S.A.E with no less than a 10p stamp (or one International Reply Coupon), marked "poster". If you are ordering some goods from the price list at the same time, no S.A.E is necessary; just add the poster to your order form and one will be dispatched with your goods.

"LOVING IS EASY"OR NOT!

Most of you already know from the Tour that "Loving Is Easy" is to be released as a single. It was originally planned to go out in November, but it was then decided that it would probably stand more of a chance of chart success after Christmas, when Mums and Dads had ceased to buy thousands of copies of "Mary's Boy Child" and other such novelties!! Therefore, the latest release date is December 30th. The single will be backed with a live version of "Polk Street Rag", and the first 20,000 copies will be pressed on blue vinyl, so if you fancy this rather special version, you'll have to buy quickly. If you're penniless after the festivities, see the competition for details of how to win a copy!

As an aside; the band went into the studio and remixed the album track for the single version, and, with the B.B.C's rather strict moral code in mind, John re-sang the vocals, changing some of the more risqué lines in the song. This was all to no avail, however, as the B.B.C have banned it (must be that blue vinyl!), muttering as they did something about the line "Just get a hold and watch how it grows". We find this judgement rather strange, as they must say that at least three times a week on "Gardener's Question Time". (A Radio 4 joke!). Does all this mean that B.J.H are as good as the Sex Pistols?!!

Release dates:-

U.K - December 30th. First 20,000 on blue vinyl.
Europe - End of January / Beginning of February. Picture sleeve.

PRIZE COMPETITION17 Prizes to be won.....Only 25p to enter.
As anyone who reads the music papers and other reviewers of the band will know, journalists are always searching for a phrase to describe Barclay James Harvest's own particular brand of music. "Symphonic Rock" is a term often applied, and some others are not so complimentary! All you have to do to have the chance of winning any of these wonderful prizes, is to suggest your own phrase that you think best describes the band's music. The competition entries will be judged on originality and suitability. Please send no correspondence with your entry.

Entry fee:-

U.K - 25p

Outside U.K - 2 International Reply Coupons (available from your Post Office.)

Closing date:- 1st March 1979.

Prizes:-

- 1st: One B.J.H jacket, beautifully embroidered in white and blue, as issued to the band and crew only on the "XII" Tour.
- 2nd: One complete set of Polydor B.J.H albums - Everyone Is Everybody Else, Live, Time Honoured Ghosts, Octoberon, Gone To Earth, Live Tapes, XII.
- 3rd: One B.J.H tee-shirt. Black with golden glitter motif on chest. Available only in Germany on "XII" Tour.
- 4th: 10 prizes of "Loving Is Easy" singles on blue vinyl.
- 5th: 4 prizes of German posters advertising the band's film "Caught Live".

See back of newsletter for entry form.

SWEAT-SHIRT OFFER.

I am very pleased to announce that this Winter I can again offer you the chance to keep warm in a B.J.H sweatshirt. Those of you who have in your possession the more recent copy of "Early Morning Onwards" will recognise the design on the front of this newsletter as being that of the L.P sleeve. This is the motif that we have chosen for the sweat-shirts, and, for the uninitiated, the colours are black, orange, and red, and this will be printed across the chest of an ivory coloured, cotton sweat-shirt. Once again, I will be having these made specifically to your orders, so, if you wish to reserve one, please act quickly by completing the form at the back of this newsletter and sending it to me, with the appropriate remittance, before February 21st 1979. The shirts will be sent out to you as soon after this date as possible.

SONG LYRICS NO.5: WHEN THE WORLD WAS WOKEN.

When the world has woken	When the world has woken
Save all unknowing eyes	And shadows leave the air
And thoughts that once were spoken	Then each spell will be broken
Left only to despise	For everyone who cares
And when the dawn is breaking	The day will then be endless
Look upward to the sky	The night will soon pass by
If life is so hard to live	If life is so hard to live
Why not die?	Why not die?

When the world has woken
For all who see the sun
And gentle words are spoken
The dawning has begun
Then man can live together
With one triumphant cry
If life is so hard to live
Why not die?

ADVERTISEMENTS.

If you wish to place a short ad in this section, please send me the exact wording that you wish to appear, along with 25p to help cover printing costs.

Excellent copy of "Early Morning Onwards" for sale. Please call Stewart on (0282) 63868.

B.J.H singles including deletions wanted. Will exchange "Early Morning Onwards" (cassette version, mint condition), and autographed record cover. Write to Anne Rowan, 105 Glen Doll, St. Leonards, East Kilbride or phone East Kilbride 37595.

Wanted: All Barclay James Harvest singles. Also "Early Morning Onwards" L.P. Please write to William I.A. Murray, Esslemont House, Hillhead Halls, Don Street, Aberdeen.

Wanted: A copy of the latter version of "Early Morning Onwards" (i.e: white sleeve - orange letters). Will pay up to £5 to anyone willing to sell. Sleeve must be in good condition. Write to Chris Naylor, 4 Hazel Grove, Coppenhall, Crewe.

Wanted: Mint, unplayed copy of "Early Morning Onwards". Your price paid. Reward leading to capture of said item also offered. Write to Peter Cutler, Church Cottage, Upton, Didcot, Oxon.

MEMBER'S ADDRESSES.

The following members would be interested in corresponding with other members:-

Graham R. Welham (343) 19, Fox Meadow, Barking Tye, Ipswich, Suffolk.	Stephen Haughey (435) Force Wksp Reme, HQ Belize Garrison B.F.P.O 12	Martina Klug (595) Hasencleverstrasse 9, 5650 Solingen 25 West Germany.
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Paul M. Venney (601) 51, Rossglass Road, Killough, Downpatrick, Co. Down, Northern Ireland.	Colin Bramich (504) Quarry-Side, Longley-Green, Suckley, Worcester, WRG 5DU.	David J. Radford (668) 17, Portland Place, Sutton, Retford, Notts, DN22 8PP.
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Ikuko Hayashi (560) 4116 Kitayashiki, Obata, Moriyama-ku, Nagoya 463, Japan.	Miki Makino (561) 1695-1 Higashiuego, Shimada, Tenpaku-ku, Nagoya 468, Japan.	Glenn Murrell (374) 34, Moring Road, Tooting, London SW17.
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NEW OFFERS ON PRICE LIST.

As promised, I am now going to tell you more about the new items I have obtained for sale.

ENAMELLED BUTTERFLY BROOCHES.

These metal B.J.H butterfly brooches, beautifully enamelled in pastel shades, were originally produced by Polydor GMBH (Germany) for publicity purposes, being distributed to company reps and others within the record industry only. I have managed to obtain 100 of these for sale to club members, and suggest that you order early as such a special offer is bound to be very popular.

"XII" WINDOW STICKERS.

Again, these were produced by Polydor in Germany for record shop displays etc. Approximately 12" x 12", they take the shape and design of the "XII" butterfly, and are in full colour, as on the record sleeve. Once more, this is an exclusive offer which those outside the club could not obtain.

"XII" TEE-SHIRTS.

Some of you have been disappointed with the quality of the tee-shirts on sale on the British Tour. Unfortunately, this was the result of the trial of a new system where the merchandising was handled by an outside company. The "XII" shirts on offer through the club, though similar to those on the Tour, have been specially made for you and are of better quality. There should be no disappointment with these. They are printed in silver on both sides of a black shirt, and are available in Large, Medium, or Small sizes.

"XII" PROGRAMMES, PATCHES, & BADGES.

All as available on the British Tour.

You may have noticed the lack of information on the band's future activities in this issue, and that is because, at this time of year, nobody is really sure what is going on! It is likely, however, that the usual routine will be followed, and this means that for the next month or two John, Les, and Woolly will be writing new material for another studio album. The natural consequence of this, of course, is a period of about three months in recording studios. Anyway, it is unlikely that there will be any major public appearances by the lads over the next few months, but, if anything desperately exciting is about to happen (!) I will do my best to let you know.

Provided that you have a strong enough stomach to stand watching "Top Of The Pops" every week, there is a small chance that you will see B.J.H on T.V. Of course, first the B.B.C have to rescind their ban on the new single, so it is, perhaps, a slim possibility!

For our German members, there is better news, as a short film made of selected songs played at the Munich Circus Krone on the recent Tour, will be shown on T.V, sometime in the New Year. Keep a look out for that.

Just one last snippet of information - At present, St.Annes Music are planning a "XII" songbook which is to include top lines and lyrics from all the songs on "XII", plus photographs and information. The whole package is expected to retail at around £2.00, and there is the possibility that it will be on sale through the club. Hopefully, there will be more news of this in April.

So, there it is; competition, sweat-shirt offer, and six new items on the price list. That should keep you busy until April!

All the best,

Jim

PRICE LIST.

TEE-SHIRTS.

1. Club tee-shirts. Circular BJH/butterfly motif in two-tone blue on white shirt. Sizes: Small, Medium, or Large.
Prices: U.K - £2.75 Europe - £3.50 U.S.A - £4.00
2. "XII". Silver printing on both sides of black shirt. Sizes: Small, Medium, or Large.
Prices: U.K - £3.25 Europe - £3.75 U.S.A - £4.25

3. BJH Press Kits. A beautifully presented, detailed biography and discography of the band, packed full of pictures and information. This would normally be available only to the Press.
Prices: U.K - £2.00 Europe - £2.75 U.S.A - £3.00
4. A specially printed black and white poster of the band (23½" x 16½"), available only to club members.
Prices: U.K - £0.75 Europe - £0.95 U.S.A - £1.00
5. Large "XII" butterfly window sticker in full colour. See Page 6.
Prices: U.K - £0.95 Europe - £1.05 U.S.A - £1.15
6. "XII" embroidered patches.
Prices: U.K - £0.75 Europe - £0.85 U.S.A - £0.95

BADGES.

7. Metal, enamelled BJH butterfly brooches. See Page 5.
Prices: U.K - £1.25 Europe - £1.50 U.S.A - £1.60
8. "XII".
Prices: U.K - £0.40 Europe - £0.55 U.S.A - £0.65
9. "Gone To Earth".
Prices: U.K - £0.40 Europe - £0.55 U.S.A - £0.65
10. "Octoberon".
Prices: U.K - £0.25 Europe - £0.35 U.S.A - £0.40
11. New club badge (sent out to members 811 onwards). I am offering this so that those earlier members who received the old style badge may buy one if they choose.
Price: U.K - £0.30 Europe - £0.40 U.S.A - £0.50

PHOTOGRAPHS.

12. As in "introductory package".
13. "Everyone Is Everybody Else" - time.
14. "Octoberon" - time.
15. "Time Honoured Ghosts" - time.

Prices for each: U.K - £0.50 Europe - £0.60 U.S.A - £0.70

16. BJH Photo-Pack. 6 black and white 10" x 8" prints as follows:-
 Four individual action shots. 1 each of John, Les, Mel and Woolly.
 One montage - four individual shots presented on one print.
 One group photograph of the lads in the control room at Strawberry.
 Prices per pack: U.K - £1.20 Europe - £2.00 U.S.A - £2.10

REVIEW SHEETS.

17. Number Two. Variety of articles particularly from 1972 and 1974.
 Prices: U.K - £0.85 Europe - £1.10 U.S.A - £1.35
18. Number Three. Concentrates mainly on "Time Honoured Ghosts" and "Gone To Earth" albums and Tours, but with a couple of ancient items thrown in.
 Prices: U.K - £0.70 Europe - £0.90 U.S.A - £1.00

PROGRAMMES.

19. "XII".
 Prices: U.K - £0.75 Europe - £0.90 U.S.A - £1.00
20. "Octoberon" or "Time Honoured Ghosts".
 Prices for each: £0.40 Europe - £0.55 U.S.A - £0.65

BACK COPIES OF NEWSLETTERS.

- No.1 April 1977 - News only.
 No.2 July 1977 - News only.
 No.3 October 1977 - News, Origin of Band's Name, Origin of BJH Butterfly, Sheet Music Info, Bombadil.
 No.4 January 1978 - News, Questionnaire Results, Members' Addresses, Letter from Band, Lyrics to "Mill Boys".
 No.5 April 1978 - News, Ian Southerington, European Poll Results, Update on Singles List, Crossword, Members' Addresses, Lyrics to "Dark Now My Sky", (Picture Cover).
 No.6 July 1978 - News, General Tour Info, Members' Account of Visit to Strawberry, Members' Addresses, Lyrics to "Our Kid's Kid", Insight into recording of "XII".
 No.7 September 1978 - News, Band Members' Equipment and how they took up their instruments, Insight into recording of "Suicide?", "The Talking Parcel", Member's review of "Live Tapes", Members' Addresses and ads, Lyrics to "Thank You".

Price for one: U.K - £0.40 Europe - £0.50 U.S.A - £0.60
 Price for two: U.K - £0.50 Europe - £0.65 U.S.A - £0.70

POST AND PACKING IS INCLUDED IN ALL PRICES.

PLEASE MAKE CHEQUES, P.O.s AND MONEY ORDERS PAYABLE TO F.O.B.J.H.

ITEM	SIZE	QTY	PRICE	TOTAL
				TOTAL

Name _____ Membership No. _____

Address _____

Please make cheques, P.O.s and Money Orders payable to "F.O.B.J.H."

[illegible]

Name _____ Membership No. _____

Address _____

Please make cheques, P.O.s and Money Orders payable to "F.O.B.J.H."

ITEM	SIZE	QTY	PRICE	TOTAL
TOTAL				

Name _____ Membership No. _____

Address _____

Please make cheques, P.O.s and Money Orders payable to "F.O.B.J.H."

SWEAT-SHIRT ORDER FORM. (See Page 4)

PRICES:

U.K: £6.00

Europe: £6.75

U.S.A: £7.00

Please make payments by cheque/postal order, or, if you live outside the U.K, by International Money Order not Eurocheque. Many thanks.

Please reserve me _____ sweat-shirt(s), Size Small/Medium/Large. I enclose Cheque/Postal Order/Money Order to the value of £_____.

Name and Membership No. _____

Address _____

Offer closes February 21st 1979.

COMPETITION ENTRY FORM. (See Page 4)

Name and Membership No. _____

Address _____

My descriptive phrase _____

I enclose 25p/2 International Reply Coupons.

Entries by 1st March please.

