

FRIENDS OF BARCLAY JAMES HARVEST
2 SWINBOURNE GROVE
WITHINGTON
MANCHESTER, M20 9PP.

FRIENDS OF BARCLAY JAMES HARVEST NEWSLETTER NO.9. APRIL 1979.

Cover design by John Baile.

Dear Friends,

As Year 2 limps to a halt, and me with it, due almost entirely to the success of the last newsletter, I bring you the glad news that we've finally cracked the thousand! Unfortunately, the rate at which the club is growing is causing its own problems, and whilst I don't intend to go into all the details, it is becoming increasingly obvious that there'll have to be another one of me soon - well, perhaps not quite another me, but a Gladys, a Bertha, or even a Cyril!! Anyway, I shall shortly be meeting with the band to discuss exactly what can be done, either to employ permanent help or to graft an extra pair of hands on to my wrists! I'll keep you informed.

THE GOLD RUSH.
"Gone To Earth" makes it!

# Post Office International Telegram

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WOOLLY WOLSTENHOLME

DEAR WOOLLY

CONGRATULATIONS TO YOUR FIRST GERMAN ALBUM

LOVE SILKIE+

JH5

What more can I say? Congratulations to John, Woolly, Les, and Mel; to Lindsay and Co.; to Polydor; and to the German public!!!

Will someone please pass my champagne glass. Hic!

SECOND COMPILATION ALBUM FROM E.M.I.

It was actually one of the members of F.O.B.J.H, Ann Eyre, who first drew our attention to the fact that E.M.I planned to release a second compilation album of the band's early material - they never tell us anything, y'know! Anyway, it's probably a shrewd move on their behalf, as, for the first time, it makes the much sought after Bombadil material readily available. As you probably remember, Bombadil was the pseudonym used by B.J.H when they released the single "Breathless" which was backed by "When The City Sleeps", in 1972 - "just for a laugh".

The album, called simply "The Best Of Barclay James Harvest. Volume 2", should be in the shops by the end of March or beginning of April on Harvest SHSM 2023. The track listing is as follows:-

Early Morning
She Said
Lady Loves
Crazy (Over You)
When The City Sleeps (Bombadil)
Medicine Man
Mother Dear
Vannessa Simmons
100,000 Smiles Out
Mr.Sunshine
Taking Some Time On
Breathless (Bombadil)

HUGE MARCH CAMPAIGN BY POLYDOR GMBH (GERMANY).

As a follow up to the amazing success of the recent German Tour, Polydor GMBH (Germany) are organising an enormous sales campaign of B.J.H records, to begin in March.

Despite very poor response to "Live Tapes" in this country, it has sold extraordinarily well in Germany, and it is on the cards that it will become the band's second gold disc well before the year is out. In view of this success, Polydor are repressing a limited number of the first "Live" album, which was previously unavailable in Germany except as an import.

Another "special" is a limited edition 12" single featuring "Sip Of Wine" and "Hymn". 20,000 copies will be pressed.

"Loving Is Easy" has now also been released in Germany in a special picture sleeve.

Of course, all this promotion means that lots of "goodies" will be about, and I shall do my best to beg, steal, or buy as much promotional material as I possibly can on the club's behalf, as this would not normally be available to the general public, even in Germany.

# NEW MANAGEMENT FOR B.J.H.

On 23rd March, John, Les, Mel, and Woolly signed a new management contract with Handle Artists Ltd of London. This is not such a big change as it seems at first sight, as it represents a formalisation of ties with Lindsay Brown, who has acted for the band in a freelance capacity for many years. Kennedy Street Ents. will still act as U.K agents so Danny Betesh will still be responsible for booking the British Tours. The new name in the set-up is David Walker, who is co-manager with Lindsay.

Because of the slight upheaval caused by the management changeover (inevitable however smooth things seem on the surface), things have got off to a rather slower start than normal. At this point, we still can't say when or where the next album will be recorded, but, even now, the lads are busy writing their material, and it is thought that the usual pattern will be followed. This, of course, is writing, followed by three months recording, a short summer break and then straight into rehearsals for the Tours. This would mean a new studio album and Tours of Britain, Europe, and perhaps some farther-flung countries in the Autumn. I must stress the fact that none of this is finalised, and that I only mention it to try to give you some idea of the band's activities in general over the next year. Of course, by the next newsletter, I will be able to fill you in on all the details.

GERMAN "MUSIK EXPRESS" POP POLL RESULTS.

This year, B.J.H's increasing popularity in Germany has been reflected in the results of the Pop Poll run by the country's popular music paper. Roman Geiger, member no.530 reports from Rottweil:-

"I would tell you something about the Rock election 1978 of the German music paper, the Musik Express.

In the Top 30 of the Rock groups, B.J.H had reached the 11th place, which is very good because the writers of the paper have no good meaning about the group, but the fans had demonstrated the contrary. The firsts are Genesis, Dire Straits, and the Rolling Stones.

In the Top 30 of the best L.Ps, the album "XII" had reached place 26; the first: "Dire Straits", "Watch" of Manfred Mann's Earth Band, and "Some Girls" from the Rolling Stones.

In the Best 10 Tours of 1978, the B.J.H Tour is at place 8, while the firsts are Santana, Genesis, and Rory Gallagher.

In the Top 20 of the diverse instruments, only Woolly has taken place 17 for "keyboards". Firsts are Rick Wakeman, Manfred Mann, and Keith Emerson".

Thank you, Roman, for sending us this heartening news.

# POOR MAN'S MOODY BLUES.

One question that I am asked so often that I feel it deserves some space here, is, "Why did John write 'Poor Man's Moody Blues'?" I admit that, at first sight, it does seem a peculiar title for a song by a band who, in the eyes of their many faithful followers, are second to none.... but we all know how the press feel about them and have often heard them unfavourably compared with virtually every other British rock band at some time or other. Taking this into account, it seems only natural that the band should hit back and assert their own status.... and this is what John is doing in this song.

Many of you who have attended Barclay James Harvest concerts after the Music Papers have performed their annual ritual of assasination of the band's latest offering, will have heard John launching his own attack at the Press. The whole procedure has become very much a tradition, but there are times when words can hurt as much as sticks and stones, no matter waht the old adage may tell us to the contrary. It was a German review which referred to B.J.H as a "poor man's Moody Blues" that finally sent John's blood passed boiling point, and he decided to prove the reviewer wrong.

The method he chose to do this was to take the old Moodies' classic, "Nights In White Satin" and strip it down to its basic rhythm and chord sequence. Then he built up his own song on this foundation, keeping the lyrical content similar. By this, he hoped to prove that B.J.H, rather than being inferior to the Moody Blues, could even beat them at their own game and improve and give more depth to one of their best known songs. For all this, "Poor Man's Moody Blues" is not a copy or cover version of "Nights In White Satin", but very much a song in its own right, with John's and the band's own particular magic running right through it.... and as for John's original purpose - only you can say whether or not this has been achieved. But when I listen to the song in all its splendour, I am inclined to wonder, "Does it really matter?"

# DELETED SINGLES AND ALBUMS.

As I have explained in a previous newsletter, I'm afraid that it's impossible for me to help individual members trace the band's deleted singles or "Early Morning Onwards" - this in itself would be a full time job. However, there is good news for those who are still having difficulty, as member no.62, Martin Ellis, has very kindly offered to help. So if you are having trouble finding a particular record by the band, he will be pleased to hear from you, and help you if he can. Please remember to enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope (or an International Reply Coupon), if you write to Martin. His address is:-

Martin Ellis
Flat 2
40, Ventnor Villas
Hove
BN3 3DA, England.

While I am on the subject of deleted records, I think that I'd better emphasize the fact that "Early Morning Onwards" is still readily available in Germany. It seems that, in the past, I have not made this clear - so all those who need the album to complete their collection may do well to cultivate some friends across the Channel!

# COMPETITION RESULTS.

The entries to the January competition, which asked you to send in your ideas about a phrase to describe the Barclay's own particular brand of music, were many and varied. It was very difficult to pick a winner as so many of the descriptions seemed to fit the bill, but eventually we managed to narrow it down to the prizewinners, who are as follows:-

- 1st: John Baile (No.57) of Liverpool, whose phrase, "Pretty 'n' Gritty Rock" is this issue's cover design. He wins the embroidered Tour jacket.
- 2nd: Kerstin Broich (No.941) of Mönchengladbach, West Germany, who wins the complete set of Polydor B.J.H albums with her enigmatic description, "Candlelight Rock (for finest hours)".
- 3rd: Ann Buckingham (No.39) of Cambridge obviously had a certain fizzy drink in mind when she wrote her phrase, "Slowbuilding gutchurning brainstorming Meldrumming Lesplunking Woollygrinning Johnsinging Beebbanning mindblowing handclapping footthumping evergiving B.J.H!!!" She received the glitter tee-shirt for her efforts.
- 4th prize winners, who each received a blue vinyl copy of the single "Loving Is Easy", were:-

Norman Godfrey (No.907) from Exeter University.

Mark Jones (No.591) of Bangor.

Michael Geske (No.387) of Warendorf, West Germany.

Graham Laurenson (No.818) of Stirling University.
Pete Piwowarski (No.792) of Paddock, Huddersfield.
Mary Callender (No.756) from Kelloe, Durham.
Peter McGovern (No.511) from Lincoln.
Roland Strack (No.952) from Bad Berleburg, West Germany.
Stephen Davis (No.14) of Deal, Kent.
Alan Fielder (No.650) of Bursledon, Southampton.

5th prizes of posters advertising the film "Caught Live" in Germany, were won by:Frank McWilliams (No.302) from East Kilbride.
Richard Kulik (No.131) from Manchester.
Nicholas Downs (No.506) of Chislehurst, Kent.
Peter Cutler (No.92) from Upton, Oxfordshire.

SONG LYRICS NO.6: HAPPY OLD WORLD.

Looking like something from out of space, we came,
Nothing much to look at, but did he complain?

He didn't mind us being here to live in peace and grace
What we're doing to him now could put us back in space.

We're thinking like some creatures off the ocean floor,
Losing sight of what we've really come here for.

Can I be heard above the sounds of predjudice and hate?

Take time to look around before it gets too late.

It's a happy old world;
Give and take a bit,
That's what you make of it:
A happy old world,
But I'm sorry to be leaving it.
It's a happy old world;
Give and take a bit,
That's what you make of it:
A happy old world,
But I guess I still believe in it:
It's a happy old world.

We're tearing up the rivers and a thousand streams
And highways, they're in places where they've never been.
Building towers in the sky and racing for the sun;
Oh Lord, any eye can see what harm we've done.
I need some help to get myself out of this maze.
We can both just say goodbye and go our seperate ways.
My mind's not on this song I sing, my heart's not in the lines.
I guess I'll go and kill myself, so would you kindly close the blinds

On a happy old world; Give and take a bit .... etc.

MEMBER'S ADDRESSES.
The following members would like to hear from you!

Gerd Kraus (No.856) Auf der Vogelstang 15 6800 Manheim 31 West Germany Eberhard Kuehler (No.966) Kesselstruth 26 5243 Herdorf/Sieg West Germany Serge Pilet (No.850) 1261 Cheserex / Nyon U.D Switzerland

(Serge can correspond in English, German, French, and Italian.)

Phil Wardle (No.448) 16,Alvanley Road West Derby Liverpool L12 8QX

# MEMBERS' ADVERTISEMENTS.

If you wish to place a small ad. in this section of the newsletter, please send 25p, along with the exact wording that you wish to appear.

FOR SALE: Complete set of mint B.J.H singles (16), including rare Bombadil single and flexi-disc. Highest offer, above £30, secures. Ronald Adam, 11 Beech Avenue, Kilmarnock, Ayrshire, Scotland.

WANTED: Any photos or information on Bob Harris and "The Old Grey Whistle Test" when he was on. (Present series info. not wanted.) Please send above mentioned to following address: Alice Thompson, 23 Hereford Road, Darby End Estate, Netherton, Dudley, West Midlands, England.

WANTED: Cassette versions of "Barclay James Harvest" and "B.J.H and Other Short Stories". Good condition, good price. Please write to Tony Hoskins, C/O Old House Hotel, Thames Street, Windsor, Berks, England.

# LYRIC SHEETS.

For those of you who have trouble with the patois, I am planning a series of lyric sheet posters. Initially, these will be for the albums that were issued without librettos, including John's "A Major Fancy". I had hoped to have the first of these ready to co-incide with this newsletter, but I've been so busy answering letters, that I haven't had the time to get them ready. Anyway, I'm giving you advance warning now, that you will be able to buy the lyric sheet poster to "Barclay James Harvest" (and maybe some others) in the next newsletter.

# REVISIONS TO PRICE LIST.

Those of you with pocket calculators will certainly have noticed some anomalies creeping in to the price list (especially for overseas members). At last I have found the time to sit back and look afresh at the whole thing and rationalise it. The changes mostly effect overseas members. While some items have been increased in price (as not enough allowance had been made for the difference in postal costs), others have been reduced. This is especially pertinent now that I have decided that all overseas parcels will be sent by air mail in the future, as, previously, U.S.A and Japanese members have had to wait up to two months to receive their packages. Obviously, this was not an ideal situation!!

The two most noticeable changes that will effect everyone concern:-

- 1) Club Tee-Shirts. Since my first order of these, prices have been steadily increasing, but as yet these increases have not been passed on to you. Unfortunately, I can no longer hold the prices down. (See price list for details.)
- 2) Photographs. In future, all photographs will be of the "printed" variety. These are far cheaper to produce than those which are photographically reproduced, so the reduction will be passed on to you. The printing method is already used for the photopack, so there will be no reduction in this case. (See price list for details.)

While on the subject of goods, I'll take this opportunity to describe some of the new additions to the list.

Winged Woman Tee-Shirts: The winged woman design (as on the U.K record label), used for the club's first sweatshirts, has proved so popular that I have decided to give those who missed out on that offer the chance to sport this well-known B.J.H motif on a tee-shirt. The design is in three colours on a white shirt.

B.J.H Pens, Surface Stickers, and Notepads: These items were previously available only to second-year members, but I have a small quantity left to offer you. The pads and stickers are both printed with the motif used on the club tee-shirts. The pens are black and chrome, printed with the white winged woman design, and the words, "Friends Of Barclay James Harvest".

Now it is only left for me to fill you in on all the items of late news.

First, news of that campaign in Germany. Since it started, 80,000 copies of B.J.H's L.P records have been sold! At this rate, it looks as though Polydor will more than realise their hopes of selling 200,000 albums during this period of intense promotion.

I expect that all the British FOBJHers will be feeling a little left out, hearing all this news from Germany, and will feel like crying, "What about us?", but I'm even more convinced that this last piece of news from that country will mean celebrations in the homes of Barclay's fans all over the world. I mentioned earlier that the double album "Live Tapes" was certain to follow in the footsteps of the band's first gold album, "Gone To Earth". We now have news from Polydor in Germany that "XII" will have definitely earned a gold disc there by the end of this month, due partly to the band's recent sell-out Tour, partly to the tremendous effort put in by the record company, and partly to the obvious good taste of the record-buying public!!

SECOND CHANCE TO SEE "THE TALKING PARCEL". The children's cartoon, "The Talking Parcel" for which Woolly and Davey Rohl scored the music, obviously proved very popular when it was shown on Boxing Day, as I.T.V will be rescreening it sometime at Easter. I'm afraid that I can't be more specific than that, but, if you keep an eye on the T.V.Times, you will be able to catch it when it is shown in your area, sometime over the holiday.

# "CAUGHT LIVE".

While I have no definite news about the showing of the band's documentary film "Caught Live" in this country, I can assure you that negotiations are still going on. This time, it is Granada T.V who are involved, so there is a possibility that it will be shown in the North West area, even if it is not networked to the rest of the country. Again, I'm sorry that I can't be morw specific at this point.

#### SONGBOOK.

In the last newsletter, I mentioned that St.Anne's Music were planning a "XII" songbook, which would include "top lines" and lyrics of all the songs on the album, "XII", plus photographs and information. Well, now the idea has been extended and the songbook will also include all the songs from "Gone To Earth". Printing is going ahead at the moment, so it shouldn't be too long before the book is available. It may also be possible to buy the book through the club, and I will try to give you more news of that in July.

Finally, just a note to say that "Loving Is Easy" has now been released as a single in the U.S.A.

Well, that just about wraps it up for this issue. I hope you've enjoyed reading all the astoundingly good news as much as I've enjoyed writing it.

Remember, although I'm always very pleased to hear from you, I do very much appreciate an S.A.E or International Reply Coupon, if your letter requires a reply.

Now, I really must get back to my champagne, before it goes flat!

Best Regards,

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# STOP PRESS

Prices for song-book have just arrived: they will be in the shops at the early part of May at £3.95 (U.K. Price). You may order through the Club from 1st May for the following prices:-

U.K. £3.25
Europe £3.95
Elsewhere £5.60
including post & package.

# PRICE LIST - APRIL 1979.

#### TEE-SHIRTS.

1. Club tee-shirts. Circular B.J.H/butterfly motif in two-tone blue on white shirt. Sizes: Small, Medium, or Large.

Prices: U.K - £3.00

Europe - £3.50

Elsewhere - £4.25

2. "XII". Silver printing on both sides of black shirt. Sizes: Small, Medium, or Large.

Prices: U.K - £3.25

Europe - £3.75

Elsewhere - £4.50

3. Wingëd Woman. 3 colour B.J.H label logo on white shirt. Sizes: Small, Medium, or Large.

Prices: U.K - £3.30

Europe - £3.80

Elsewhere - £4.60

# BADGES.

4. "XII".

Prices: U.K - £0.40 E

Europe - £0.55

Elsewhere - £0.70

5. "Gone To Earth".

Prices: U.K - £0.40

Europe - £0.55

Elsewhere - £0.70

6. "Octoberon".

Prices: U.K - £0.25

Europe - £0.40

Elsewhere - £0.55

7. New Club badge. (Issued to members 811 onwards).

Prices: U.K - £0.30

Europe - £0.45

Elsewhere - £0.60

# PROGRAMMES.

8. "XII".

Prices: U.K - £0.75

Europe - £1.15

Elsewhere - £1.90

9. "Time Honoured Ghosts".

Prices: U.K - £0.40

Europe - £0.80

Elsewhere - £1.55

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# PHOTOGRAPHS.

10. B.J.H Photopack. 6 black and white 10" X 8" prints as follows: Four individual shots; one 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: U.K - £1.20

Europe - £1.50

Elsewhere - £2.00

11. Photopack 2. (This replaces the photographs previously sold seperately). Three black and white 10" X 8" photographs of the band: "Everyone Is Everybody Else" -time; "Time Honoured Ghosts" -time; "Octoberon" -time. Prices: U.K - £0.60 Europe - £0.75 Elsewhere - £1.00

# POSTERS.

12. A specially printed black and white poster of the band, available only to club members.

Prices: U.K - £0.75

Europe - £0.90

Elsewhere - £1.30

13. "Live Tapes".
Prices: U.K - £0.75

Europe - £0.90

Elsewhere - £1.30

14. "XII". Poster/Lyric Sheet.
Send large S.A.E with 10p stamp or 2 International Reply Coupons.

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REVIEW SHEETS.

- 15. Number Two. Variety of articles, particularly from 1972 and 1974.

  Prices: U.K £0.85 Europe £1.00 Elsewhere £1.50
- 16. 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 £0.75

  Europe £0.90

  Elsewhere £1.30

- 17. F.O.B.J.H pens. Black and chrome, printed with winged woman design in white.

  Prices: U.K £0.40 Europe £0.55 Elsewhere £0.70
- 18. B.J.H Surface Stickers. Sold in fives.

  Prices for five: U.K £0.45 Europe £0.60 Elsewhere £0.75
- 19. B.J.H Notepads.

  Prices: U.K £0.45 Europe £0.60 Elsewhere £1.10

Items 18 & 19 feature the two-tone blue club motif.

20. "XII" Embroidered, sew-on patches. Very few left.

Prices: U.K - £0.75 Europe - £0.90 Elsewhere - £1.05

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 butterfly, sheet music info., Bombadil.
- No.4 January 1978 News, questionaire 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., Member's 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 recroding of "Suicide?", "The Talking Parcel", Member's review of "Live Tapes", members' addresses and ads, lyrics to "Thank You". (Picture Cover.)
- No.8 January 1979 News, Tour reviews, members' addresses and ads, lyrics to "When The World Was Woken". (Picture Cover.)

Price for one: U.K - £0.40 Europe - £0.55 Elsewhere - £1.00 Price for two: U.K - £0.50 Europe - £0.65 Elsewhere - £1.25

POST AND PACKING IS INCLUDED IN ALL PRICES. GOODS TO COUNTRIES OUTSIDE THE U.K WILL BE SENT BY AIR MAIL.

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

THIS CANCELS ALL PREVIOUS LISTS.

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