

# COUNTRY CLUB



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PHOTOS BY CLARE MULLER - Front Cover, 4, 10, 20, 23, 26, and 27.

PHOTOS FROM BRUCE'S PRIVATE COLLECTION - 6, 7, 9, 12, 13, 14, and 35.

DRAWING ON BACK COVER - SUE HARTLEY

FINISHING TOUCHES - PHIL GARNER

Many Thanks to all

HELLO CHUMS!

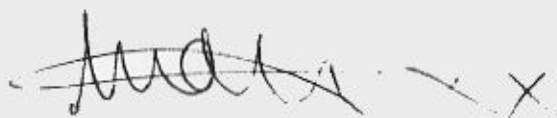
Yes it's here! We've actually got another mag out in the same year! Aren't you proud of us? There has been very little activity this year, which I'm sure you are well aware of, this makes it very difficult to produce a mag, out of thin air so to speak. BUT we've done it this is the thin air edition of COUNTRY CLUB...

You may have heard that an album was to be released towards the end of this year and that the inevitable tour would follow. Well yes, that was to be the case but there was a spanner in the works across the Atlantic. But soft! sweet things all is now in order and Big Country have now signed a new recording contract with Warner Bros. The HOT NEWS is that... The Big Band are now recording demos... **THE NEXT ALBUM HAS BEGUN!** Please don't write in and ask when it is going to be released, obviously at this stage no-one knows, recording for real hasn't started yet. As soon as we have the slightest whiff of a release date your envelopes waiting for HOT STUFF will be filled and posted, PROMISE! You have all sent one in haven't you?

For those of you that have had difficulty in finding the Big Country book, A Certain Chemistry, see below. It is now available to all without hitch!

Thats all from me then. Enjoy the thin air (or is it Scotch Mist?) we've sweated hard to produce for you to enjoy...

**STAY VERY MUCH ALIVE**



# A CERTAIN CHEMISTRY

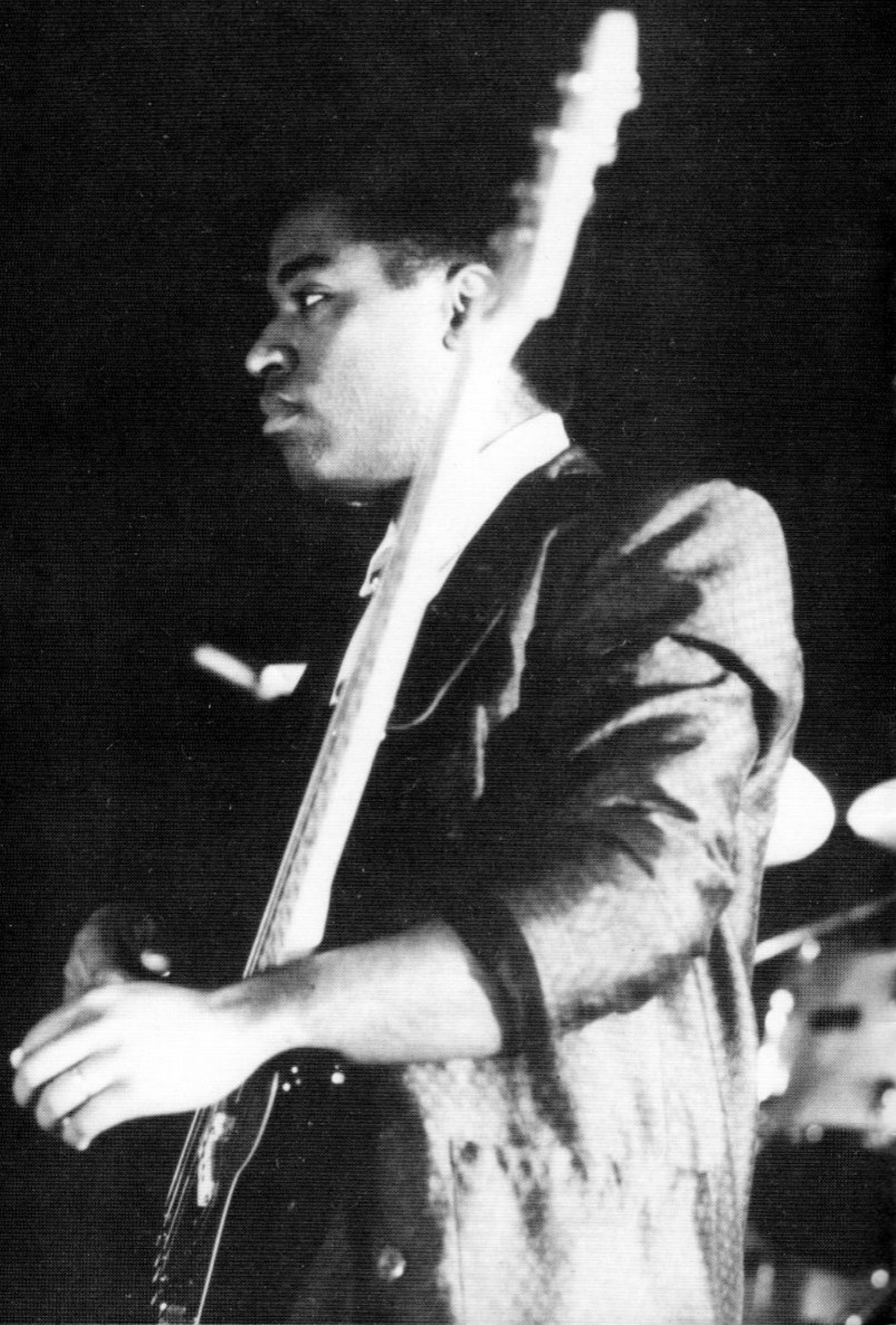
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We apologise to overseas members for the expense of buying money orders but it is necessary. If you send personal cheques in your country's currency the cost of exchange swallows most of the amount sent leaving hardly enough to cover the cost of postage let alone the item ordered.



# INTRODUCING HEDD RECORDS

On reflection It's hard to believe that a record company could turn down The Beatles, saying that it was only a passing fad; and anyway they wrote their own songs and that doesn't happen, does it? Well it happened, even if the record company in question did sign the Rolling Stones the week after. It goes to show that it is easier said than done and there is that element of luck to take into consideration.

Having worked in A & R departments for various major record companies for the past six years I have seen how and why this can happen, after all it is a powerful money spinning business, with heavy investments, politics and power struggles within the company can often dictate whether or not a band will be successful, also apart from lawyers, accountants, in some cases marketing departments, the employees are amateur, there are no training schools, you learn by experience. Who knows maybe at the expense of some bands.

After the punk explosion record companies were flung wide open, for the first time the walls around them were penetrated, they were vulnerable Streetwise entrepreneurs were now calling the shots, hence the dutch auctions, i.e. large advances for new bands, sometimes in the region of £200,000, and you must realise this is an advance to the band, the record company still has to pay for recordings, video etc... This obviously leads to pressure to gain success in the first year, otherwise it can get too expensive to continue, the band are dropped and probably never heard of again. So you see there are many deciding factors on today's music.

I have now set up a record label, HEDD RECORDS, with Ian Grant and Alan Edwards.

I feel the time is right for this venture in that we pool our experiences, it's a smaller set up, so little or no politics. We have complete control and can still compete with the majors by using their machinery. Also new bands don't feel so alienated by us like they do with the giants, 'a more sympathetic ear', I suppose you could say.

Taking all this into consideration, we feel we are able to nurture and develop new talent.

We have just signed our first band, GAYE BYKERS ON ACID, some of you might already have heard of them. We find them an exciting proposition. They already have a following, which is an important base to have, after all, you the public have the final decision on a band's future.

There is a saying that the record business has been going in 10 year cycles. 1957 Rock & Roll was born. 1967 saw the rise of such bands as the Beatles and the Stones, to name but a few. 1977 Punk Rock exploded.

1987? Who knows, my guess is it's labels like Hedd Records and of course Gaye Bykers On Acid.

Billy Keane

IAN WITH HIS NEW DOLL







Yet again Big Country were called on to add a bit of life for Royal consumption.

True it was only Mark, and not true is that Stuart would only appear if the Prince of Wales (Di's hubby) gave all the oil money back to Scotland, not true either is the vicious rumour that Bruce wasn't even born when most of the supergroup were making hero's of themselves.

Before the actual gig maybe you would like to close your eyes and imagine... Your'e backstage... Flashlights, Press & TV people everywhere "Oh Look! is that Paula Yates? No you fool she doesn't go anywhere with Bob Geldof"

"That is definitely Reggie from Pinner" "Who?" "ELTON JOHN! don't you know anything".

"What's that smell?"

"Incense"

"There's a lot about that in the papers".

"Idiot, it's Joss Sticks, George Harrison's inner being has just arrived".

"Who's Joss Stick?"

"There's Ringo Starr"

"Where?"

"There, he's the grey haired one, the gap in the hair is his mouth".

"We better get to our seats, Curiosity Killed Music are going on".

And so the actual once in boredom concert.

I've got a good tip for the Curiosity singer with the silly hat, he should get a silly name..

Bryan Adams proved he's value for money. I'm going to skip a few because nobody woke me up till MIDGE URE lead the first part of the supergroup on , (rather a pompous word supergroup) Yes and after all the preceding waffle we come to the whole and only reason why your reading this - Mark Brzezicki. He drummed to his usual standard, excellent; no more than this he was brilliant, with Mark King on Bass you would think it would be more than enough and plus the likes of Eric Clapton. Ben E King, Elton John, Boy George, Phil Collins. Mark vacated his drum kit for one song so Ringo Starr could borrow it. Being a Beatle I would have thought he could afford one of his own. But thank God Mark was back after a rather limp version of "While my guitar gently weeps". I was in tears myself. Next came "Here comes the sun" a happy little song which should only be played in the desert. Then Ringo left the drumkit, to sing "With a little help from my friends". With no help whatsoever from my friends, I found my way to the bar. Brushing and pushing with the songs while craning their necks to see if Di was jiving with H.R.H. And at last the bar.



Les King



## ROCK

### Prince's Trust Gala Wembley Arena

While hardly the second coming, it was pleasant enough to see Ringo Starr, a faintly ridiculous figure buried amid Mark Brzezicki's enormous kit, and George Harrison with a marvellous, swept-back, Clint Eastwood look about him, muddle their way through hesitant versions of "While My Guitar Gently Weeps" and "Here Comes the Sun". One could not help but register a keen sense of irony during the grand finale however, when Starr came forward and led "With a Little Help From My Friends" in his flat, inflexible voice while flanked on either side by Ben E. King, Boy George, Elton John, Tony Hadley, Dave Edmunds, Bryan Adams, Mark King, Labi Siffre, Eric Clapton, Jeff Lynne, Leo Sayer and Midge Ure, to name some of the more accomplished vocalists.

Prior to these high jinks, the rock aristocracy's annual vari-

ety show had progressed with its usual share of winning moments — Eric Clapton's poignant reading of "Wonderful Tonight", Ben E. King's epic "Stand By Me" — and disasters, notably Go West's "Don't Look Down", advice seemingly taken literally by the person at the controls of the mixing desk at that point.

Faced with the challenge of opening the evening, Curiosity Killed the Cat were plainly out of their depth, but Alison Moyet proved livelier than expected and Bryan Adams prompted the first signs of life from the crowd. The party pieces that ensued were remarkable, if nothing else, for their apparent homogeneity. "Running in the Family", "If I Was", "Behind the Mask" and "Through the Barricades" all merged into the broad framework provided by Midge Ure's deft musical direction.

Royal patronage of the rock church was a prospect that seemed almost as unlikely 20 years ago as that of a full Beatles reunion does today, but Princess Diana and Prince Charles dutifully stayed until the last encore, a massed reprise of "Stand By Me".

**David Sinclair**

# BIG COUNTRY

## THE TIMES

### 8th JUNE 1987

The one and only

# LES KING





# HOW THE CLUB WAS WON

A lot of people write in and ask about the running of the club, and how did I get the job in the first place. Well it's all very boring really, but I'll tell you anyway. Are you sitting comfortably? Then I'll begin...

First of all I have to burst a bubble, I do not sit on Stuart's knee taking notes! I don't have much direct contact with the band at all, which will no doubt surprise a lot of you. I sit, that is when I'm not moved out, in the corner of an office with some other beings, whether they are human or not is still in dispute, but I do know they have nothing to do with either me or Big Country. I'm miles away from anyone remotely connected to the Big Band. I probably see them a lot less than a lot of you. I go down to London at magazine time but I can assure you that Big Country don't hide out in the Grant-Edwards office either, I have never seen anyone famous there before this visit when Billy Duffy breezed by.

HOW DID I GET THE JOB? By being in a place at a time. Somedays it can be considered the right place, and somedays... I became involved when Martin could no longer cope on his own. At first I did the memberships and Martin carried on with the info service. Martin later found full-time employment in another part of the country, leaving the situation vacant it seemed logical that I should take over.

WHAT DOES THE WORK INVOLVE? More than I ever dreamed! I wasn't surprised by the amount of mail that flooded in, but I soon learned that I needed a system and quick. First the mail is sorted into: membership applications, members letters and non-members letters. Applications are given a numbered member card, a member pack is sent out and details are put into the computer which files the members alphabetically. For cross reference the application forms are filed numerically, you wouldn't believe the amount of letters I get without a name or number and even address. The number, so many of you hold so much store by, is a reference number for me, just li'l ole me. It tells me how many members I have and therefore how many mags or whatever I have to get printed. It has no magic, it bears no relation to how long you have been a member, or how much you care about Big Country. I won't be drawn into any kind of discrimination.

WHAT HAPPENS TO THE MONEY? No secrets - it pays the bills. No profit is made, it just about manages to keep it's head above water over the year. If it did by some miracle 'earn', the money would be fed back into the club so that you the members would benefit. A fee is paid to Acme for the use of their phone, fax, telex, computer, bank account, typewriters, and franking machine. It would cost a good deal more if I tried to set up independently and would also be a lot more time consuming. All labour is voluntary. I do it because I care. I care about you, and of course about Big Country but not just because I rate them as musicians. They are genuinely the most sincere blokes I have ever met in the music business. Because you put your faith in me, my conscience would not let me betray that trust.

WHAT KIND OF LETTERS DO YOU GET? I don't think there is any kind of letter I don't get. Apart from the usual I love BC type, I get letters from members just telling me what they are up to, I feel like a pen friend sometimes. I get problem letters, as in Clare Rayner type. I try and help, and I have I've had the thank you letters to prove it, even from a Dad who said I'd helped him to understand his daughter, I'm just so wonderful!!! I even had a suicide letter, I now write regularly to the very much alive person who says I helped. I've had obscene letters, they just make me laugh, some of them are very imaginative! I have letters from people who have just 'lost' a relation, the other week I was informed of the death of a member, I was quite upset because he used to write in quite regularly. I have letters from people with terminal illness saying

Big Country's music gives them the strength to face the illness, you wouldn't believe the courage some people have in the face of adversity, it makes me feel so wretched.

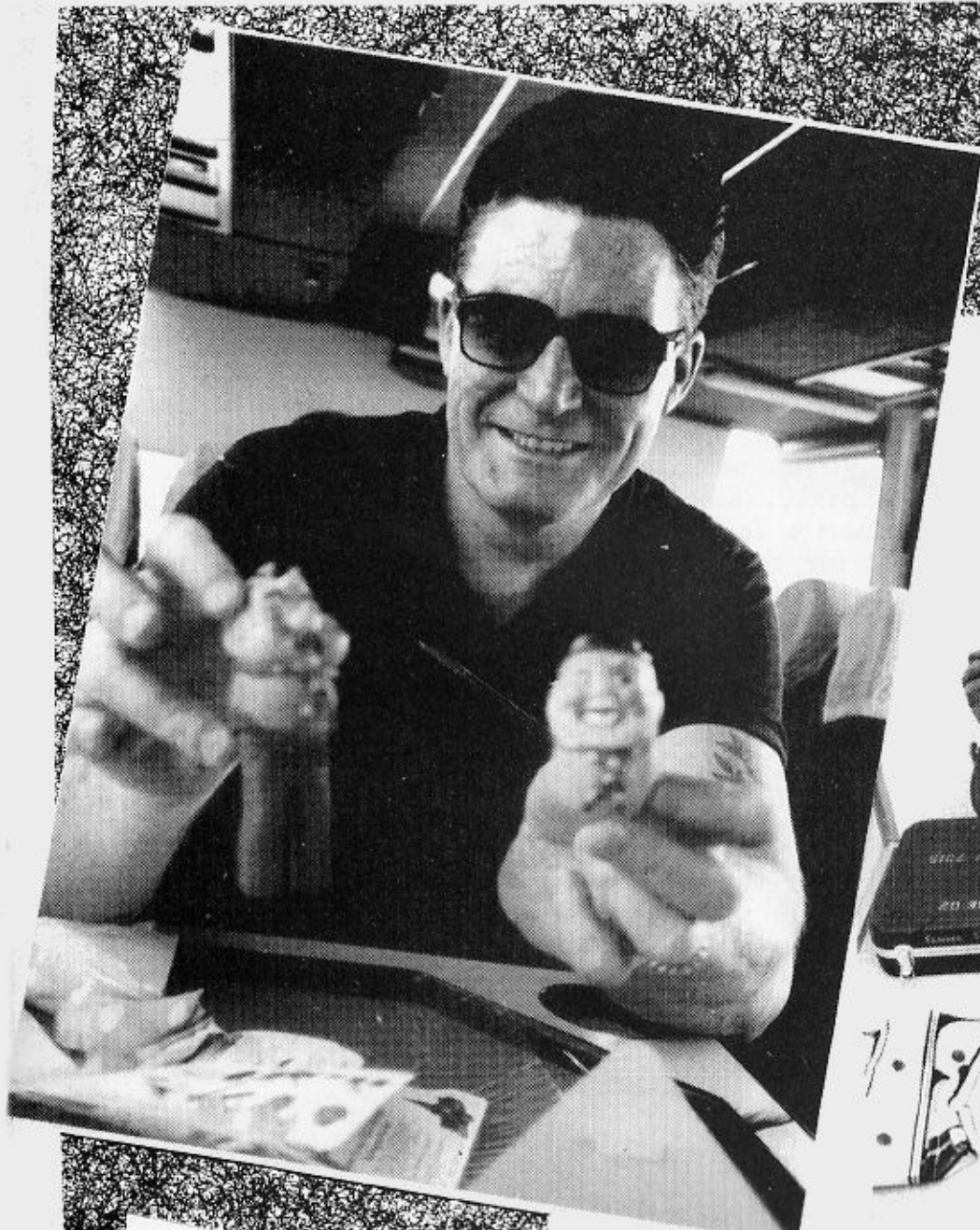
**WHAT HAPPENS TO THE LETTERS?** Obscene ones get pinned on the wall! The rest I reply to as quickly as possible. Most of your questions have been asked so many times that I could answer them in my sleep. Sometimes I'm stumped and have to call in the cavalry, sometimes they too need to call in the reserves, which causes delay to the reply. I answer all the letters myself, either I type them or someone types them for me; I was told by my junior school teacher that, my writing was atrocious, things haven't changed much. Sometimes the typed version is gobbledygook, even after two years Sheila can't read my writing. Questions on record collecting are sent to Mike Bartram, my record collecting days are long gone. Once upon a time I knew records by number (STAX 108 & STAX 128, any takers? they are the only ones I remember) and I could give a knowledgeable history on every groove. I like many others found my purse couldn't keep up with my 'habit', I now only buy albums in whatever version the shop has and the odd single. I don't even know track names half the time, I have to say the one that goes 'la la la'. For all you that complain about the many mixes, shapes, sleeves, sizes, colours and flavours, I only have three very run of the mill BC singles.

**WHO DECIDES WHAT GOES IN THE MAGAZINE?** I go to London for a meeting with Ian Grant, we both make suggestions and yeah or nay them there and then. Sometimes such as now there is little happening which makes a mag very hard to produce. Other times there is so much that it's hard to stick to the deadline because new stuff keeps cropping up to be included. It is a very busy time, I love it, suddenly it's all systems go and then to see a little book at the end of it is very satisfying. Then the really boring bit begins, sticking it into envelopes, and posting them you start dreaming about them! The mail comes in faster than ever, and we start all over again...

Andy Marlow

### Hold The Heart





↑  
**OUR  
JOE**

**She squealed, grunted and walked on all fours**

**Girl raised by pigs**

An 18-month-old girl who was raised by pigs is preparing to return to her family and may one day lead a life as a top physician or scientist.

The child's parents in England had a litter of piglets with human-like features and they named her 'Lulu'.

When she was brought to the United States, she was found to be a piglet with human-like features.

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## THE TROUBLE WITH FANS



An American club member travelled over to Britain especially to visit Dunfermline. It must have cost her a fortune, just to walk the streets that Bruce and Stuart had walked. She returned to the States happy, and is saving for a second visit.

On the other hand a group of girls, some of whom have met the band, have been invited to a backstage party, and watched the making of a video. On hearing that a member of Stuart's family was getting married, decided to trek on up to bonny Scotland for the occasion. I don't suppose I need to say this but, a wedding is a private function and Stuart and the rest of the band value their privacy highly. What should have been a happy occasion was turned into a messy, upsetting ordeal by these thoughtless girls. It was a very selfish act on their part one they themselves deeply regret and have felt nothing but shame about since.

You all read Stuart's letter in Issue 13, I quote, "We cannot be available to all of the people all of the time". Stuart was referring to his time on the road, his public life. That being the case, shouldn't we show such a great bunch of guys the respect they deserve and accept that they belong to us only in part, and leave them to enjoy their privacy as much as we enjoy ours.

I'm usually proud of our members and I do all I can to help you feel a little closer to the band. Please do not take advantage of the band, they honestly care about you, by respecting their privacy you will show them you care about them a lot better than by camping on their doorsteps. Letters to the band should all come through the club, it is my job to reply. Letters sent elsewhere are re-directed to me - unopened. Big Country don't have time enough to be Big Country and their individuals selves and answer your letters too.

STAY PROUD  
and  
STAY ALIVE

*The best audience is intelligent, well-educated and a little drunk.* Alben W. Barkley

Andy Marlow



MAIN SQUARE  
MILAN '86

# BIG COUNTRY

# David

# ON TOUR with Bowie



Friday 19 June WEMBLEY

Saturday 20 June WEMBLEY

Sunday 21 June CARDIFF

Tuesday 23 June SUNDERLAND

## Wembley Stadium

Tony had arrived first was sitting alone in the backstage area. His dreadlocks were now in full blossom and to cap it all he had grown a full length moustache similar to the one John Lennon had on the cover of Sgt. Pepper. 'A cross between Bob Marley and Derek Griffiths', I eagerly pointed out to him. 'Piss off big nose', he wittingly replied.

Mark checked in next and was still buzzing with excitement from the week before, he had just finished performing at the Prince's Trust. We had participated in last years concert, but this time Mark actually got to meet - the man. He said he and Prince Charles had a brief but interesting conversation about decibel levels, but he never got round to asking 'Di' if she wore stockings or tights!

Stuart brought some new toys with him to entertain us on this mini tour, the most memorable being a small green gherkin like puppet with a huge inflatable tongue. When punched or sat on violently, the puppet would let out this thundering noise not dissimilar to a fat lady breaking wind during a heavy aerobics session in a large gymnasium.

Tony, Ian and I had the great misfortune of liggering at David Bowie's aftershow party at Bill Stickers in London. This was the famous party where Bowie smacked a photographer. There I was standing at the bar with Billy from the Cult discussing hairstyles (as guitarists often do) when all of a sudden... Flash whirr.. Flash whirr... this camera goes off on the other side of the room where Bowser and chums are having lagers, the next second Bowie jumps onto the table, real dramatic like, and proceeds to beat the photographer about the head and body with the back of his hands. 'Take that, you slimy little man' he screamed as he sent a blow smashing into his left ear. 'Stop blowing in his ear ya poof, hit the bastard', shouted Tony. 'Yeah, who do you think you are, Sean Penn?' hollered Ian, who by now had five or six bottles of free champagne in one hand and a doggy bag full of vegetarian titbits in the other. Murmur, murmur, murmur, echoed round the night club. Murmur, murmur, murmur, bloody photographers, murmur, murmur, murmur, bloody celebrities...

## Cardiff Arm Park

The Welsh are a great bunch of sports. My God they don't half like a drink or two, and they say the Scottish have a reputation for being drinkers. Well mates, just try sticking a bottle of anything that smells remotely alcoholic down a Welshmans gullet and he'll show you what it's like to be really pissed. And singing, they like a good sing song too. In fact it must be great fun being Welsh, all that singing and drinking! 'Hello Mr Jones, fancy a drink before choir practise?'. 'No thanks Mr Boyo, but would you like to hear some Welsh jokes?'

Q What's the difference between Joan Collins and a KitKat?

A Not everyone's been up the Eiffel Tower.

Q What is the missing answer to these three words? Lance Percival, Ukelele, and Orang-utan.

A The missing word is of course - Dolphinarium.

And now boys and girls, what images do these words conjure up in your minds? Erecto-ram, Arabstrap, ben-wa-balls and probing maximu... Whoops sorry, I sort of went off at a tangent.



# BIG backing on way for Bowie

CHART toppers Big Country will support David Bowie when he plays Roker Park, it was revealed today.

The four-strong Scottish band, famous for hits like "Wonderland", "East of Eden," and "In a big country," will be second on the bill when the rock legend takes to the Sunderland stage on June 23.

The announcement comes from promoter Harvey Goldsmith just days after popular Alison Moyet pulled out of the concert. And it could be the best bet because the group has a good following on Wearside.

The band is: Vocals, Stuart Adamson; drums and percussion, Mark Brzezicki; bass guitar, Tony Butler and Bruce Watson, guitar.

A spokesman for Chartz record shop in Sunderland said: "It's a piece of good news — Big Country is a brilliant band, and its records have always sold very well. They're smashing in concert and have a lot of fans in this area."

Big Country rose out of the ashes of the Skids, one of the most successful post-punk outfits who split up at the turn of the decade. When Skids frontman Robert Jobson left to pursue his Armoury Show, his sidekick guitarist Stuart Adamson teamed up with fellow Scot Bruce Watson to form Big Country, the pioneering Celtic rock band.

The two guitar players brought in ace sessionman Mark Brzezicki on drums and Tony Butler on bass to bring their fusion of new wave and bagpipe droning guitars to life



Big Country ... will support Bowie at Roker Park.

Their first album, "The Crossing," was a gigantic success with both critics and fans. The singles "Harvest Home" and "Fields of Fire" heralded their arrival on the "Top of the Pops" scene.

Since then they've established themselves with some brilliant live gigs and a reputation for stagecraft full of power and passion. The chart success was continued with the albums "Steeltown" and "The Seer" and singles like "East of Eden" and "Chance."

## David Bowie

cont.

Roker Park Sunderland

Well here we are back in Geordieland again, although I haven't really met anyone called Geordie, unless one counts that large woman who drives the fork lift down at the docks.

We are staying at the County Hotel across from the railway station. Next door to the hotel is a Yate's Wine Lodge, which is an excellent hostelry for cocktails of an evening. After closing time it's down to the local night spot, where I'm sure they are having a 'Miss Charles Bronson Lookalike Contest 1987'. Les won first prize.

Bruce Watson



## GLASS SPIDER FAX

OVER 100 cities visited

Two Full Stage Sets

Two different sound systems

Two different light rigs

260 Speaker cabinets

OVER 1,000 lights

40 trucks

150 construction crew  
(plus local construction crew)

approx. 675,000 meals consumed

approx. 2,000,000 drinks consumed

560,000 gallons of petrol used

total distance covered, 1,400,000  
(almost equal to 3 return trips to the moon!)

**FAR OUT MAN!**



### COMPETITION WINNER

The question was: **Which European country released 'The Crossing' with 'No 1 in Britain' printed on the cover?**

The answer: **GREECE**

There were quite a few correct entries so the winner was pulled out of the hat. The winner is:

**TONY HAYES**  
5 Esonwood Road  
Whiston  
Merseyside

### NEW COMPETITION

**Which UK band did Big Country last support in Britain? Festivals and recent Bowie concerts excluded.**

Answers on POSTCARD or on the BACK OF STUCK DOWN ENVELOPE to:  
Country Club Competition  
P O Box 189  
Northampton  
NN2 6BA

**First correct entry will receive a copy of 'A Certain Chemistry', autographed by BIG COUNTRY.**

**Blood sucking is no bowl  
of cherries these days!**

#### Motorcycle rider killed by pheasant

A frightened pheasant flushed from the brush killed motorcycle rider Peter Lee. The 46-year-old Stanion, England, youth was riding his bike across a golf course when the bird flew across his path. The startled teen crashed trying to avoid it.



# BIG COUNTRY



## DISCOGRAPHY

COUNT 1	7"	Harvest Home/Balcony	9/82
COUNT 12	12"	Harvest Home/Balcony/Flag of Nations	9/82
COUNT 2	7"	Fields of Fire (400 miles)/Angle Park	18/2/83
COUNT 212	12"	Fields of Fire (Alternative Mix) Fields of Fire (400 miles)/Angle Park	18/2/83
COUP 2	7"	Fields of Fire (Alternative Mix) Harvest Home/Angle Park	18/3/83
COUNT 3	7"	In A Big Country/All of Us	20/5/83
COUNT 312	12"	In a Big Country (Pure Mix) In a Big Country/All of Us	20/5/83
COUNT 313	12"	In a Big Country/Heart and Soul In a Big Country/All of Us	6/83
COUNT 4	7"	Chance/Tracks of My Tears	26/8/83
COUNT 412	12"	Chance/Tracks of My Tears/The Crossing	26/8/83
COUP 4	12" (PD)	Chance/Tracks of My Tears/The Crossing	11/83
COUNT 5	7"	Wonderland/Giant	13/1/84
COUNT 512	12"	Wonderland/Wonderland/Giant	13/1/84
	12"	Wonderland (Ext.version)/Giant/Lost Patrol (Live)	3/2/84
COUNT 55	2X7"	Wonderland/Giant/Lost Patrol (Live) Part one Lost Patrol Part 2	10/2/84
COUNX 1	12" (CV)	Harvest Home/Balcony/Flag of Nations	3/4/84
COUNX 2	12" (CV)	Fields of Fire (Alternative Mix) Fields of Fire (400 miles)/Angle Park	13/4/84
COUNX 3	12"	In a Big Country (Pure Mix)/ In a Big Country/All of Us	13/4/84
MER 175	7"	East of Eden/Prairie Rose	21/9/84
MERX 175	12"	East of Eden (Ext. version)/East of Eden Prairie Rose	21/9/84
MER 175P	7"	East of Eden/Prairie Rose	21/9/94
MERX 175P	12"	East of Eden (Ext.version) East of Eden/Prairie Rose	21/9/84
MER 185	7"	Where the Rose is Sown/Belief In The Small Man	16/11/84
MERX 185	12"	Where the Rose Is Sown (Ext. Re-Mix) Where the Rose is Sown/Bass Dance Belief In The Small Man	16/11/84
MERD 185	2X7"	Where The Rose is Sown/Belief in The Small Man Wonderland/In A Big Country/Auld Lang Syne	30/11/84
BCO 8	7"	Just A Shadow/Winter Sky	11/1/85
BCO 812	12"	Just a Shadow (Ext.Re-mix) Just a Shadow/Winter Sky	11/1/85

BIGCD 1	2X7"	Look Away/Restless Natives Margo's Theme/Highland Scenery	4/4/86
BIGC 1	7"	Look Away/Restless Natives	4/4/86
BIGCX 1	12"	Look Away (12"Re-Mix)/Restless Natives	4/4/86
BIGCX 11	12"	Look Away (Outlaw Mix) Look Away (12" Re-Mix)/Restless Natives	5/86
BIGCP 1	7"	Look Away/Restless Natives (Limited Ed. Cut Out Disc)	25/4/86
BIGC 2	7"	The Teacher/Home Come The Angels	6/6/86
BIGCX 2	12"	The Teacher (Mystery Mix) Restless Natives Soundtrack Album	6/6/86
BIGCX 3	12"	One Great Thing (Boston Mix) Song of The South	8/86
BIGCG 3	7"	One Great Thing/Song of The South (Ext.version) (special gatefold sleeve)	8/86
BIGC 3	7"	One Great Thing/Song of the South	8/86
BIGCD 3	2X7"	One Great Thing/Song of the South Porrohman (Texas Tapes)/Chance(Texas Tapes)	8/86
BIGCR 3	12"	One Great Thing (Big BAAD Country Mix) Look Away (Outlaw Mix)/ Song of the South (12"verion)	8/86
BIGCE 3	2X7"	One Great Thing/ Song of The South Wonderland/ Inwards (Texas Tapes)	8/86
BIGCM 3	cass.	One Great Thing (Big BAAD Country Mix) Song of The South (Texas Tapes) In a Big Country (Pure Mix) Fields of Fire (Texas Tapes)	8/86
BIGCX 44	2X12"	Hold The Heart/Honky Tonk Women Interview from the Howard Stern Show, New York Rock, WRRX Radio	11/86
BIGC 4	7"	Hold The Heart/Honky Tonk Women	11/86
BIGCX 4	12"	Hold the Heart/Honky Tonk Women Hold The Heart (Instrumental)	11/86

A limited edition flexi-disc was produced solely for the Country Club in October 1986 from the Live From Texas Tapes

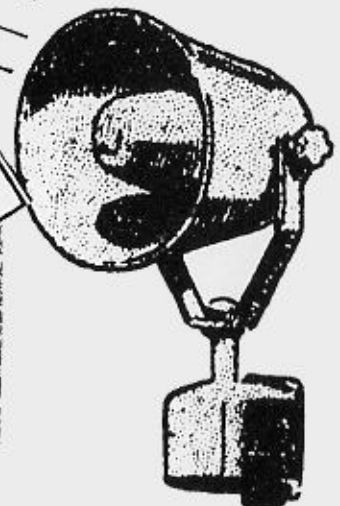
Angle Park/Close Action

## Couple fined for loud love

An amorous couple was fined \$750 because they kept neighbors awake with their noisy late-night lovemaking! "They sounded like elephants," Alan Madely and wife Ruth told a court in Chester, England. "We tried many times to ask them to keep the noise down. But they told us to mind our own business. To put it politely."

**Doc's Roto-Rooter cleans arteries**

A California doctor has successfully cut down the gerous fat deposits from the walls of clogged arteries using a tiny drill based on the Roto-Rooter sewer line cleaner! Testing of the device on 58 patients showed that the device invented by Redwood City cardiologist John Simpson was both safe and effective. Experts called the revolving drill a promising tool in the fight against heart and vascular diseases but cautioned that it is still highly experimental.





## Import Collecting cont.

Import albums are not as interesting as singles, mainly because they are exactly the same as the UK versions. There are, however, a couple of exceptions. Due to the success of 'The Crossing', BC's debut album in New Zealand it was re-issued in the blue cover with a free copy of the 12" 'Fields of Fire' c/w 'In a Big Country'. This album, marketed in Australasia, sold in most good HMV shops for about £9, today it would probably sell for more than that. In Greece 'The Crossing' was released in the red cover with the words 'Nol in Britain' printed on the front cover. The standard red cover was also released in Greece. Both albums sold for just £2.00 in a Liverpool shop last year. For the same price a Dutch 'Steeltown' gatefold and French 'Steeltown' single cover were found, sadly this shop closed down as quickly as it opened. (The guys who ran it will be out soon!)

There is a cassette with a difference available; 'The Seer' with tracks from 'Steeltown', the final three tracks on side B are 'Just a Shadow', 'Rose' and 'Come Back to Me'. The tape comes from Indonesia, it comes in a white box with a picture of the cover on it. It is issued by Billboard and has a complete lyric sheet, the catalogue number is BB10230.

I have based this article on my own collection and info kindly sent in by club members. If you own or know about anything we may have missed out please drop me a line, I'm sure it would be of interest to other collectors.

After completing this article I received a copy of Record Collector. It includes singles from the US, Canada, Holland, Portugal, Italy, and Spain, all at reasonable prices. Well worth checking out if you're a collector. Record Collector also has many UK items for sale, promos, double packs etc. They also have a very rare double pack of Big Country playing cards. These cards show 'The Crossing' album design in red and blue. They were given out to promote the album in '83 and are as the ad says, very rare.

When ordering records from Record Collector or buying from Record Fayres check the condition and true value before parting with your money.

Mike Bartram

In the June catalogue from Adrians there were quite a few US imports.

Mail Order from: ADRIAN'S RECORDS, 36 High Street, Wickford, Essex.

Record Fayres are advertised in NME and Sounds every week.

RESTLESS NATIVES - the singles with this on the B-side (see discography in this issue) have now been deleted. Record Fayres are probably the only place you will be able to find them now.

## Cobra horde slithers through hospital

More than 50 patients ran screaming from their sick beds when a hospital in Dhaka, Bangladesh, was overrun — by deadly cobra snakes!

Hospital workers killed the horde of

venomous varmints, then called in snake charmers to stand guard on each floor in case other cobras were lurking in hidden nooks and crannies.

None of the patients were reported to have been bitten during the bizarre attack.

## IMPORT COLLECTING

In the last issue of Country Club, I looked at the UK Big Country releases. From the response it was evident more people are now searching for imports to add to their collection, hopefully this will be both interesting and helpful. With the current lull in the UK market it would seem a good time to start adding to your existing collection.

The price of imports varies from around £2.50 to £12 for general release records. Promos naturally come a little more expensive. All 7" imports are usually in the same cover as their UK counterparts, though labels vary from country to country. The US and Canada however released 'Fields of Fire' in a poster sleeve, and Canada saw a change in B-side with 'Close Action'. As the poster sleeves are identical with these two releases and neither state the B-side only by checking the disc itself can you see the difference. The Canadian label is blue and the US label is black. Another unusual early release, this time from West Germany, is a double A-side single featuring 'Fields of Fire' and 'In a Big Country'. To my knowledge this is the only double A-side to be released worldwide and is worth having for that fact alone. The West German edition of 'Rose' also has a different B-side to the UK version, it has 'Bass Dance'. A similar change of B-side on 'Rose' appears on the US release, here we find 'Prairie Rose' on the flip side.

The most expensive 7" imports are from Japan, they normally sell at £5. The Japanese releases always come with a pull out sleeve backed with the lyrics. Most Japanese singles have slightly different sleeves than the UK version, with lots of writing and inserts. There is, however, a startling difference in the 'Fields of Fire' single. The Japanese single sleeve shows a table with a whisky bottle and some English money and some other things, unusual to say the least!

In 83/84 Big Country 12" imports were in good supply from places like HMV and Virgin. These days they seem to stock just the mini-albums. The German imports of 'Fields of Fire', 'In a Big Country' and 'Chance' are normally the easiest 12" records to find. The 'Wonderland' mini-album was released in four countries: USA, Canada, Holland, and Japan. They all have varied tracks and the logos on the front cover are different. The Japanese copy has a different shade to the cover pic and carries the lyrics to 'Wonderland' on the back. Another interesting release from Japan is the 'Fields of Fire' 12", which features 5 tracks. This record comes in a red 'Crossing' type cover, and has lyrics to all five songs on the back. The French 'Wonderland' 12" is a bit different, in that the title track is coupled with 'In a Big Country' (pure mix). I think the best designed import has to be 'Where the Rose is Sown' from Canada (c/w 'Prairie Rose'); the cover has a huge cut out middle and through it you can see the label of the record which has the picture of a red rose. The B-side has a good picture of the band on the label.

The best promos from abroad appear to be from the States. 'Look Away' and 'One Great Thing' are released in a red and white cover with the words 'Music To Suit Your Every Mood'. I got both of these records from Record Fayres for £5.50 each.

America also releases advance radio samplers, which are a very good addition to your collection. They usually sell for around £10. These records are issued to the DJ's prior to the general release of the album. I bought the 'Steeltown' version, it has two tracks; 'Rose' and 'Eden'. The latest 12" from the States, which I got from HMV is 'One Great Thing' (big bad mix) c/w 'Look Away' (outlaw mix) and 'Song of the South'. The cover has a green/black marble effect with a large 12" ruler design at the top.



# The SKIDS 'DUNFERMLINE'

Somebody could review the Skids album! If I had known that I would be 'the somebody', I would not have been quite so enthusiastic. I would hardly call myself 'musically advantaged', I barely know the difference between a guitar riff and a drum roll! As the saying goes, 'I don't know much about it, I just know what I like'. I have to admit I don't know the Skids stuff very well, if I'm truthful I could only think of two singles of the top of my head, I didn't dislike them I just didn't go out of my way to hear them. I did see them play at Northants Cricket Club way back when, there wasn't a lot of effort involved, one could slip through the fire exit with great ease, even though it was only about 50p to get in the front door! I don't remember much about the gig, except a lot of leaping around on and off the stage, and when they played 'Into the Valley' I joined in. I'm afraid I am definitely not a Richard Jobson fan, so I wasn't all that interested in what else was going on.

I knew this was going to be difficult, then a compact disc arrives... Hmm.. very pretty but the stylus keeps slipping off... Luckily I know someone who has a Hi-Fi shop and he loaned me a player. I was so impressed I now own it!! Very expensive review this!

The album - THE SKIDS - DUNFERMLINE, a collection of the Skids finest moments, (COMDC 10), has been released by Virgin, (Stuart helped with the choice of tracks), on compact disc ONLY. This is, I presume, to satisfy the need of CD player owning Skids fans, so that they may sample the delights of the Skids through today's modern technology.

The opening song 'Into the Valley', was, and remains my favourite track. It still makes me want to leap around like a thing possessed, have a party, go wild, sing, shout, make a fool of myself and generally have a good time! That's review Marlow style... The rest of the album was good, but of course can't come close to the first track where I'm concerned.

'The Saints Are Coming', I'm afraid I didn't actually get through the whole track, Jobson's voice annoyed me beyond belief. He sounded as though he was attempting a Roger Daltrey which didn't quite happen. I didn't like it at all.

'Scared to Dance', I love the intro, by far the best bit of the track. I would have thought that for those days it was a bit 'old fart' but I wouldn't hold that against it in anyway.

'Of One Skin', annoying change in tempo, I loved the 'fast bits' (very technical!!) but the rest was an interruption to my enjoyment.

'Masquerade', I LOVE IT, if I were giving points it would only be a fraction behind 'Into the Valley'.

'Iona', very hills and heather! I liked it more each time I heard it, but I couldn't help thinking it would have been 100% better had Stuart sung it.

The rest of the tracks didn't really provoke any comment. The album on the whole is very Skids, and a good example of music from the late seventies. Stuart's presence is evident throughout, his influence, his guitar style and occasionally his voice. If you are into nostalgia, if you like the Skids, if you collect anything remotely connected to Big Country and have a C D player... BUY THIS, you won't be disappointed.

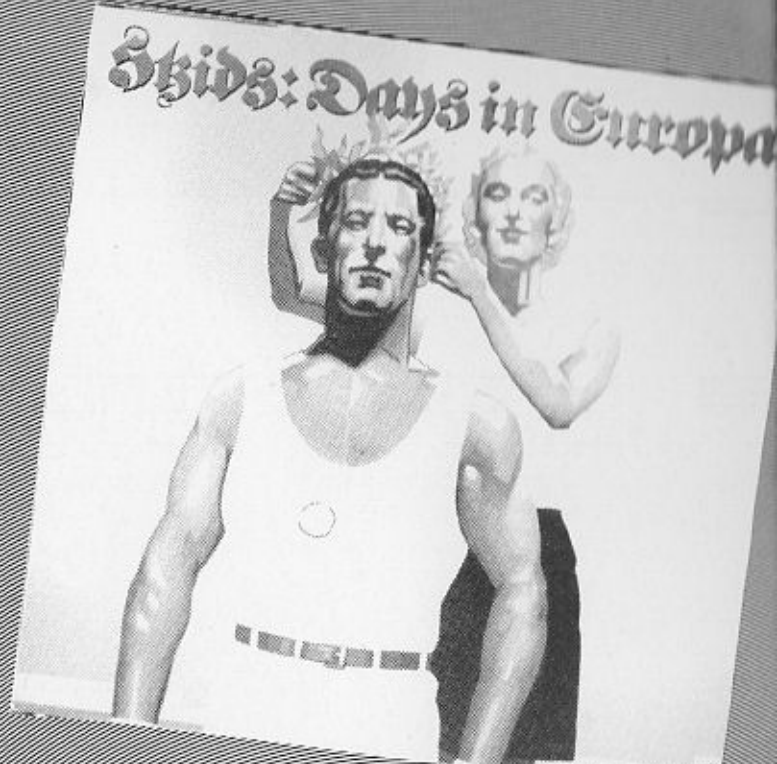
Andy Marlow

a collection of the skids' finest moments



The Skids - Dunfermline  
(track listing)

INTO THE VALLEY  
CHARLES  
THE SAINTS ARE COMING  
SCARED TO DANCE  
SWEET SUBURBIA  
OF ONE SKIN  
NIGHT AND DAY  
ANIMATION  
WORKING FOR THE YANKEE DOLLAR  
CHARADE  
MASQUERADE  
CIRCUS GAMES  
OUT OF TOWN  
GOODBYE CIVILIAN  
A WOMAN IN WINTER  
HURRY ON BOYS  
IONA  
FIELDS



**SKIDS** UK, male vocal/instrumental group

23 Sep 78	SWEET SUBURBIA Virgin VS 227	70	1 wk
7 Oct 78	SWEET SUBURBIA (re entry) Virgin VS 227	71	2 wks
3 Nov 78	THE SAINTS ARE COMING Virgin VS 232	48	3 wks
17 Feb 79	● INTO THE VALLEY Virgin VS 241	10	11 wks
26 May 79	MASQUERADE Virgin VS 262	14	9 wks
29 Sep 79	CHARADE Virgin VS 288	31	6 wks
24 Nov 79	WORKING FOR THE YANKEE DOLLAR Virgin VS 306	20	11 wks
1 Mar 80	ANIMATION Virgin VS 323	56	3 wks
16 Aug 80	CIRCUS GAMES Virgin VS 359	32	7 wks
18 Oct 80	GOODBYE CIVILIAN Virgin VS 373	52	4 wks
6 Dec 80	WOMEN IN WINTER Virgin VSK 101	49	3 wks

In April 1978 the single CHARLES/REASONS/TEST TUBE BABIES was released but failed to make its mark on the charts. The record company was Virgin, and it was distributed by CBS as are all the other singles, however 'Charles' was on the NO BAD label (NB 1).

In May 1983 Virgin released a 12" - INTO THE VALLEY/MASQUERADE SCARED TO DANCE/WORKING FOR THE YANKEE DOLLAR (VS591-12)





And you thought  
the 'News of the World' was bad!!!



## GIRL RAISED BY BARNYARD PIGS

11-year-old squeals, oinks and walks on all fours!

WEEKLY WORLD

55¢

# NEWS

May 12, 1987

30587

CUPID'S COMEBACK  
Couple remarries — 44  
years after they divorce



VOL. 8, Issue 31

The most incredible lawsuit in history . . .

# DONOR WANTS HER KIDNEY BACK

'Saving my no-good brother's life was a mistake,' says woman

**KIN-FUSING**  
Test-tube mom  
pregnant with  
own grandkids!

**Massive egg  
discovered in  
outer space!**

**Family raises  
cain over man  
who's buried  
without brain**



**She's bonkers over J.R.**  
**Russian First Lady: I  
want to be on 'Dallas'**

**AIDS fear slashes  
vampire attacks!**

**Hospital mix-up  
is a mother's  
nightmare: Is  
he REALLY  
my baby?**



# Woman sues her brother after transplant . . .

A woman who donated a kidney to save her brother's life now says she made a terrible mistake and is suing to get it back!

In legal papers filed in Kalamata, Greece, Katerina Dagas says her brother Grigoris gave up his claim to the kidney when he reneged on a pre-transplant promise not to marry a teenager that she didn't like. The case sounds preposterous but it's not without legal precedent.

As reported in the April 16, 1985, edition of *The NEWS*, Youssef Jaffer, 39, sued his brother for the return of a transplanted kidney in Kuwait's civil court.

In that case a judge eventually ruled in favor of Abdalla Jaffer, the organ recipient. But Dagas' attorney pointed out that the same verdict is by no means guaranteed in a Greek court.

"I can't believe that the court would agree to hear this case in the first place," said Nicolas Kondyli. "This isn't a mere matter of money. If my client loses, he's dead!"

Miss Dagas told reporters she understood the gravity of the suit but would fight tooth and nail to win.

"As far as I'm concerned he

# I want my kidney back!

## He married a girl I don't like, says organ donor

can just find another kidney because I want mine back," she said.

"I told him before the transplant that I didn't want him to marry that teenage girlfriend

of his because he's 25 and she's too young for him but he did it anyway.

"If he can break his promise to me then I can break my promise to him."

promised him was a kidney," she said.

Dagas, who got one of his sister's kidneys in a dramatic transplant operation after his own failed late last year, was

in seclusion with his 15-year-old wife and not available for comment.

But a family friend, Gus Lambrias, told reporters that Dagas "is most distressed."

### Lady doc spikes mate's tomato juice with ketchup

## Wife murders hubby with AIDS cocktail!

# INEXCUSABLE

By PETE COOKE

A kidney patient died when his dialysis machine was accidentally hooked up to a hospital air-conditioning system!

Booth Memorial Hospital in New York City was fined \$4,000 by the state health department over the fatal error.

Hospital spokesman Nancy Simington said the patient died when a chemical coolant from the air-conditioner flowed into the pure water in the kidney dialysis system.

According to Miss Simington, the pipes of the air-conditioning system and the pipes of the dialysis machine were "interconnected."

"There was a valve that was there to keep the two systems separate and it failed," Miss Simington said.

"It wasn't as a result of any action of any person."

She said that the hospital does not intend to contest the fine recently announced by state health officials, add-

# Kidney patient hooked up to air-conditioner

## Faulty valve led to death, says hospital

ing that the problem which led to the patient's death two years ago has been corrected.

"The two systems have been totally separated," the spokesman said.

The patient was not identified by the hospital or by state officials.

The health department also announced a \$9,000 fine

against St. Vincent's Hospital and Medical Center in Manhattan for allegedly dumping their biological

wastes on the streets of the city.

According to health officials, the dumping took

place between 1982 and 1986 and the waste included contaminated syringes that may have been used on AIDS patients.

Officials in Albany said the contaminated syringes were found clogging a storm drain on a street in a residential section of Manhattan. The two hospitals were among 11 cited for health violations.

### What Americans fear the most

A recent survey revealed that the top three phobias of Americans are the fear of public speaking, the fear of dentists and the fear of heights, in that order.

Many congratulations on issue 13, it was by far the best yet. It was brilliant, with some great behind the scenes photos, like at Brookside, but who was the Bruce lookalike wearing shades on page 13? There were some great articles too. The track by track review of the Seer was very interesting, I totally agree with your views on Hold the Heart, along with Eiledon, real classics. I put them on a parallel with the underated Girl With Grey Eyes. I love all the 'up-tempo' stuff as well but I think it shows real depth in the band when they do something so touching. The video review was very witty I now watch it in a different light.

I was at the B'ham NEC gig you referred to, I agree with you, it was brilliant. It was the 6th time I have seen BC and by far the best yet  
**Paul Middleton**

*The Bruce lookalike (?) on page 13 was Ian Grant. Judging by the amount of letters most of you agreed with me on Hold the Heart, and everyone thought #13 was the best mag yet. THANX. Andy.*

It may be of interest to other members, if they like old NME's, MM, or Sounds etc. dating back to 82-83, with BC in them. Send an SAE to the following address stating the band you are interested in. You will be sent a list with prices of what is available.  
CLIVE WHICHELOW. 268, KINGSTON ROAD, LONDON SW10 8LX.  
I can recommend him.

**Emma-Jane Doherty**

P.S. There should be more from the band members in the magazine.

#13 was yet another improvement on the already improved #12 of the club mag. Congratulations. My only reservation being the inclusion of letters making personal attacks on letter writers. Whether you agree or not each member is entitled to their opinion. Lets keep our distance from this kind of letter, it is not in the spirit of BC and all they stand for. If you disagree, take issue with the opinion NOT the person. Everyone is entitled to their own opinion.

I was fortunate enough to see BC

Three times on the December tour The experience will never leave me. I would like to thank the group for their courtesy in taking time to speak to people who wanted to meet them. This is a clear sign that the group are still with us, rather than above us.

**Dominic Williams**

Recently I joined the Country Club. After getting the initial pack, I felt I had to write.

Firstly for the amount of money I paid I expected good quality colour photos. I was very disapointed they were pathetic!, black & white was bad enough but the picture was so blurred I could hardly make out the faces.

I was even more annoyed when I receive issue 13, again the photos were black & white, blurred and of poor quality. When I received my first package I thought I had been conned! I thought I'd sent off to the wrong address but on checking found I hadn't. I am very very disapointed, it took me a long time to save my money, I wish I had spent it on something worthwhile.

**An annoyed ex-BC fan Dundee.**

*Dear Annoyed, You are probably even more annoyed by now, but had you given your name and address or member number I could have dealt with your complaint straight-away. Thank God you never got any mags before #13! We are constantly striving to improve the club but we are limited by income, As explained in my article about running the club, all subscriptions are used on the club, labour is voluntary. The photos are blown up and sometimes the quality of the negatives is not up to it. In the last issue there were personal photos belonging to Bruce, some members and myself. I'm sorry if our standard of photography is not up to scratch but we think it makes the club that bit more personal and 99% of the members agree with us. If you still feel you have been conned return all that you have received to date and I will refund your money, more than that I cannot do. You can't please all the people all the time. I'm glad to say we please most...*

I thought you'd like to see this advert I found. Has it really gone up that much?

Sara Lovell



# Join the country club

for £49.99

## Praise for Big Country

I MUST respond to the ludicrous comments made by your reporter Julian Bishop about the David Bowie concert.

He says "nobody seemed bored until Big Country came on" and goes on to state that they played unfamiliar material whereas Bowie had everyone dancing in the stands.

How can you explain these comments when all Bowie did was play material from his new album and Big Country performed a long succession of their best hits. The only time Bowie did get the crowd going was when he finished off the concert with Let's Dance and Modern Love.

I believe Big Country were worth about £10 of the entrance fee and I think many other people felt the same. The only thing which prevented Bowie from becoming a disaster was his spectacular stage show since the tracks he played had the crowd silent for very long periods.

DAVID CHILDS

Colchester Avenue,  
Penylan, Cardiff



On 21st June I saw BC play at a David Bowie concert in Cardiff. The lads were of course brilliant and the crowd loved them. However, the next day in the South Wales Echo the reviewer wrote; 'the crowd did not seem bored until BC came on' and 'they faded with unfamiliar lacklustre material'. I was so annoyed that I wrote to the paper as it seems did a lot of others, over the next few days numerous letters were printed, one of which I enclose.

I certainly got my money's worth.

D Pennell

This Fan Club is brilliant, I'm really enjoying it. You all deserve due credit for what you do, it's great! and very much appreciated.

**Michelle Owen**

*I rest my case...*

There was a time when a group released an LP, the record company released one and only one single from that LP. Then came those magical words Unlimited Edition - and if any band is guilty of flaunting that title more than any other it has to be BC.

To date they have released 3 LP's off of which 12 singles have been released in the UK, if you total up the different formats it totals 39.

The latest 'con' is to issue selected live tracks from a Texas show on the B-sides of some singles, yet only a few months ago the Country Club had stated that fans would be receiving a tape of the full show for free, but of course there wouldn't be any profit in this.

BC albums are also given the limited edition treatment, what is the point of releasing The Crossing in 3 different colours? Steeltown in a gatefold and single sleeve? Surely BC don't expect fans to rush out and buy all these LP's do they?

BC make some bloody good music but some great tracks are lost in a mass of limited edition material. Of course, we don't have to buy all of these records but BC fans are too loyal to the band not to.

**Ian MacClean**

*'ere we go 'ere we go 'ere we go  
On the release of 8 versions of One Great thing Stuart did say "I think we should apologise to fans for that, it's ridiculous" As you say you don't have to buy them and I don't think it shows loyalty if you do. The decision to release the variations lies with the record company BC or their management have little or no say in the matter. Regarding the Texas tape, we did, as you say want to release the whole tape for free. You may remember the extra long delay in sending the flexi out, during that time Ian Grant was hassling with the record company. At first they were reluctant to release any of the tracks but Ian did at least get them to agree to a few.*

*The flexi was paid for by the band and management and it wasn't cheap! We can hardly accuse them of ripping us off. The limited edition 'treatment' is now almost standard policy for record companies, everyone releases at least a 7" and 12", they have to now just to get in the charts, and that's what the record business is all about, selling records, it's a rat race competition. If you can't beat 'em, join 'em.*

I should like to comment on your piece about 'Markie Baby'. I agree with you. When BC played in Den Haag (great concert) I hardly saw anything of him, just a piece of his head and something from (?) his knees. So Mark, show your handsome face a little bit more.

**Christa van der Stek**

Issue 13 certainly wasn't unlucky for us, it was great. I have one small criticism concerning the review of the Seer, Eiledon in particular. The line 'a wee bit of social comment' really sounded patronising. Speaking as a socially and politically switched on scouser, I think 90% of BC songs have a political/social message, something I think Stuart not only aims for but is proud of and he isn't trying to sneak it in on Eiledon. I think it one of the subtle 'message' songs by BC and most fans will pick up this this.

I especially liked the article by Stuart.

**Phil Friday**

Issue 13 of the magazine was wonderful, the pics were absolutely brilliant. I have however my reservations on the report by Barry Gray on the gig in Brussels. What does he mean by lack of local support? I gave them so much support (vocally) that I couldn't speak for two days after the gig. Next time Barry comes to Belgium tell him to visit me I'll show him how much I support BC. Please tell BC to come back to Belgium soon. You do have fans here too.

**Ingrid Van Laer**

Living in Ulster, I find there are very few things which can really unite people and bring them together away from the negotiating table; but the music of BC has that ability. They have only been here twice, but both times people sang and cheered together;



not caring whether their neighbour was Catholic or Protestant, to the joyous anthems that the 'lads' fed us.

Even through their records BC provide a common joy and pride for people. The music produced by BC has such capability and power that it breaks down barriers, providing people like me with a pleasure and unity; with other fans and even with the band themselves.

It is not easy to put into words exactly what it means to me to be a BC fan or indeed what a gut feeling the music gives me. The least I can do is thank BC, all four of them, for the happiness they bring to my life and for the difference they make to it; and also to thank the Country Club for providing us with an excellent service, without which many of us would be lost.

**Simon Arbuthnot**

I'm from overseas (America) and I feel such an outsider to the club. Why? you ask, well... For the past 4 years BC has been a musical experience for me far beyond mere words and yet not once have I even had one chance to see BC play live. All this time I have collected every possible piece of vinyl available to me over here, so that I at least have their music, but let me tell you that for the two years I have been in the Country Club, it has been more than painful reading tour stories without a clue as to why I'll never have one to tell. I realise BC aren't as big over here as they are in the UK but they have been over here at least once to my knowledge but even then it was 2 months after the event in small print of an obscure magazine I just happened to pick up. Do you know what it's like feeling you'd die to see BC play live just once in your entire life? Then you flip through the club magazine to read that someone like Barry Gray wins a competition to see them for the 25th time, I broke after reading that. I've come to the conclusion that my being American is a hindrance, and I'll have to live with that until I die and there is nothing I can do

about it.

Country Club is made entirely with the British population in mind obviously because of many things including that BC are very popular in Britain and Ireland. It takes four months for the magazine to reach me, I feel so left out. I don't tell you this for pity's sake, but because I'm American and love BC as much as anyone in the club, and yet I feel outcasted from everything and everybody to do with the club and I HATE IT. I ask you to print this letter for everybody else's benefit. You out there across the ocean are the luckiest people on this planet, I envy you more than you can possibly imagine. Please Andy, I'd be so happy if you could make it a little easier for me being from America, to enjoy BC without feeling so completely alienated by the fact that I'm overseas. There'll never be a day when I don't wish I could have seen the Skids or ever see BC for the magic emitted from their shows. I'll keep wishing. Love from a serious fan in need.

**David J Browne**

*First of all let me tell you that you are not alone in your quest for a ticket to a BC concert. There are many more like you in Britain, let alone overseas, members and non-members. We can get over your problem with the mail by sending yours mags airmail. You can be a part of 'the family' by writing to others members, many of our overseas members already do this and do feel closer to the club and the band. You can write to me if you send the IRC's I will always reply, Jeas, I feel like a penfriend myself sometimes! Big Country will tour the States again, but at the moment all concentration is on the next album, a tour isn't even being discussed yet. Send and S.A.E. and IRC's and you will be sent the tour dates as soon as I have them. This is your club not mine or Big Country's participate, get yourself involved.*



# THE PAGE WHERE ANYTHING

# CAN HAPPEN

Don't believe me?

Congratulations to **Christina Puccini & Andy Barton**  
They started as mere penpals, Christina in Italy, Andy in Liverpool. Christina came over to see BC play live and stayed with Andy, they got engaged and are to be married on 1st August. Heres to your happy ever after. Get writing you lot you never know you could be next!

No space for details I'm afraid, but it's something to get your pen into.

LISA MEANEY (15)

Ireland

STUART HEARD

SYLVIE DEMAURY (20)

France

JOHN SORPITT (23)

N Ireland

GILLIAN FROSDICK (19)

MICHELLE ADAMSON (19)

STUART BAIRD (17)

RUSSELL JONES (18)

DAVID DENHAM (24)

Scotland

JACKIE BROWN (23)

FRASER HOLDEN (17)

ALISON FITZPATRICK

Australia

MARTIN HYNES (16)

Eire

CAMPANA GIUSEPPE (21)

RUDIGER BOTTCHER

West Germany

SONJAR HARVEY (26)

Italy

MELANIE GUDGIN (15)

U S A

more penpals

KATHLEEN HANNA (16)

U S A

RACHAEL BAILEY (16)

ANTONY MORAN (18)

JULIE JONES (16)

ALISON HACKERS (18)

SARA LOVELL (15)

HAPPY WRITING

**'LIVE LONG AND PROSPER'**

probe captures 700-mile-long object on film

# GIANT EGG FOUND FLOATING IN SPACE

This could be the most important discovery since the





Sue Wheeler / artist