

**BIG
COUNTRY**

ISSUE 5



BIG COUNTRY

news news news

Over the past six months the sudden, but deserved success of BIG COUNTRY has resulted in fan club inquires topping the six thousand mark. The influx of mail has been staggering to say the least. Unfortunately we the fan club no longer reside at 123 Edgeware Road. This has meant that fan-mail, merchandise orders and general correspondence has been going to the wrong address and has taken up to four weeks to reach us. The obvious result of this inefficiency on the part of the Post Office has meant that some fan club members have had to wait for up to one month before hearing from us.

Nice to see smash hits making yet another King-Size booby. Hot on the heels of Stuart's birthdate wrong by a mere seven months (or five months depending on which way up you hang your calendar) the Long Acre Lizards have proudly published their 1984 yearbook. Packed with glossy photos of glossy pop-stars the TRASH HITS yearbook has revealed that Mark B. has a twin brother called, wait for it MALCOLM!!! Even more interesting is the 'fact' that this character is also in the band!!! Trust Trash Hits to be so informative. If you don't believe me go and have a look for yourself Big Country's next single is called Wonderland.

Apologies are due to all fan club members for the delayed issue of this magazine. This has been due to Martin falling ill soon after he started to write the articles etc and consequently being out of action for most of September and October. Consequently much of this magazine is somewhat dated. However Martin is already writing the next issue of the COUNTRY CLUB magazine and hopes to have it ready for Christmas release. SUGGESTIONS IDEAS AND ARTICLES SHOULD NOW BE SENT TO

15 WEST HILL ROAD
PUTNEY
LONDON SW18 1LL

U.S.A.

Big Country have a new Single released on 13th
Jan, 1984

'A' Side - Wonderland.

'B' Side - Giant.

The Video for the Single was made at

Timberline Lodge

Mounthood.

Portland.

Oregon.

U.S.A.

This is the same location used in filming 'The
Shining' - The Video is also shot in the snow.

The USA Tour is going very well, the L.P was at Number
18 in the charts even before the band had reached America.
The Single 'In a big Country' has shot up to Number 17
in the Charts.

Bob Dylan and Tom Petty came to see Big Country at
Los Angeles.

Adam Ant sent Stuart a bottle of Champagne also in Los
Angeles.

Paul Young came to their gig in San Fransisco and spent
the evening with the band.

After the Milwaukee gig they had a Six hour drive
to their next gig at Minneapolis, 26 miles out of
town the Bus broke down in Snow. They were stuck
there for 5 hours. The Bus had a C.B and a local
Big Country fan came to the rescue he contacted
the promotor at the next gig and told them Big
Country would be late.
Eventually they arrived at 11.15 pm and were on
Stage by 11.20 pm.

EDITORIAL.

For Big Country 1983 was a year they will never forget. They started in January as another highly touted new band and finished in December the biggest thing to come out of U.K this year.

You wouldn't have guessed way back in January when the band were hiccupping their way through a recording session with Who/Pretenders/Pistols producer Chris Thomas. Nothing much seemed to go right in the Studio, eventually Steve Lillywhite was brought in instead. Lillywhite, whose fresh production work with artists such as Joan Armatrading had brought him notice, made an almost immediate difference. That bridge behind them the group completed "The Crossing"

Without difficulty. "The Crossing" was an immediate classic, effortlessly established taste barriers, from the anthemic "In a Big Country" to the poppy "chance" to the acoustic folk of "Storm" to the hard Rock approach of "Porroman" the album had an unusual depth and variety. To cut a long story short, it was a bullseye. Singles literally fell off the album "Fields of Fire", "In a Big Country" and "Chance" were internally popular as well as being Top 20 in the U.K

Meantime, the live shows had begun to make the transition from Pop to a more serious brand of Rock and their August appearance at the Reading Festival confirmed the arrival of this years first and last major new act. The constant touring was paying off, and by the time they toured the U.K. late in the year, houses all around the country were packed.

Overseas things were beginning to happen too, with a substantial amount of albums being shipped in the U.S. Even before the release of the single "In a Big Country". At time of writing both are logged in the Top Twenty, the album having sold half a million copies in New Zealand, Canada, Sweden, Holland, Japan and Australia, The Story is the same- its good news.

Big Country have just completed their first American Tour, a mammoth trek that saw them winning fame and fortune alike. 1984 Well -- There are a couple of soundtracks in the pipeline, a new album later in the year, some shows and of course, the Hogmany Special in Scotland.



IMPORTANT NOTICE.

The Fan Club is now based in Northampton but personal mail for the band and specific enquiries should be sent to the above address. Please note that this is a private address so please no phone calls. All enquiries will be answered personally so please enclose S.A.E's.

Membership to the Country Club will now run on a year to year basis i.e. all people joining now will enjoy membership for 1984.

It is unfortunate that people who joined after June 1983 have not had their promised 6 issues of the Mag or badge etc. They will be given a full years membership for 1984.

People who joined before that date will receive one more issue and a subscription form for 1984 membership. We realise that this will upset some fan club members but this reorganisation is necessary to ensure that from now on members are guaranteed regular mailings. 1984 members will get four mailings: December, March, June and September which will include The Country Club Fanzine, Stop press, Newsletter, various free gifts and details of Big Country Merchandise. We also hope to have additional mailings if there is any urgent news.

CREDITS.

- Written by Martin Somers for and with Grant/Edwards Management.

Designed and published by ATP 26 to 40 St. Andrews Street,
NORTHAMPTON NN1 3HY.

Stuart has asked me to pass on his thanks for all the birthday cards which were sent to him in September. However, his birthday is the 11th APRIL and not 11th September. For the record the bands birthday dates are as follows:

Bruce Watson	11.3.61.
Tony Butler	13.2.57.
Mark Brzezicki	21.6.57.
Stuart Adamson	11.4.58.

Many of you also wrote in to ask how old Stuart's son, Callum is. Well he was born on the 10th February, 1982.

Tony became a father on the 29th August of this year. He and his wife Jackie are now the proud parents of a young son called Alexander.

November

BIG COUNTRY US TOUR - NOV/DEC 1983

8	VANCOUVER		
9	SEATTLE		
10	PORTLAND		
11	off		
12	SAN FRANCISCO		
13	LOS ANGELES		
14	LOS ANGELES		
15	off		
16	PHOENIX		
17	TUCSON		
18	off		
19	DENVER		
20	off		
21	ST LOUIS		
22	MILWAUKEE		
23	MINNEAPOLIS		
24	off		
25	CHICAGO		
26	COLUMBUS		
27	CINCINNATTI		
28	DETROIT		
29	CLEVELAND		
30	off		

		<u>December</u>	
		1	TV
		2	off
		3	TV
		4	HARTFORD
		5	HEMPSTEAD
		6	BOSTON
		7	tba
		8	off
		9	NEW YORK
		10	NEWARK
		11	PHILADELPHIA
		12	WASHINGTON
		13	off
		14	MONTREAL
		15	OTTOWA
		16	TORONTO
		17	BUFFALO
		18	PROVIDENCE
		19	BOSTON



Big Country have certainly set the Big Apple alight and The Crossing is racing up The Billboard Charts.

"In a Big Country" is also receiving extensive airplay across the States and could well herald the bands ever-increasing status as the next British act to sweep the States. Lets hope so.

The band are also gaining a lot of attention in Europe and "In a Big Country" has burst into the Dutch and Swedish Charts lately. Things are certainly looking BIG for the group.

- This single has also entered the New Zealand, Australian and Japanese charts.

Your Letters..

I was under the impression "Lost Patrol" was released as a single before "Harvest Home". But due to various factors, including the non-availability of the aforementioned disc I am beginning to think I was wrong!
Was I?

Adrian Talbot,
Worthing,
W. SUSSEX.

Harvest Home was released in August of any description. So single or double, that was released before, that was released before, that was released before, that was released before. There were plans to release Harvest Home as a Christmas Eve of last year but the record company and the band themselves decided to release "Fields of Fire" instead. "Lost Patrol" is an album track and is certainly not available in single form.

Did you know?

- 1... That four Big Country rolls are 24p, I wouldn't mind a frolock with any of them.
- 2... That a pub owner in Sussex was so impressed with 4 that he named his pub "The Harvest Home".
- 3... That Stuart Adameson is the same height and weight as Rod Stewart.
- 4... That Second Thoughts were called The popicles.
- 5... That Tony's brother does look identically like him.
- 6... Fields of Fire, Ina Big Country, Heart and Soul and A Thousand Stars all sent me fire.
- 7... The original Big Country once supported Alice Cooper.
- 8... Mike and Spencer made a loaf of bread after the group while Stuart wastes no time letting people know of his preference for St. Michael's underwear (mens) - a bit of "you scratch my back.....I wonder....."
- 9... As the crew flies Big Country travelled over 3,000 miles on the Cromling Tour, or as far as from London to Cairo.

"Interesting facts"
with thanks to ALISON LEARY,
Worthing,
WEST SUSSEX.



Having just procured the new tape, I find it comes straight from the HEART and full of SEX. I was in a car with my five in the LOCAL BOV, I dashed around to read his corn HARVEST HOME was not as easy when I got in I took my sister's personal stereo, with the new tape playing. I stropped through ANGLE PARK, where I saw a POOR OLD MAN making a bed of newspapers. Then I thought how he had probably spent countless nights under a sky of A THOUSAND STARS, taking CHARGE after CHARGE in getting food, and just getting through life it-
self his own way.
The mascot made the land look as if it itself suddenly realised that I was LOET. PATRYL cars sped by not noticing me, so I just followed the trail of the tape following, enabled my ears to pick up the rustling of pages, I saw an old paper in the gutter, so I went up CLOSE. ACTION packed adverts on special offers at Virgin stores blow in the wind. It was time to leave the park's BALCONY and for ALL OF US to go home.
Out of the VALLEY and into the COUNTRY,
PAUL JEFFERY,
North Chiam,
SUSSEX.

I have been asked to mention IAN BENNETT
a fellow country-man who is seeking
PEN PALS.

Anyone interested should write to:
IAN BENNETT.

Austalia.

GIG REVIEWS.

AWBS
Sally Rose

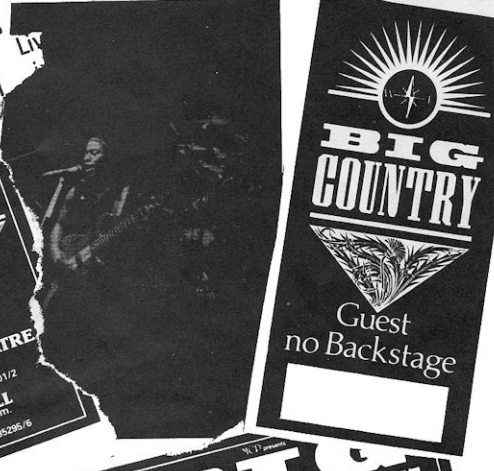
W.P. Promotion

ONE THE JUGGLER

BRISTOL COLSTON HALL
TUESDAY 13th SEPTEMBER 7.30 p.m.
Tickets £4.00 & £3.50
Tel: 0272 291768
Available from B/O Telephone No. 0272 643 6107/2 and usual agents.

BIRMINGHAM ODEON THEATRE
WEDNESDAY 14th SEPTEMBER 7.30 p.m.
Tickets £4.00 & £3.50
Tel: 021 643 6107/2
Available from B/O Telephone No. 021 643 6107/2 and usual agents.

SHEFFIELD CITY HALL
THURSDAY 15th SEPTEMBER 7.30 p.m.
Tickets £4.00 & £3.50
Tel: 0742 73295/6
Available from B/O Telephone No. 0742 73295/6 and usual agents.



W.P. Promotion

BIG COUNTRY

Guest
no Backstage

I have seen some good concerts in my time - Undertones 1981
Slade 1980
SLP 1981

But the entertainment provided by BIG COUNTRY last night surpassed my wildest expectations. An event like this has to be chronicled and recorded for all time.

Arriving late I caught 2 songs by an efficient support band 'One The Juggler' who seem to lack a real musical direction to call their own. At 8.45 the band came on to rapturous applause. Microphone stands set right at the front of the stage anticipating the rapport that would be established between crowd and band, as they opened with a rousing '1,000 stars'.

'Time to be taken here to praise the lightshow and display behind the band. A landscape collage hung behind the band, changing colour to suit the mood of the song. It was most effective during 'The Storms', with flashing lights and storm cloud effects adding to the mood of the song.

It's a clichéd phrase, but the band displayed a passion and fire missing from so many of today's bands - they obviously enjoy what they play, too, and this optimistic feeling rolls off onto the crowd who put as much into the concert as the band.

The list of superb tracks is endless, but personal highlights were the anthemic 'Angle Park', a stirring 'porcolane' which outlasted the LP version 'Inwards', which sounds awkward on record but reveals its awesome power live, and the encore of 'Harvest, Home' which is truly magnificent in its powerful delivery and melodic cruising drive.

The only real disappointment was 'Chance'. I disagreed with it's release as a single and now consider it a weak track on it's own. It benefits on the LP from the subtlety of the mix, and is further strengthened by other better tracks on the LP. It is a real crowd pleaser however, and is thus an essential part of the show. I must say though that I hope in years to come that Big Country are not remembered for this track alone. I would be interested to learn if Big Country have total control over releases, and if they do what has motivated them to up 4 singles from the LP.

Anyway it was a brilliant evening of high class entertainment. Can't wait for the next time.

DONALD MITCHELL Wootton Bassett, WILTS/BERKSHIRE/AMPSHIRE.

1,000 STARS (WELL NEEDED)

Seems like everybody made the most of the last of the 1980s, but summer, the last chance before the Ice Man (Cowell). Stuart Adamson went for a quick break in Spain before his triumphant Reading appearance, whilst Mark Brzezicki settled for a few days rock climbing. Tom played midlife, and Bruce got a son in Scotland. No sooner had the friends remembered before they were back on the move in the general direction of Holland and Germany.

Elsewhere Paddy and Mike of Second Thoughts were added to Kid Creole's 'Lifboat Party' tour at the personal invitation of August Darnell. Stylo Council suffered 'Chow' but at the hands of the camera who considered 'hair' and then a new video a little risqué - (You know the one with all its chaps in boats punting.) Over in New York a storm was brewing, Debbie Harry was reportedly selling her superluxurious townhouse in a desperate attempt to keep the creditors at bay.

CLTHAM
L CLUB
venue Feltham

September

DOLLS

RS - 16 GUNS

September

AOS

STRUCTORS
SCREWS

on Bet Ra
0205 237 116/17
1 2827 01 999 8979

CITY
Latham

0 Ad.



Meanwhile Mick Jagger was busy dealing with rumours that girlfriend Jerry Hall was pregnant, whilst simultaneously celebrating the completion of a 28 million dollar deal with CBS - talk about bringing home the harvest. Gilbert and Sullivan was hanging out with chef David Lewis and the whole lot of them assembled to see horses to the top of a nearby quarry.

staying in the land of milk and honey the Alarm continue to make inroads inwards whilst Bow Wow seem to have disappeared without a trace. Anyone under the age of thirty is waiting for Big Country's November tour. Recently THE PROSPECTORS was the added album on the airplay charts i.e. it's getting a fantastic amount of play on the radio in the Big Country itself.

Meanwhile Khan had their picture taken by yet another wandering pool team and took time off in Italy and Roy Givens went off to Egypt in search of the legend of Pyrenean. The foot Patrol continued with yet more bands losing their way once and for all. The genetically unknown Members around to a halt. The beat was missed and James became Alf to some but a very few Kajagoogoo excited Limb and now spend their time singing about large pieces of fruit.

OF 1983 you'll say, blistering sunshine, blistering sunburn and blistering cornfields - fields of Fire as far as the eye could see. Aye that was a summer lad.

SH...
THURSDAY
Tickets & Telephone

BIG COUNTRY AT NEWCASTLE CITY HALL - SEPTEMBER 20th 1983

Something in the air said that tonight was going to be one of those gigs where everything is right. Notice the City Hall was ablaze with tartan shirts and neckties. The gig itself was a sell-out with even the odd bus trip arriving from the lands of heather and haggis. The support group 'One the Juggler' created mild interest in the audience, most of whom were still queuing for Big Country tee-shirts and badges. But, as they left the stage to considerable applause, the City Hall suddenly filled up with not an empty seat to be seen anywhere.

Against a backdrop of snow-capped mountains and flowing river the band ran onstage to be greeted with a searing roar and standing ovation - all before they had even played one song. '1000 Stars' began the set - an anti-nuclear war song with a guitar riff that grabs by the scruff of the neck and makes you listen. Passionate renditions of all the songs from the debut album 'The Lonesome' followed, punctuated by Stuart Adamson's friendly talk and thanks for the wild applause greeting each song. The light show was brilliant - during 'The Storms' clouds raged across the sky, lightning flashed: a visual delight.

Big Country played their own brand of rock, putting back the spirit and feeling into popular music. They gave everything they had and their open-hearted performance was infectious. Their music reached out for response and participation by the audience and, boy, did they get it! If the City Hall could have jumped for sheer joy it would have!

They came on for two powerful encores, playing, among others, the speedy midlife hit 'Tracks of My Tears'. To the end of this wild night saw all four band members took a well-deserved bow at the front of the stage, leaving the Newcastle crowd exhausted, but on such a high that the rousing refrain of 'Fields of Fire' and 'In a Big Country' could be heard everywhere in the city long after the show had finished.

Big Country gave hope for the future of rock music as it should be. Watch out for Liam - as their name suggests they're going to be BIG!

-CHRISTINA GIBBS
25.9.83



The crossing

Maps on the back of your hands
point to the cross
scratches on walls in a room
where you were born
your islands are conquered and you are returned
to the throne.
marines take ponance and fill up the mattress
with stones

Pull straws with holy men
stain all the atlas pink
and let us find a bench
where we can cross our hearts

Stand in the side as the carousel spin
wear out your welcome again

Stand on your silence of mountains each older
take your rib down to the sea

Worshippers hit hard with an uncorrectable light
plopping the senses that click deep in the night
crouched in a pillow of straw feet on the floor
creeping a path to the mat that holds back the door

Build up great railways that run through horns of the moon
circle a city with amaran walls
explain your machines to the boys feed them with roots
bring out the skill in your skin polish your hair

British plans for the group are tentative for the moment but a new album will definitely be recorded in 1984. Obviously its very early days yet but the plan is for the material to be written by the group in the early Spring and possibly recording it in time for Summer release.

Tours next year include travelling (possibly??) to Australia and the Far East in January/February. A major British tour does not look likely for a while yet but festival dates are scheduled. Big Country were generally acknowledged as the best band at Reading this year and seeing them at a festival is a treat for all. Hopefully one or two British festivals will include Big Country next year.

DYNAMIC BAND

THE energetic and dynamic band Big Country is playing at Friars rock club, Aylesbury, on Saturday.

Big Country have not been together long, but they seem now to have hit on a winning combination which is leading them to the top of the charts.

The band was started in 1981 by guitarist Stuart

Adamson, who had left the group Skids because he felt they had lost their vigour and enthusiasm.

So he set about revising that enthusiasm in his new dream band.

The line-up which is now bringing their success is, as well as Adamson himself Bruce Watson, another guitarist, and two highly respected London session

musicians Tony Butler and Mark Brzezicki.

They have developed an exciting live show, and their latest single, In A Big Country, is currently at No 17 in the charts and is expected to go higher.

Big Country will be supported by The Lotus Eaters and Red Beat when they play at Friars in the Civic Centre on Saturday.



Soundscene
Hitting the right notes

Big Country are reportedly eager to shrug off the Scottish tag which has been firmly tied to their image and sound. I find that hard to believe, for the band, led by self-confessed SNP supporter Stuart Adamson, seem determined to exploit their partial Scottishness.

There's a certain logic in that going down a storm in Cardiff, as it did at the Top Rank on Wednesday. Something to do with Celtic blood, I suppose.

With fortan, flashing and hand-clapping and crowd-teasing chanting running riot, one expected them, as a friend remarked, to play Sailing any moment.

Ex-Skid Adamson, while rebelling against playing live in the toilets of Britain, led his men into the wee wee hours with a set heavily reminiscent of above-average mid-Seventies hard rock combo. If Big Country had their formed before 1977 they would be playing their forewell world tour, featuring greatest hits from their 13 LPs and preparing to release the live commemorative album.

Jock-rock hits the top

Big Country, who play Glasgow tonight, look all set to hit the big time

When I caught up with them at London's Hammersmith Palais, girls were fainting and guys were dancing in the aisles while they pumped

CAUGHT LIVE

out some of the best rock 'n' roll I've heard for months.

Their music is a kind of jock-rock, a great swirling, bagpipe-inspired sound backed by lots of powerful electric guitar.

The three front men—Stuart Adamson, Bruce Watson and Tony Butler—bounce up and down like jumping beans while the audience does its level best to keep up.



STUART ADAMSON
Swirling sound

And they have plenty of charm left in that there is charm left in that deposed form, rock and roll close to the class of their hits Fields Of Fire and In A Big Country. See them now before they play only, vast Italy.

HAMMERSMITH

Mary Harron

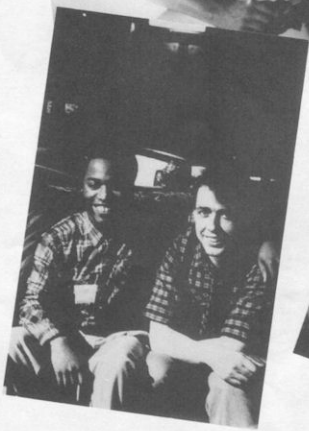
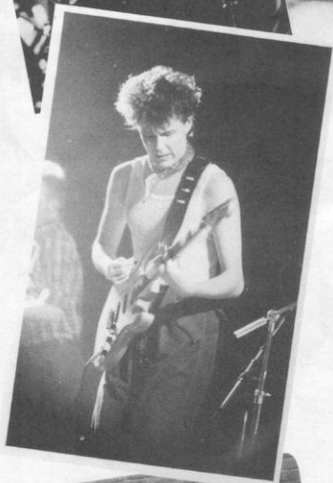
Big Country

UNDER a kind of mass-hypnosis, last year young British rock bands started playing cowboys and Indians with a host of post-punk groups all sounding like a heavy metal version of the theme to a Clint Eastwood spaghetti western. Big Country, the Scottish band who formed out of the remnants of the Skids, adapt this Wild West theme into a different format: classic 4-piece rock and roll crossed with the emotion of a Scottish border song.

I would like to think that Big Country christened themselves after the Hollywood movie of the same name — which I vaguely remember as a surging wide-screen pioneer epic, with a thunderous film score which impressed me violently when I was 10. The group's latest single In a Big Country offers the same romantic vision as cutting loose to the wild open spaces; this translates oddly to the Scottish Highlands, but it's a glorious little melodrama all the same.

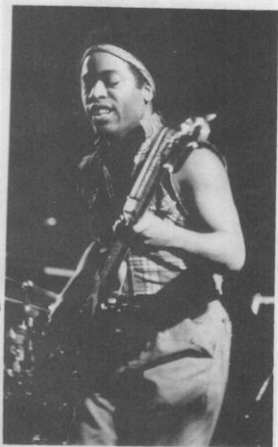
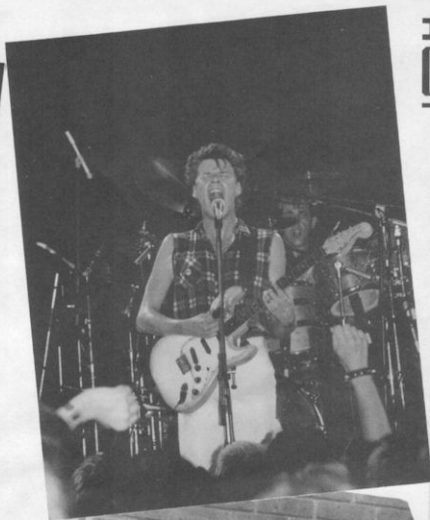
Playing before a packed audience at Hammersmith Palais, Big Country showed there is charm left in that deposed form, rock and roll. The group's trade mark is a curious guitar signature, which sounds like bagpipes and weaves eerily in and out of their steady beat and ear-earning electric guitars.

The sound is tinny and half the songs sound the same, but the spirit is true; you could call it romanticism, but that's enough. We are many leagues away from progressive rock. Big Country aren't trying to orchestrate the universe, just to provide a few perfect evenings and a few hit songs. And I have to sympathise with the girls who clung to the side of the stage, pouring wistfully up at singer Stuart Adamson. At a time when pop idols are either lamer or narcissistic he is an image to be treasured.



BIG COUNTRY

.. ON TOUR.
Crossing the Country



**BIG
COUNTRY**

RAK Studios July '83



Photos taken at RAK Studios ^{BY} GAVIN



← Rip it up!!
Tony "I'm a Musician
not a teen Idol"
Butler



The boys →
take a well
earned lunch break
during the recording of
'The Crossing'.



In the foreground is LENOX - Tony's Elder Brother!

ANOTHER PERFECT INTERVIEW.

"Hammer pounding in my heart, I think its gonna burst"
Spring unwinding in my head, I don't know which is worse.

So, here at the funny farm with Mötörhead, those perpetrators of the refined art of headbanging. We sent Martin along to meet them and to conduct his first ever interview. The article you are about to read proves that he has survived to tell the tale.

"For those of you who are unfamiliar with Motorhead it should be explained that they have been in existence for nearly a decade now and that ...;

Lemmy formed the group in 1975 after his abrupt dismissal from the early seventies cult band Hawkwind. Motorhead was the name of the last song that Lemmy wrote before leaving and the name stuck. The original line-up didn't work and Lemmy recalls those days with the immortal quote

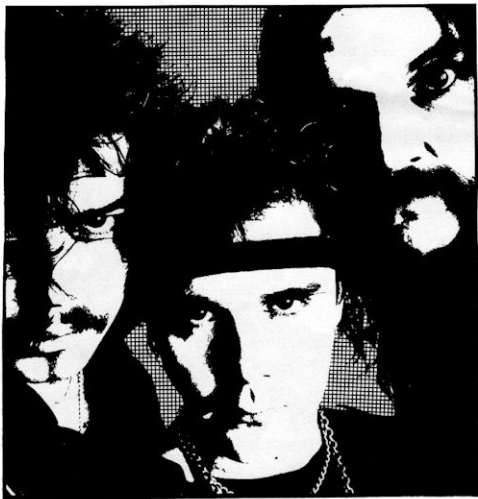
"If this band moved in next door to you

YOUR LAWN WOULD DIE!!!

The line up went their separate ways and Lemmy recruited Philthy Phil "Animal" Taylor and "Fast" Eddie Clarke.

The band signed to Chiswick Records and were soon to release the "Mötörhead" album. From it came the immortal "Motorhead" single (You'd better believe in us!) Fast, furious and without compromise the band began to build what was to become a massive UK following. The group appealed primarily to those who were brought up on Led Zeppelin and others, but soon acquired a legion of fans who could be best described as "Punters" Whether or not this was an intentional move on the part of Lemmy + Co: it was certainly an indication of their popularity that they prospered at a time when everybody was raving about the Pistols and the Damned. The raw, unadulterated power of their music was held to be irresistible by many people and Mötörhead were soon sweeping the polls of journals such as Sounds and Melody Maker.

By 1980 Mötörhead were the veterans of 4 monster albums. "Ace of Spades" followed the same "cranium-crunching" line of "OverKill" and "Bomber" and was to be their biggest seller yet. The album crashed into the charts at No 4 on the first week of release (a feat equalled, of course, by 'The Crossing') and the single of the same name hit The Top Ten. Motorhead were now completely selling out 50 date British tours and assaulting the U.S charts.



It would be wrong to assume that Mötörhead have had a trouble free career, Eddie Clarke packed his bags and went Absent Without Leave in 1981. The band were halfway through a major U.S tour and were faced with the option of cancelling or finding a replacement guitarist. The latter was decided upon and Brian Robertson was drafted in at very short notice. The ex-Thin Lizzy guitarist fondly recalls "I was given 12 hours to learn the songs. I didn't even have time to decide whether I wanted to join the band or not. However the tour worked out really well and I decided to stay."

Brian has been with the band for nearly 2 years and has brought a far wider scope to the musical direction to the band.

PHIL "We no longer feel the need to play at a million miles-an-hour and thrash our way through songs. We are now far more composed and pay a lot of attention to the structure of songs."

BRIAN "I played 13 guitars on Another Perfect Day."

Now thirteen seems somewhat excessive, I ventured to ask why.

BRIAN "I needed to give the songs various textures. I wasn't happy until I'd got it just right."

Mötörhead obviously care asmuch about their songs as Big Country. I wondered who writes the songs.



PHIL "Anyone can contIBUTE a basic idea and work on it. Sometimes we'll be jamming for the sake of it and then hit on an idea. We usually take it from there. When we write albums we always rehearse thoroughly until we have a positive idea. The drumming tracks are always laid down first. This can take a week but is normally finished within two days.

MARTIN Doesn't that leave you with a lot of time on your hands?

PHIL Too right it does! Brian and Lemmy can take up to 2 months to lay down the guitar work. Brian is very precise about what he wants. He is also bloody good and has given Mötörhead a whole new angle. Thats why Another Perfect Day is our best album.



Another Perfect Day is a very fine album and is far more listenable to the uninitiated. Shine, Rock It and I Got Mine are fine indictments of the progress Mötörhead are making. There is still the raucous edge to Lemmy's singing but the music is

competition page

The Competition this time around is more of a survey :
I want to compile a list of all views and opinions
of WHAT YOU THE FANS think of the Album.

For instance:	10 points	PORROHMAN #
	9 points	CHANCE
	8 points	FIELDS OF FIRE
	7 points	HARVEST HOME
	6 points	STORM
	5 points	LOST PATROL
	4 points	CLOSE ACTION
	3 points	1000 STARS
	2 points	IN A BIG COUNTRY
	1 point	INWARDS

This is a sample opinion. Choose your tracks, list them in order
of preference and then give YOUR reasons why YOU like or dislike
certain numbers. There are FIVE prizes for this:

1st PRIZE	SWEATSHIRT, 2 T-SHIRTS & a Picture disc of CHANCE
2 2nd PRIZES	2 T-SHIRTS and a Picture disc of CHANCE
4th PRIZE	1 T-SHIRT and a Set of Badges Picture Disc.
5th PRIZE	PICTURE Disc.

Please give your opinions in clear concise English and send to:

ALBUM SURVEY COMPETITION.

COUNTRY CLUB:
26-40 St. Andrews Street,
Northampton NN1 2HY, UK.
0604 20411/2/3

CLOSING DATE 31st January, 1984.

The results of the Survey will be printed in ISSUE SIX so please write in
and enable us to print a collection of opinions of ALL the tracks on the
Album. Entries will be based on originality and any comments are
welcome. PLEASE NOTE: Your friends can send in lists as well.

TRACKS OF MY TEARS...

People say I'm the life of the party
Cos I tell a joke or two
And though I might be laughing
By the party

Deep inside I'm blue

So take a good look at my face
You'll see a smile that looks out of place
If you look closer
It's easy to trace
The tracks of my tears

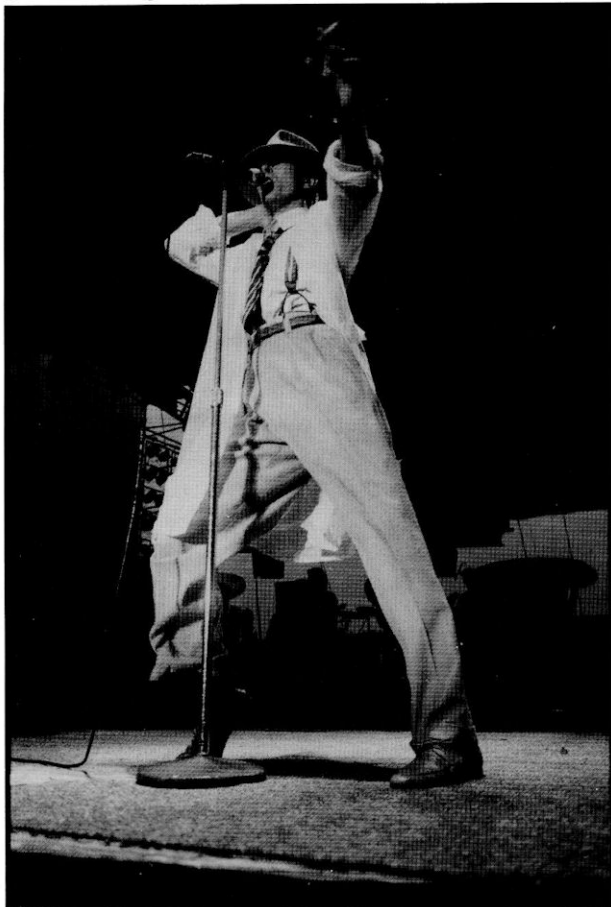
Since you left me if you see me
With another girl
Looks like I'm having fun
And though she might be cute
She's just a substitute
Because your the permanent one

So take a good look at my face
You'll see a smile that looks out of place
If you look closer
It's easy to trace
The tracks of my tears

Outside I'm masquerading
Inside my heart is breaking
I need to hide
Since you put me down
My smile wears the make-up
I've had since my break up with you

So take a good look at my face
You'll see a smile that looks out of place
If you look closer
It's easy to trace
The tracks of my tears





THE CONSTRUCTION OF A LEGEND

When David Bowie took the stage at Milton Keynes for the final concert of his 1983 European tour it must have been obvious to all but the blinkered or naive (I did not mention the music press) that they were witnessing a "massive" multi-media business corporation on show. The audience were just pawns in a lucrative game that encompassed all areas of the music biz hierarchy. The tee-shirt sellers with their shoddy reproductions, the hot dog sellers with their 100 per cent plastic meat, the policemen on overtime, the suntanned car park attendants, the overfed roadies, the expensively dressed record company executives and the hordes of paid hangers on were all there

for one thing.... THE MONEY. And with 150,000 people there over three nights at roughly ten pounds a head there was no shortage of that. Everybody had a grand time, except maybe the fifty thousand or so straining to see the young Englishman on a far away video screen, or queuing for a non existent last bus or passing out in the humid sweat of humanity near the stage.

And what did it take to put this show on the road. Well for a start there were 28 trucks, about 100 full time road crew, about fifty staff members whose duties ranged from moving baggage to booking areoplane flights and even hairdressing, roughly 60 globe balloons for spontaneous ejection from the stage each night, 3 computers with 3 back ups linked up with box offices all around the world so at a glance the latest sales figure in San Diego can be considered, 150 bits of luggage, 16 wardrobes and 2 irons, the list is endless. This modern day circus needs feeding each day, and local promoters have to lay on at least 100 breakfasts, 150 lunches and God knows how many dinners. Guess whos coming to dinner, could be anybody from Princess Micheal of Kent to Mick Jagger. A private jet complete with beds, video and gold plated bathroom is laid on to transport everybody around, and a black BMW plus a fleet of vans for DB and band.

Certainly this minor nation on the move and in the big money groove, attracted people. Ordinary people in their thousands and the rich and famous in their thousands also. Apart from the million or so fans who turned up for the shows, their was Mick Jagger, Astrid Wyman, Charlie Watts, Funboy three, Robert Plant, Hazel O'Connor, Udo Lindenburg, Christine F, Princess Micheal of Kent, Grace Jones, Vitas Gerulaitis, IAN GRANT, Echo and the bunny men, Pamela Stephenson, Billy Conolly, BIG COUNTRY, and others too numerous to mention.

Apart from that there were 80,000 Watts worth of sound system to be transported, a complicated computerised lighting set up to be moved around, (two sets at that!) So the party could move assured in the knowledge that the gear was leapfrogging its way round Europe.

THE CLOWN



gentler (???) on the ear. Are the band toning down at all.

- PHIL Not really. Its more a question of working as a unit and producing what we feel to be good music.
- LEMMY I don't feel we are compromising and why should we? Its just a question of having a slightly different approach to our music.
- MARTIN How do you feel about fans? Do you suffer from "hero-worship"
- LEMMY We're not heroes. We're just normal geezers who happen to play music.
- PHIL If fans come backstage we'll sign autographs or whatever and treat them with the according respect. I'm not so crazy about being pestered in the street though its not too bad.
- LEMMY When I'm at a gig, I'm there as one of the crowd not as a celebrity. I like to enjoy myself as much as anyone else. That's why you'll never see us posing up at Camden Palace.
- MARTIN What like Duran Duran or Steve Stange?
- LEMMY We don't like those bands all that much but I'll defend to the death the right of anybody to like those groups or listen to their music. Music shouldn't be categorized at all.
- MARTIN Big Country's music defies categorization. If anything it symbolizes honesty and passion.
- LEMMY I was wondering when you'd mention them. I think they're a great band. I really like Fields of Fire.
- BRIAN A fine Scottish band.
- MARTIN Well they're not entirely Scottish but I get your point.

At that point the interview had to be curtailed at the insistence of a very irate French photographer. But I must admit that I was surprised at the down-to-earth approach of the band as people and the way they treat people as equals. It proves Stuart Adamson's policy that musicians should not be treated as heroes but normal people. Mötörhead share a lot in common with Big Country; the two bands care for their fans above everything else and have little sympathy for pseudo-popstars who look at fans down their noses. The two styles of music aren't similar but the prevailing attitudes are. Such honesty can only auger well for the future and it would be great to see both bands carry on in a similar vein. I've a feeling they will.

PHIL "Don't forget, we want to see Big Country at Hammy Odeon."

Now there's a fan for you!



All of us

Bad weather gathers all along the coast
When the storm clouds gather and the blood runs cold
If we get no further when we get to the shore
Then we have to turn around and fight some more

We'll go together I have room in my soul
That's enough of watching people trading hearts for gold
I can see you on the beach on your knees
Spilling more salt in an already dead sea

Run away with me again
There's time for us to grow
Run away with me again
All of us alone

We'll feel the wind and the rain in our face
You can do it yourself but I heard of a place
It's got to be now and it better be together
When spirits make a meeting you can feel it forever



Big Country Grey Teeshirt
£5.00 (+35p p&p)
Top quality white teeshirt with group picture on front in blue, brown and white with tour details in brown and blue on back.



Big Country Vest
£4.50 (+35p p&p)
White mesh singlet (Unisex) with small tasteful blue logo in centre.



Big Country White Teeshirt
£5.00 (+35p p&p)
Fields of Fire design in three colours with Compass design on back.



Big Country Postergram
£1 (+20p p&p)
Black and with folded foster with huge band photo plus lots of interesting info.



Big Country black Teeshirt
£5.00 (+35p p&p)

with silver yellow and green Crossing design on breast and tour details on back.



Neckscarf
50p (+25p p&p)
Off white untreated square neckscarf with blue logo in one corner.



Big Country Sweatshirt
£10 (+50p p&p)
Sleeveless royal blue sweatshirt with Crossing motif on breast.



Big Country Combat Jacket
£12.50 (+80p p&p)
Great black denim short combat style jacket with Big Country Strip Patch in grey webbing above left pocket.



Big Country Badge Set
£1.00 (+25p p&p)
Set of four button badges, red Crossing logo, blue Crossing logo, red Big logo and, brown Compass.

STRIP ON JACKET AS SHOWN

ACME has a Catalogue of over 50 official teeshirts and sweatshirts plus a whole new range of exciting street clothing.

To get a copy, simply send large (A4 size) s.a.e. to:
ACME CLOTHING (BC), 26-40 ST. ANDREWS STREET, NORTHAMPTON, NN1 2HY
To join: THE COUNTRY CLUB, please send an s.a.e. (for an application form) to:
COUNTRY CLUB, 25A CRAWFORD STREET, LONDON W1