



BIG

COUNTRY



**COUNTRY
CLUB**

1993

ISSUE 28

Hi,

As I start to put this mag together, the Band have just left the country to start their tour over on the Continent and by all accounts things are going GREAT. As I finish putting it together the Band have finished the tour and are now all back at home! Everyone has been rushed off their feet recently, hence the slight delay. Sorry.

Thanks a bunch once again, Radio 1. Did they not know about "Alone" and "Ships"???? They must have 'cos of the chart performance but did they play the records? Like hell! I did, in fact, hear "Alone" played a couple of times but never did I hear them play "Ships"! Local Radio did, at least, seem to appreciate the records and give them some deserved air-time. Anyway, still two Top 30 hits without the help of our "wonderful" Radio 1 - I wonder how many of us are beginning to tune into Virgin 1215?

In fact, Ian told me that Radio 1 had said "*Even if "Ships" had got into the Top Ten - even number 1 - we wouldn't have played it!*"

Buffalo Skinners is the first B.C. album since "The Seer" to have two Top 30 singles - the more long-standing fans will, of course, be fully aware of this but this album has (even with the lack of air-time) converted a lot of people into B.C. fans who may not be aware of this fact.

As you will see from snippets from a selection of your letters, "Buffalo Skinners" is voted a resounding success! "Phenomenal", "outstanding", "the best since Steeltown", "a classic" etc etc. I have not received one letter that doesn't praise the album to the nth degree.

Chart activity of "Alone", "Ships" and "Buffalo Skinners". I have received a couple of letters asking that I print full details but, surprisingly enough, this is not available at the push of a button - I thought it would be. So, why not throw it open to you lot, I thought? Send me what you know of the chart activity of these records in your country (official charts only, please) and we'll see what we can get together for the next issue.

Mark on drums. What can one say? The gig on 18th March at the Town & Country was the first time that Andrew and I had seen Mark play with the band and he's certainly a fantastic drummer, to say the least. No wonder he was so difficult to follow.

TOURING

I managed to grab Bruce for a second or two after the T & C gig and, when asked how it felt having Mark back on the drums, he replied:-
*"f***ing brilliant!!"*

Hot News participators will have been aware of the additions, deletions and amendments to the tour schedule as they occurred but, for those who do not participate and would like a list of the final tour schedule even though the tour will be over by the time you get this mag.

1st May	HAMBURG, Grosse Freiheit
2nd May	BERLIN, Metropol
3rd May	HANNOVER, Capitol
4th May	BOCHUM, Zeche
6th May	FRANKFURT, Music Hall
7th May	KARLSRUHE, Festhalle Durlach
8th May	ULM, Roxi
10th May	STUTTGART, Longhorn
11th May	NURNBERG, Resi
13th May	MUNICH, Charterhalle
14th May	ZURICH, Electric Ballroom
15th May	AUGSBURG, Dampfblaseerhalle
17th May	PARIS, Bataclan

18th May	FOLKESTONE, Leas Cliff Hall
19th May	POOLE, Arts Centre
21st May	NOTTINGHAM, Royal Concert Hall
22nd May	MANCHESTER, Apollo
23rd May	YORK, Barbican
24th May	EDINBURGH, Usher Hall
26th May	LONDON, Hammersmith Apollo
27th May	BIRMINGHAM, Town Hall
28th May	CAMBRIDGE, Corn Exchange

Due to the staggered release dates world-wide, some territories have only just or are STILL waiting the release of "Buffalo Skinners". Therefore, to answer all of those letters I have received from around the world expressing disappointment at not being able to get hold of a copy, the International release dates as known at present are:-

Belgium	29th March
Denmark	22nd March
France	20th April
Germany	22nd March
Holland	29th March
Italy	22nd March
Sweden	22nd March
Australia	Middle to end of May
Canada	30th April
Japan	26th March
South Africa	22nd March
Switzerland	22nd March
Austria	22nd March
Spain	to be advised
Finland	22nd March
U.S.A.	7th September

Watch out Big Country-starved America! With release of the album, the band will be over there doing loadzapromotion and then a tour - they are really enthusiastic and can't wait to make it over to your side of the Atlantic. In fact, when we saw the Band on Friday 28th May this constituted most of the conversation so, get ready. You will not be disappointed.

HOT NEWS SYSTEM

More for the many new members rather than the longer-standing members:-

For the benefit of the newer members, I thought I ought to try to make clear how the HOT NEWS works. It's simply a system whereby YOU lodge with me here a STAMPED, SELF-ADDRESSED ENVELOPE clearly marked B.C. HOT NEWS which I will hold until there is news to tell you of release dates, tours or what-have-you. Obviously news often breaks between our regular magazines and this is the only way whereby I can let you know - general mailing to all members would be impossible, sorry. Anyway, once your envelope has been used, you need to replace it: the replacement needs to show B.C. HOT NEWS AND THE DATE OF THE LAST HOT NEWS RECEIVED - this helps prevent duplications. Overseas members remember those International Reply Coupons.

P.S. When I prepared the majority of this magazine, it was just beginning to become clear that Mark was, indeed, back - hopefully for good. He told me at the Corn Exchange on Friday 28th May 1993, "I never left!"

You

in shock over the new album. It's absolutely phenomenal
brilliant The new album (1985) plus two hit singles is a classic

THE BEST ALBUM INCLUDING THE CROSSING - THE ONE I LOVE MUST BE A SINGLE

Seven Waves, "The One I Love", "Long Way Home" and "Pink Marshmallow Moon". The re-recorded version of "Ships" is out of this world.

PINK MARSHMALLOW MOON IS THE BEST.

vote

thinks it's the best they've

ten minutes ago and by the way, I've heard the original of this since 1981. I've been waiting for the B.C. version since 1981.

It sounded rubbish. I'm glad Ships was released and re-recorded. It would have been a shame if it had been left on no place like here now it has become B.C.'s 13th top 30 hit.

on 21st March. They were on top form. Leeches
Hand all the new songs onto me. There's only one thing I've heard 5 down great. The new album when I listen to it, (All together) is absolutely fantastic. I've heard 5

Starnes' ever two tracks that I skip. (Chester's Form) VIRGIN 12-15. So far chance - understand - look amazing. winding wind twice.

THE BUFFALO SKINNERS most accomplished work yet. It's sound is unique

BRILLIANT

WHAT AN ALBUM AND WHO DOESN'T AGREE, IS NEEDING THERE HEAD LOCKED

both versions of "Where not in Kansas" back-to-back and I can safely say that the new version is just brilliant compared with the old one.

Starnes' ever
moment - "Please" - "Seven Waves" - "Long Way Home" - "The Selleny of America" - "Winding Winds" and "Pink Marshmallow Moon"

favorite tracks are for the

a

early records

energy and freshness of the

As to the repetition of Slips and "Kansas", they shouldn't have been included on this album, although the new versions sound very good.

to my mind they don't fit on the rest of the disc those sound is different

Every song is brilliant

B's Counts break at their very best

by far the strongest album since Steel Dawn

brilliant

I'm tuning in to Virgin Radio perhaps they will have better taste in music

What can I say about the album - ^{it is} best

Totally outstanding

thing the group has done to date.

resounding

I AM IMPRESSED HOW WELL THE BAND RECEIVED ESPECIALLY AND PINK MASHMALLOW.

great hits throughout the album

"ALONE" SOUNDED LIVE AND HOW WELL THE NEW SONGS WERE RECEIVED ESPECIALLY ALL GO TOGETHER AND PINK MASHMALLOW MOON

The Buffalo Skinners is terrific

"The Buffalo Skinners" fabulous album!

Buffalo Skinners what a GREAT collection of songs SEE YOU SOME DAY

masterpiece

I HOPE "PINK MARSHMALLOW MOON" IS EARMARKED FOR THE THIRD A "CLASSIC" SKINNERS

Success

He is in fact a lover turned to me and said FROM HIS IT IS magic concert

favorite track is "THE ONE I LOVE", its the best track the boys have done since "LOOK AWAY"

The album the band were born to make. Every song is brilliant

Walsingham - they were fantastic

YOUR QUESTIONS

Q From **Thomas Kercheval** (Membership No 003418)

Why the change in the Band's logo on "No Place Like Home"? Was it part of Phonogram's attempt to change the Band's image? Also, has anyone else noticed that Bad Company's logo is exactly the same as B.C.'s? Who decided which logo to use?

Bruce *The change in logo was a band/record company decision. We all thought the original logo was a bit dated and that something a bit more contemporary would be more suitable. How wrong we were!*

Stuart *I felt that, because the group personnel was changing at the time, a different logo would reflect this. Having Mark back has made the original script very important to me.*

Tony *The change of logo on "No Place Like Home" was instigated, I believe, by Phonogram, in a vain attempt to put a new face on the band for the nineties. We agreed in principle but, as with everything else at that time, with that company it was doomed to fail.*

Yes, we have noticed Bad Co. using our 'original' logo and congratulations to them for their inventiveness.

We have returned to the original logo because we have returned to the original band and attitude. Yo!

Q From **Thomas Kercheval** (Membership No 003418)

Any chance of a general set list of the current tour?

Bruce *The May tour will be similar to the March tour with the exception of 'Chester's Farm' which is now an encore number. We also have a good selection of 'covers' for those fun nights.*

Stuart *There may be a few changes but, because of promotional work, we haven't done any rehearsals between tours.*

Tony *Who knows? I don't, YET.*

Q From **Thomas Kercheval** (Membership No 003418)

The E-Bow has added such beautiful shadings to many Big Country songs. Any chance of it resurfacing in the future or has the Band decided that it no longer has a place in the B.C. sounds?



photo from **Gailan Sharp** (Membership No 001919)

Bruce *The reason we didn't use any E-bow on Buffalo Skinners is because it's quite a hard hitting powerful album and I don't think the E-bow was suitable for that sound. The E-bow is more for atmospheric and texture and is more usable for use in soundtracks, i.e. "Restless Natives".*

Stuart *I still have my E-bow and intend to use it as and when the mood demands.*

Tony *Yes, I agree the E-Bow has given certain songs a very lush texture and I'm sure it will be employed again but to use it every time would suggest that a formula is being used.*

Q From **Thomas Kerchavel** (Membership No 003418)

How do you maintain a stable home-life with the constant touring and other pressures which the rock 'n' roll lifestyle entails?

Bruce *After twelve years of touring with Big Country, you learn to switch life-styles quite easily. In fact, my home life is more Rock 'n' Roll than my Rock 'n' Roll life which is more of a 'I'll have a cup of tea and a biscuit, please' type of life style.*

Stuart *Talk, trust, friendship and a shared vision.*

Tony *Simple. I have a stable wife who keeps the home fires burning brightly, who lets me play golf when I want to, and can be both enthusiastic and critical about all aspects of B.C.'s existence when needs be.*

Q From **Gavin Boyle** (Membership No 003703)

Who decides what records to play at a live concert? How long does it take before the final running order of the set is completed?

Bruce *The band decides what songs to play in the set. We rehearse the running order in a rehearsal room and make the final adjustments as things on the road develop, i.e. audience participation, guitar changes, cock-ups etc.*

Stuart *We mess around with songs we'd like to play and see how they flow with each other. With this touring period, we really wanted to feature "The Buffalo Skinners" material and hence are currently playing nine numbers from the album. We do occasionally listen to requests i.e. "Winter Sky" on the last tour.*

Tony *It was easy to determine what we were going to play for the tour because we wanted to play the new album, with a few oldies chucked in. There is no final running order because things change all the time.*

Q From **Jon Mitchell** (Membership No 003365)

After finding some of the material on the last two albums disappointing in places, "Buffalo Skinners" really has got all the energy and freshness of the early records. I've been waiting for this since 1986! As for the gig, I enjoyed that more than any time since I first saw you seven or eight years ago. Was it my imagination or were you also enjoying yourselves more than you have in a long time?

Bruce *Yes, we have been given a new lease of life and are enjoying our new found freedom. I think it shows when you listen to the album or watch the stage show. I think Chris Briggs (our label boss - A & R man - spiritual teacher) should take a lot of credit for that.*

Stuart *I am, personally, completely fulfilled by the band at the moment. I really feel that we are the best we have ever been.*

Tony *All I can say is that it is great to be able to make a ROCK record that displays what are the greatest facets of this collaboration. We were thrown off course a long time ago but we are back on track. Big Country is a **rock** band with its own identity, it's about time the cynics realised this fact in the same way we have. That's why we are enjoying ourselves.*

Q From **Melanie Dent** (Membership No 003717)

As a recent C.C. member, could you tell me what the songs "Red Fox" and "Eiledon" are about, please?

Stuart *"Red Fox" is actually about how personal frustration boils over into politically orientated violence and takes the Appin murder from "Kidnapped" as its inspiration.*

"Eiledon" is about an outward, forward looking culture, not one based on nostalgia and introspection.

Tony See Stuart's answer but, unofficially:-

"Red Fox": A sly dig at the invading armies during the Bonnie Prince's finest hours
"Eiledon": A romantic fairytale view of Scotland.



Q From too many to mention.

I know everyone is over the moon at having Mark back but let's hear from you how it came about and, in your own words, how you feel about it.

Photo sent in by Gailan Sharp (Membership No 001919)

Bruce Arrghh! What can I say?

Playing in Big Country without Mark was a bit like playing in Big Country without Mark, which was a bit like playing in Big Country with Mark except it wasn't because he wasn't there. Now Mark's back and it's a bit like playing in Big Country with Mark back again but I look over my shoulder on stage and I can't see whose behind the kit because it's so big and I wonder is it Mark or isn't it, perhaps it is but then again perhaps it isn't? Maybe it's someone who looks like Mark, but then again maybe it is Mark ... but if I think real hard I like to believe it's a huge wobbly doughnut wearing a latex Mark Brzezicki mask. P.S. I'm a very sick puppy and I need help. Every time you mention his name, I lose control. Even the letter M makes me twitch uncontrollably. I can't even shop in Marks and Spencers any more. Help!

Stuart It was as simple as him calling each of us and talking. I, personally, am sure he is back permanently.

Tony Basically, Mark phoned me to apologise for not sending me a Christmas card when I mentioned to him that Simon Phillips was going to be unavailable to do the tour, which got that ball rolling.

Mark has returned to us feeling as enthusiastic about the future as we are
"I AM OVER THE MOON HAVING MARK BACK!" (That's my own words).

Q From Leigh Dalgleish (Membership No 003397)

Tony, the hat you wore at Barrowlands, was that the same hat you had with you in Russia?

Tony Yes, it is indeed the very same much travelled hat. I wear it most of the time now because I cut off my locks last year and I'm waiting for it to grow back, minus a little at the front. Nothing serious, though. Not like the "Edge", anyway.

Q From Leigh Dalgleish (Membership No 003397)

Leigh says, "New Year's Eve at Barrowlands - exactly a decade ago, it's a must this year?!"

Bruce I would love to do a (tenth anniversary) Hogmanay show. As the last show was one of the high points in our career, I must talk to my agent. Bye!!!

Stuart *New Year's Eve? There's a whole year to go yet! (Well, almost).*
Tony *Maybe.*

Q From Gavin Boyle (Membership No 003703)

Have we now, as far as Big Country are concerned, seen the demise of extended and remixed versions of their singles? I don't suppose the 12" will be around for much longer, anyway, so is there now a chance of remixed and extended CD versions?

Stuart *Because of the amount of different "B" sides we have been doing, I haven't thought too much about remixes but I don't think they have gone forever.*

Tony *None of the new songs have really lent themselves to that sort of treatment but one mustn't rule it out in future projects. We've had too much fun doing the cover versions for this batch of single releases.*

Q From Paul Harrison (Membership No 000896)

Are there any plans for a singles video of the new material?

Stuart *Not at the moment.*

Tony *I suppose so. When there are enough videos to put on it.*

Q From Simo Neiglick (Membership No 003377)

Sim would like some information on the song "Killiecrankie" that was, apparently, played at the Dublin gig in January 1992. Any plans for recording/releasing it?

Stuart *The song "Killiecrankie" is a Robert Burns song we did for a S.T.V. Burns Night. No plans to release it, though.*

Tony *We did a live recording of "Killiecrankie" for an album that was to host many other Scottish groups performing other traditional songs dedicated to Robert Burns. Whatever happened to it, I don't know. It wasn't a high point in our career.*

Q From Clive Gorman (Membership No 003600)

Would you encourage or discourage your children from going into the music business?

Stuart *I haven't thought about it but, really, what could I say?*

Tony *I will encourage my kids in whatever walk of life they choose (as long as it's legal) but I would be very wary if they chose the music business.*

Q From John Davis (Membership No 003360)

"I go right back with Stuart to the Skids days - yes, I'm a wrinkly thirty something - and was wondering which Skids' tracks he was particularly proud of and whether Stuart would ever consider playing any live or does he prefer to leave them dead and buried?"

Stuart *I still love (and listen to) a lot of Skids' stuff, particularly the "Absolute Game" album but they belong to a special time and special memories and I don't want to distort that.*

Q From John Davies (Membership No 003360)

Have you ever considered, or would you consider, releasing a double album as opposed to the usual single ones?

Stuart *No, I like single albums - they're more focused.*

Tony *Personally. I don't think double albums are something we should get into. I'd much rather release two albums in one year, provided the material was good enough. I find double albums too much to digest and at least one side is a filler. For example, "Peace In Our Time" and "No Place Like Home" should have been "No Place In Our Time" - one album, great songs.*

Q From Stan Lenkiewicz (Membership No 000414)

I understand that the video for "Wonderland" was filmed in the state of Oregon. Exactly which town/city was the video shot?

Stuart *It was actually shot on Mount Hood near the ski lodge used in the film "The Shining" and in an Indian reservation.*

Tony *Don't know, can't remember. It was bloody cold, though.*

Q From Ian Ornsby (Membership No 003632)

Stuart, have you ever read "The 13th Valley" by John M Del Vecchio (*I hope I've deciphered his writing correctly - Jan*) about the Vietnam War as there is a song on "P.I.O.T." about the war and also "Thirteen Valleys". I have just finished reading it and, if you haven't, I suggest you do. If you have read it, what did you think?

Stuart *Yes, I have read it - I nicked the title! It was a while ago but I must have been moved by it if it's featured in the writing.*

Q From Ian Harvey (Membership No 003690)

Are there any other books available, apart from "A Certain Chemistry"?

A *No, no others and "A Certain Chemistry" is, in fact, now out of print.*

AND THE BAND'S ANSWERS

cheers
Stuart

Yo
Tony
Robert



1993 / PR0313

© EXCLUSIVE LICENCE TO CHRYSALIS - PHOTOGRAPHER: PAUL COX

BIG COUNTRY





ALONE IN A BIG COUNTRY

— Sat Holmberg '93

Since the inclusion of Adrian's drawing in the last issue, he has further been inspired by specific tracks ".... from the truly brilliant new album", he says

In the last issue, I showed a graphic drawing by Adrian Vogler (Membership No 001712) which was inspired by the album title "The Buffalo Skinners" and this sparked off the non-computerised artistic talents of Satu Holmberg (Membership No 003608):-

"....congratulate you on the new album and singles. I absolutely love it all. I expected something rough, real and BIG and somehow my expectations seemed small compared to the real stuff.... It is stunning."

BIG COUNTRY



WHAT ARE YOU WORKING FOR



BIG COUNTRY



THE SELLING OF AMERICA

Unfortunately, a little of the detail has been lost on reproducing and reducing.



BIG COUNTRY

CHESTER'S FARM



BIG COUNTRY

Long Way Home



From Germany, with love.....

7900 Ulm an der Donau
Untergangende Sonne beim Ulmer Münster

This is Ulm
Cathedral.
As you can
see the moths
have got at
the bellfry.
be cool! Stratz

Nr. 6488 Foto: Reinhold Meyer, Ulm/Dn

Ab 1.7.
gelten neue
Postleitzahlen.



Jan Branner
Undercover

Dixies
High St
Ashwa
Herts S

U. K

© Kunstverlag Eberhard von Kling, D-89124 Ulm

hotel ibis

U L M

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to the Country Club.....



Gethere one He number?

Photo des Studios in Druckbuchhaltung

Zimmer-Nr. This is our BLS driver

Unterstadt der Heine

Drawn BY MARK BRZEJICKI

AGE 7

International Hotelgruppe

Belgien / Deutschland / Frankreich / Großbritannien / Italien
Luxemburg / Niederlande / Österreich / Portugal / Schweden



REQUESTED LYRICS:-

EASTWORLD

I have come from the Eastworld
From the concrete and the dust
At the end of the empire
For the lifting of the curse

I have come for your hardware
To the stripshows and the bars
I have come to see Madonna
To swim rivers filled with cars

For We're all bound for miracle
land today
All bond for miracle land today
Western men untie my hands
And lead me through the shifting
sands
All gone to miracle land today

Take me to your banker
Let me default on my loan
Give me twenty years of payments
And a debt to call my own

Let me camp out on the welfare
Dig a hole to get me high
Show me rows and rows
Of oriental toys that I must buy

The airwaves talk to me
Deep into the night

I trust the voice of radio free
europe

I have come from the Eastworld
With a missile for a god
Where my mouth was always
empty
And my feet were barely shod

Stuart Adamson 1992

ALL FALL TOGETHER

I forget how it started
But everyone knew of the cause
Hard out of the sun with
A vengeance and all was then lost

We will all fall together
A black sky in the rain
And you can laugh and I will sing
We've changed forever

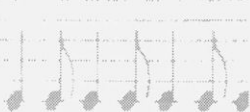
They crawled into homes
Yet all of the old ways were gone
It left nothing to run to
But no one can help how they're
drawn

Survivors set out on a trail in
A search for salvation
Looking for remnants of sense
In the end of a nation

All came together and steadied
Themselves on the shore
Knowing the terror would find
Them much worse than before

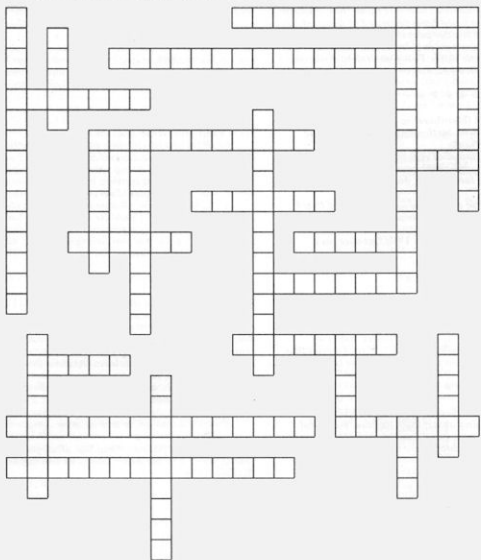
With nothing to live for and
nothing
More left of your pride
Can you face all the black
In your heart that will not be
denied

Lyrics Stuart Adamson 1984
Big Country music



KWIZ-KROSS

sent in by Stephen Ashe (Membership No 003312)



SOLVE THE CLUES AND
PLACE THE ANSWERS IN
THEIR CORRECT PLACE ON THE GRID

FOUR LETTERS

_____ SHIPS GO
STUART CALLED HIS 'ERIC'

FIVE LETTERS

FIRST NAME OF PRODUCER OF 'THE SEER' ALBUM
PETER _____ THE PRODUCER OF 'P. I. O. T.'

MR LILYWHITE

SIX LETTERS

NAVAL OFFICER ON 'THE SEER' ALBUM?

NINTH TRACK ON 'THE SEER'

SINGLE FROM 'GREATEST HITS' ALBUM

SEVEN LETTERS

'THE EAGLE SOARED ABOVE THE CLOUDS', THE DEER RAN

IN THE HILLS _____ WHICH TRACK?

BOB GELDOFF'S EVENT AT WHICH BIG COUNTRY TOOK

PART IN THE FINALE

SECOND TRACK ON FIRST ALBUM

TRACK ON WHICH KATE BUSH APPEARS

EIGHT LETTERS

THE GIRL ON 'STEELTOWN' ALBUM HAS THESE

AVERT YOUR EYES

_____ THING

NINE LETTERS

LAST TRACK ON 'THE CROSSING'

TEN LETTERS

PEACE FESTIVAL WAS HELD HERE AT WHICH BIG

COUNTRY CO-HEADED WITH BRYAN ADAMS

FIRST SINGLE FROM 'STEELTOWN' ALBUM

ELEVEN LETTERS

DEBUT ALBUM

TWELVE LETTERS

FIRST SINGLE TO REACH THE TOP TEN WAY BACK IN 1983

THIRTEEN LETTERS

LEAD SINGER WITH THE SKIDS

FOURTEEN LETTERS

FIRST TRACK ON SECOND ALBUM

FOURTH ALBUM

FIFTEEN LETTERS

THE CLOWN AND THE WOLFMAN?

'AND BELLS WILL RING ON _____

EIGHTEEN LETTERS

VIDEO OF NEW YEAR'S EVE CONCERT 1983-84 WAS

RECORDED HERE

YOUR GENERAL LETTERS:-

From **Stefan Franke** (Membership No 003161)

"The new album is absolutely sublime. I think that 'Buffalo Skinners' is the best the band have recorded in the past couple of years - maybe it's the best they've done ever. A good production, a harder and rockier sound and they finally show off all of their skills. I only wish they'd started to produce themselves five years ago!"

From **Graham Goodall** (Membership No 001511)

".....'Alone' - I'm delighted by the single and I think the track 'Eastworld' is brilliant. However, I thought a change of record company would (and was supposed to) promote them and I haven't seen a single advert anywhere for 'Alone'. How would anyone know of the release?"

'Beautiful People' - is the only record ever released that I HAVEN'T got on vinyl! Was it released on vinyl, especially 12"?"

"Beautiful People" was released on 14th October on a special 12" PICTURE DISC.

From **James Slaughter** (Membership No 003664)

21 Wells Road, Larkhill, Salisbury, Wilts, SP4 8LT, UK
".....Does Adrian Vogler like Deep Purple? It's just that his idea for the album cover of 'Buffalo Skinners' looks so much like that of 'Deep Purple, In Rock'. If so, I would like to hear from him as I am also a big Deep Purple fan."

From **Maggie Redshaw** (Membership No 003323)

".....do you know anything about Part 1 of the 'Beautiful People' CD single? My pen-pal Jimo Neiglick (Membership No 003377) from Finland and I were both wondering about this.

Belated birthday wishes to Jimo from Maggie xxxxxx"
I've recently received lots of letters asking this. Well, the limited CD collector's box of 'Republican Party Reptile' had space for a second CD, namely:- 'Beautiful People'. I hope that that clears up a few problems.

From **John Davis** (Membership No 003360)

".....one minor complaint is that the mag does tend to be a bit on the sychophantic side now and again. If B.C. release some utter bollocks, let's say so and not be afraid to do it.

Let's face it, a good number of songs on the last album (N.P.L.H.) were not up to their usual standard but no one had the bollocks to say so. As I said, only a minor point but now I've got it off my chest."

Sorry, John, but I did not actually get any letters knocking N.P.L.H. at the time of its release - a few now that fans are comparing it with Buffalo Skinners but then everyone seems totally enthralled with the new album - unless dissatisfied fans have not written!

From **Keith Trainer** (Membership No 000335)

"..... EXCELLENT! The low point, though, is 'We're Not In Kansas'. Sorry, lads, but it's a zillion times better on 'N.P.L.H.'. On the whole, 9 out of 10 for the album."

From **Robert Henderson** (Membership No 003526)

"..... wasn't much promo stuff for the new single up here (Hartlepool) but Radio T.F.M. gave it some good reviews and have also played another single off the album 'Seven Waves'....."

I hear that "A Certain Sacrifice" (I imagine that Robert means "A Certain Chemistry") is out of print. Well, there is a new book shop in the town selling it and they had hundreds of copies at £2 each."

Robert did not, in fact, give the name of the shop but he lives in Hartlepool so, perhaps a scout up the High Street or, let your fingers take a stroll through Yellow Pages - you may strike lucky. Grab a copy of "Fly Fishing" too!

From **Paul** (otherwise anonymous)

".....totally stunned. It's like they never lost the plot. This is what should have followed Steeltown..... I agree "Kansas" was worth doing. How times change. Last time "Ships" was the most moving on the album but now it's the worst. Too many styles. Everything else strikes a chord..... the last few albums were missing the overlay of guitars apart from "I Could Be Happy Here" and didn't everyone say you ought to produce yourselves? It makes a hell of a difference if it's mixed right (as REL tapes). Release "Chester's Farm"."

From **Stephen Ashe** (Membership No 003312)

"..... pestered my local radio (Cool FM) station from the moment I heard about the new single - I faxed and phoned John Kearns almost every night and as soon as "Alone" reached the station he played it and gave out the album details." Thanks to John from Stephen for putting up with him.

Stephen suggests we list all of the B.C. Friendly radio stations. So let us know who they are!

From **Everyone** (Membership No: all of you)

"More, more and yet more letters of enormous praise for 'Buffalo Skinners'."

From **Rob Ford** (Membership No 001567)

"I'm writing to give you an answer to an unanswered question. Keith Jones (Membership No 000223) asked in the magazine who, from the band, appears on the track 'Spirit Of The Forest'. Well, the answer is Mark Brzezicki - he features in the chorus line and in the accompanying video stood next to Fish (who he, of course, later joined for his first solo tour and album).

Since he left B.C. I've seen him play for both Fish and Midge Ure so I'll have seen him play more times than I've actually seen Big Country."

From **Martin Attard** (Membership No 003410)

Martin also wrote concerning 'Spirit Of The Forest' and adds, "..... helps explain why the song is so bloody terrible. (I mean, Mark singing!? Do me a favour.)

I also have a movie soundtrack (no, not Restless Natives) called 'Private Investigations' to which B.C. donated a track (Hold The Heart). I was wondering how many other soundtracks the band have contributed to over the years? If there are many, could an article in Record Corner give details? The public need to know!"

So, not a bad idea, eh? I'll find out what I can but, I thought it open to you lot to let me know what you have in your collection or those of which you are aware.

Any volunteers to do the article?

Martin continues

"Also in Issue 26, on the letters page, Liam Davey mentions the US Radio LPs. I own a copy of the 83/84 KB Flower Hour 2LP Radio Show and it was broadcast on

7th August 1984 'live last New Year's Eve from Glasgow' to quote the enthusiastic announcer. The record is enhanced by the great adverts which are included free!
What kind of a name for a track is 'Pink Marshmallow Moon'? What does Stuart think this is - Pink Floyd? Can't wait to hear it.
Well, since everyone has heard 'Pink Marshmallow Moon', it seems to have got a big thumbs up - it's certainly one of my favourite tracks - Jan.

From Sarah Wright (Membership No003027)
"In C.C. 26 Liam Davey listed his US Radio Show LP's. He certainly has an impressive collection.
There are a couple of things that I can add:-
1983 - BBC One LP Penthouse/Omni Magazine College Rock Concert NO 1013 Hammersmith Palais.
I have two different copies of this LP. The TT number on both is 4496. Version A is introduced by Pete Larkin. This record has a green cue sheet. Version B is introduced by Phil Harvey and has a white cue sheet.
If any other fans are interested in buying these records, they should beware of copies. The label for the above records is yellow and has a British Bulldog wearing headphones and a BBC scarf.
The other record that I have come across but do not have in my collection is the Jim Ladel interview. I saw this at a record fair in Birmingham for £20. The only thing I know about it is that it is not a live concert recording. Do any other members own this or know anything more about it?"

From Graham Goodall (Membership No 001511)
"..... Despite scouring the press etc. I haven't seen a single concert review and very few album reviews, for what they're worth. Whether it be local papers or any other source, could CC members please send any review they have for publication. I've seen the following:-

NME - the berk that wrote this said that 'as stadium rockers they were brilliant (three points clear at the top of the league)'. He could not find any fault with the album but I think he was trying to say that he didn't like the way the lyrics concentrated on real life and decided to give the album three out of ten. Pathetic

Vox - mumble, mumble live out of ten.
Music Week - good, but unlikely to win BC many new fans. Six out of ten and worth buying."

Graham suggests "... doing a survey amongst CC members. Nothing fancy, just favourite track, single and putting B.S. tracks into order of preference."

So, how would Graham like to collate the information? If you are agreeable, Graham, let me know exactly what information you would like included in your survey and I will put a piece in the next issue and ask members to write direct to you!

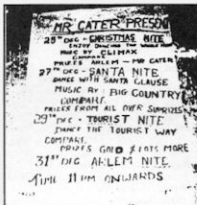
From Tom Warrington (Membership No 003091)
"..... brilliant album, shame about the cover. although fairly obvious that only a limited few had been able to grab an earful of the album (prior to the Barrowlands gig) the new material came across very well..... since I've had the opportunity to review the record at length, the songs improve with familiarity....."

From Jameil Hill (Membership No 003321)
"Jameil's local paper (he doesn't give the name of it but he lives in Notts) said of 'Buffalo Skinkers':-

Anyone who hasn't seen this band live should do so immediately! As for the new album, there's plenty to enjoy without ever reaching the heights of the 'P.I.O.T.' LP. Seven out of ten.

From Neel Gandhi (Membership No 000234)

"..... whilst on my year of travelling after graduation at the moment and have just returned from India after four months of back-packing around. So I missed the band on their mini tour and I missed the interview on Radio 1 last Sunday. Would be great to know the gist of that interview." (Can anyone help Neel with a copy?) "As you can see from the enclosed photo, while I was in Goa I spotted a poster. You can imagine the thoughts running through my head when I saw it - especially as I knew there was a new album on the way and an extensive tour. I thought perhaps the band may have taken the opportunity to go to India where they're not really known to do some gigs to prepare for their up and coming tour!!! My sheer joy in thinking this lasted until I went to buy a ticket and was informed that the band were, in fact, a local Goa band and not the Scottish band! Something came up anyway and I didn't even get to see them in the end so I can't even inform you what they're like."



Ralf Kirschnik (Membership No 001828)
Ralf was recently in the States and found the location for the next Big Country Convention:-



Graham Goodall (Membership No 001511)
Graham sent the below newspaper advert. Memorabilia for sale???



Jill Bunch (Membership No 003689)
23801 Marshall, Dearborn, MI 48124-1434, U.S.A.
Jill writes, "... member asked about getting tapes as he's finding it difficult to find them in the US. His name is Sam Russo (003660). As I have all but "Buffalo Skinkers" which I will get in a few weeks when I'm in England, I might be able to help him find some B.C. tapes here. There are a few good resale shops here where I've even managed to pick up a copy of the double album "King Biscuit Flower Hour" for \$20 (about £13.00). Also, because I live on the Canadian border, I've been able to get a number of extended version albums from record shops in Toronto. Maybe you could pass on to him my address?"

PEN PALS

Just write in to me giving your name, address, membership number and brief details of yourself and your hobbies and I will add your details to the list in the next issue.

If anyone wishes me to re-print their name on the pen-pal list, you have only to ask.

Melanie Dent (Membership No 003717)
UK

Year of birth 1975

Melanie is particularly looking for pen-pals from the Isle of Wight and the Channel Islands. She likes reading, writing, listening to music, films and going out with her friends. Melanie also has a remote interest in Formula 1 racing and Premier League football.

Daniel Low (Membership No 003596)
Canada

Year of birth 1969

Hobbies:- travel, camping, reading, baseball and hockey.
Musical interests:- Northern Pikes, Runrig, Tragically Hip and Sex Pistols to name but a few.

He would like to hear from anyone - all letters will be answered.

Barber Siersema (Membership No 003679)
Holland

Year of birth 1974

Musical interests: Fatal Flowers, New Order, The Jesus And Mary Chain and a whole lot more.

Angelika Pietig (Membership No 003580)

Year of birth 1970

Besides B.C. she likes Kate Bush, Billy Bragg, Skids and Runrig. Hobbies include reading, languages and music.

Leigh Dalgleish (Membership No 003397)
Scotland

Year of birth 1971

Wants to write to female B.C. fans. He says it's impossible to find a female B.C. fan - prove him wrong.



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Plonkers, P O Box 59, Ashwell, Herts, SG7 5NT

A SMALL REQUEST FROM ME - JAN.

I've got to admit it - sorry! We have no Skids music at all here in our office. Can anyone let us have a spare, or tape it for us? This would be most appreciated.

NOTICE BOARD

From **Peter Hornberg** (Membership No 000046)

Peter wrote to tell us that the German concert from Munich on 15th March will be broadcast on WDR Germany on 9th June from 17.15hrs to 18.00hrs.

From **Kevin Jones** (Membership No 000223)

Kevin wrote to Virgin 1215, prior to its launch, requesting B.C. be put on their play-list and he thinks you all ought to write with the same request:-

Virgin Radio
No 1 Golden Square
London W1R 4DJ

It certainly can't do any harm although Virgin do seem to be giving some air-time to Big Country. Long may it last!

From **Melanie Dent** (Membership No 003717)

WANTED:- spare photos of the band from the gig at T & C on 18th March. "It was a brilliant night and my first (of hopefully many) Big Country gigs. I was right in the front wearing my *Alone T/Sh* and *Stuart* touched my hand. I could have kicked myself for not having my camera with me."

From **Irene Masterson** (Membership No 003605)

I'm not sure whether this ought to go to press but, what the hell:- Irene has a good collection of bootlegs and was wondering if anyone would be interested in swapping some shows.

From **Cameron Davis**

, USA

"Do you know how I can get a recording of 'Restless Natives'? I've been trying for years!

As you will all be aware, American fans have had great difficulty getting B.C. releases 'cos, certainly recent releases, have not seen the light of day over there so I'm sure someone in the UK can help out here.

From **Liam Davey** (Membership No 001593)

, UK

WANTED:- The Big Country box set of 12 singles.

From **Tim Jones**

, Wales.

FOR SALE:- "Wonderland" six track Canadian 12" mini LP, mint condition "Fields Of Fire" advance copy 12" white label, three tracks with '1' and '2' on the labels - white sleeve with orange/black promo sticker.
Send cheque or Postal Order for £12.00

(including UK postage) to Tim Jones at the above address.

From **Kristin Crouch** (Membership No 003238)

, Scotland.

WANTED:- A copy of "The Seer Live in New York" for American or British systems.

Restless Natives soundtrack
Also desperately seeking copies of the hard-to-find "B" sides.

From **Adrian Vogler** (Membership No 001712)

, Germany.

Adrian says, "Because I'm a CompuServe-network user, I would like to get in contact with other B.C. fans who are members of CompuServe, too. I am especially interested to make up what I call a Scottish Connection. Every Big Country fan who uses CompuServe can reach me under my CompuServe Id 100112.3206 so that we can get together on line."

From **Chris Raaths** (Membership No 003682)

, USA

Chris wrote to say there is a good bunch of B.C. 12" imports at a record joint near him. There are also gatefold editions of "Stetstown" and "P.I.O.T." plus a couple of 12" clear vinyl copies of "Wonderland".

He asked that I let you know of his findings so he can help fans increase their record collection.

LOOKING FOR:- VHS vids of live performances.
Live material on tape (any format) such as the 83/84 concert.

From **Neil Campbell** (Membership No 003049)

LOOKING FOR:- 12" "Chance"

From **Oliver Schlegel** (Membership No 003386)

Niederanker Str 34, W 4044 Kaarst 1, Germany.

WANTED:- 7" "Harvest Home", 12" "Beautiful People", CD "Heart Of The World" and "Restless Natives" soundtrack.
ON OFFER FOR SALE OR SWAP:- "Fields Of Fire" Picture shaped disc £15.00

"One Great Thing" 12" album and discography £10.00
12" "Beautiful People" picture disc £10.00

12" "Chance" £8.00
12" "In A Big Country" £8.00
12" "Broken Heart" Russian with free poster No. 2995, BIGCR 612 £12.00
12" "Chance" £18.00
12" "Harvest Home" £10.00
12" "East Of Eden" £7.00

7" "Peace In Our Time" with postcards £5.00

CD single "Peace In Our Time" picture disc £3.00

CD single "Broken Heart" picture disc £3.00

CD single "Broken Heart" includes "Made In Heaven" £4.00
Slids - "Days In Europe" (original) £5.00

From **Jessica Law** (Membership No 001502)

, UK

WANTED:- CD single "Broken Heart"

From **Dominic Williams** (Membership No 000325)

, UK

WANTED:- "The Seer Live In New York" video.

From **Olaf Warwel** (Membership No 003296)

, Germany

WANTED:- Dutch "River Of Hope" 7" Cassette single "One Great Thing"

7" "Harvest Home" (Count 1) paper label

7" "In A Big Country" Japanese - different sleeve (7PP-111)

7" "Wonderland" (Count 5) White sleeve, silver label

2 x 7" "Wonderland" (Count 55) Double single gatefold

7" "East Of Eden" (MER 175) White sleeve, silver label

7" "East Of Eden" (MER 175) Paper label

7" "The Teacher" (BIGC 2) Silver label

7" "One Great Thing" (BIGC 3) Silver label

7" "Peace In Our Time" (BIGC 7)

7" "Beautiful People" (BIC 2) Silver label

7" "Close Action" Country Club flexi disc.

12" "Harvest Home" (COUNT 12)

12" "Fields Of Fire" (COUNT 212)

12" "Where The Rose Is Sown" (ext version) (MERX 185)

12" "Just A Shadow" (BCO 812)

12" "One Great Thing" (Boston mix) (BIGCX 33) Gatefold sleeve, almanac and discog.

2 x 12" "Fold The Heart" (BIGCX 44) Gatefold sleeve double single

To be continued in the next issue!

From **Markus Herbst** (Membership No 003686)

, Germany

WANTED:- 7" 12" or CD of "The Teacher" and "Heart Of The World"

From **Chris Raaths** (Membership No 003682)

, U.S.A.

WANTED:- ANY old sheet music. (That's sounds a bit off, doesn't it? Not intentional!)