

**THROUGH A
BIG
COUNTRY**

1990

issue 18

Big Country exist simply to communicate, to make music that should be shared and embraced by group and fans alike, and to endow it with a lyrical substance that can inspire thought, appraisal and reappraisal.

reprinted from STEELTOWN COLOUR BOOK – 1984

TRUE THEN – TRUE TODAY

Published for COUNTRY CLUB by:

Andrew and Jan Bremner "Under-Cover" P.O. Box 59, Ashwell SG7 5NG



BIG COUNTRY 1990

THROUGH A BIG COUNTRY

Tuesday, May 15th
FIFE: St. Andrew's Hall

Wednesday, May 16th
Dumfries: Loreburn Hall

Thursday, May 17th
ABERDEEN: Capitol

Friday, May 18th
INVERNESS: Bowling Pavilion

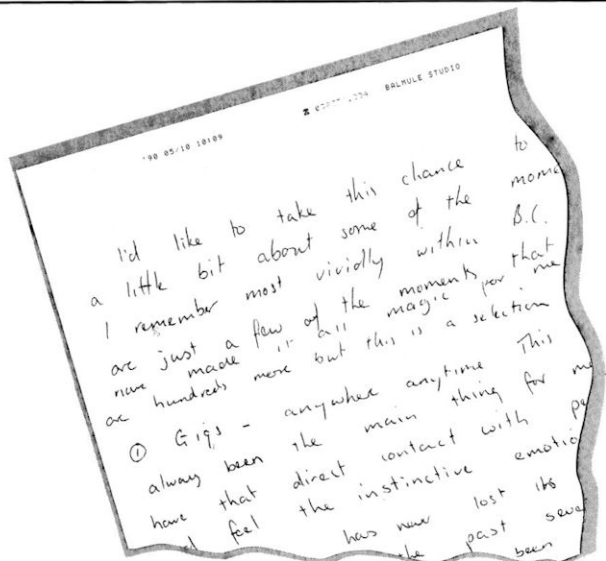
Sunday, May 20th
GLASGOW: Borrowlands

Monday, May 21st
NEWCASTLE: City Hall

Tuesday, May 22nd
BIRMINGHAM: Hummingbird

Wednesday, May 23rd
HAMMERSMITH: Odeon

Thursday, May 24th
HAMMERSMITH: Odeon



Stuart personally faxed this letter to us from his home in Scotland just before we went to print but as the quality was poor, we decided to print it in full as well.

"I'd like to take this chance to write a little bit about some of the moments I remember most vividly within B.C. These are just a few of the moments that have made it all magic for me. There are hundreds more but this is a selection.

1) Gigs - anywhere, anytime. This has always been the main thing for me. To have that direct contact with people and to feel the instinctive emotional pull of music has never lost its strength. I think in the past seven or eight years, there have only been five shows that I haven't enjoyed. That's a tribute to people who come to see us as much as to the band.

2) First demos - the first time Bruce and I played with Tony and Mark and knew that the songs and ideas we had would come to fruition. We met at the Polygram Studios in the West of London and recorded three tracks with no rehearsals and they just worked.

3) In a Big Country demo - we had recorded the music during the day and I had an idea for a vocal melody. I was staying with Les King and I'm sure I

kept him up all night getting the words the way I wanted them. I knew just singing along to the back track in his living room that the song was a bit special.

4) The Seer – I had long been a fan of Kate Bush and suggested to Robin Millar that her vocal style would be great on the track. She heard a rough version of the song and liked it and came along to the studio with a whole vocal arrangement. To sit beside her and listen to her sing was very, very moving.

5) Moscow, Berlin and Tallinn:- For me, personally, it was an ambition fulfilled to go and play in the East. The songs from "Peace In Our Time" were particularly poignant there, especially after talking to people in the streets. It has been a great wonder for me to see the East open up and these intensely passionate people given some hope of self-determination.

6) Tim Palmer – sometimes coincidence looks a bit too much like a game plan. After having worked with a very dogmatic (i.e. "my way or no way") producer, it was brilliant to work with Tim who is a great enthusiast and a real music fan. This attitude is very similar to ours inasmuch as he makes records for the love of it and that is always a very inspiring atmosphere to work in. Tim also does a mean line in Skids' covers but that's another story.

Cheers, Stuart.



SHORT NOTE FROM IAN GRANT, MANAGER:

This Issue No. 18 is to suffice both programme and Country Club magazine purposes for existing members. It is well overdue and ALL members will receive their copy by post.

Andrew and Jan Bremner of "Under-Cover" are now handling the Club administration and regular magazines will be issued on time. There is no point dwelling on matters of the 80's. More to the point, let's get up to date.

Mark Brzezicki departed last July to pursue other avenues. He is currently on tour with Simon Townsend (Pete's brother) in America but has worked mostly with Fish since. Pat Ahern is Big Country's new man with the sticks and made his first live appearance with the Band in Dunfermline on 1st May for Rock Steady, broadcast live on Channel 4. For those who were not amongst the 350 audience and for those who missed the broadcast, the Band played for nearly two hours, having only had four days' rehearsal. The somewhat daunting challenge was accepted and Pat proved an exciting addition to the Band's music. It will be strange without Mark, but Pat has slotted in nicely.

The Band have been very busy recently. In February, several songs were demo-ed, resulting in "SAVE ME" and "HEART OF THE WORLD", plus a couple of other "crackers"!

Tim Palmer produced the two songs at the Livingstone Studios in North London, "SAVE ME" being released 30th April and "HEART OF THE WORLD" which will be released at the beginning of June 1990.

Everyone is well pleased with the results and the Band will resume with Tim in August.

Next, the Band were back into the demo studio to 'put down' further songs for their fifth studio album. The making of the "SAVE ME" video followed, produced by Howard Greenbalgh, and is most definitely the BEST YET!

Talking of videos, Channel 5 are releasing a 14 track cassette of all previous Big Country promotion videos. This coincides with the release of a "GREATEST HITS" album entitled "THROUGH A BIG COUNTRY": all formats will be in the shops on 14th May 1990.

Big Country have one extra, live date, on 3rd June, in Glasgow, as part of the "Glasgow Big Day" celebrations and then it's back to the demo studio and commencement of recording of the next album in August.

Welcome back



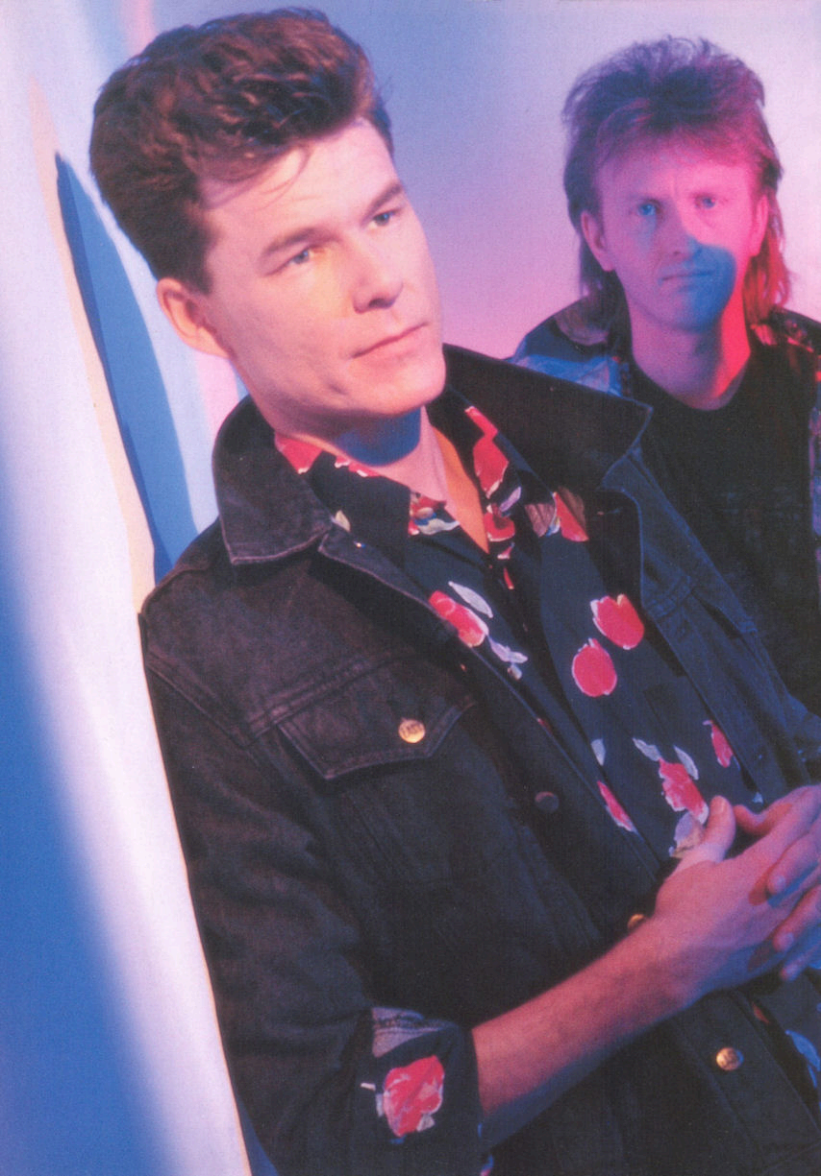
COUNTRY CLUB

As Ian Grant has mentioned, this is really a mixture of a fanzine and a programme for the "Through A Big Country" Tour.

The amount of correspondence that we have in front of us is quite staggering and there is just too much to put in this particular magazine in the way of competitions and past winners, pen-pals, casual photos of the band relaxing, poems and reviews sent in by members, drawings, swaps – oh, the list goes on and on, which is exactly why the Country Club magazine has been such a success in the past.

We will start preparing our next issue just as soon as this Tour is over and we will try to offer a really excellent cross-section of material. We all know just how busy the Band are going to be but we are determined to bully each of them for their particular input. We are also going to do our best to get plenty of new promo material for our merchandising list. Speaking of that, members will shortly be receiving our new "Club Shop" which will contain some really interesting items.

*So, until the next issue, **stay alive.***





QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Q If you were an animal, what would you be and why?

Stuart: A dog, for those groovy eyes.

Bruce: A dolphin, so that I can swim with other dolphins.

Tony: A tropical fish-- you get to swim around in nice warm water in someone's nice front room.

Pat: A dolphin - I like seafood and swimming.

Q Are you afraid of anything? If so, what?

Stuart: Being locked up for something I didn't do.

Bruce: Being found out.

Tony: Fanaticism, especially of the religious kind.

Pat: Unstable people in positions of power.

Q What is your idea of perfect happiness?

Stuart: Time with people I love.

Bruce: Haven't had that one yet, probably a rich unicycling nymphomaniac with a passion for the heavy metal life-style.

Tony: Eternal rest.

Pat: Living out the reality of my dreams.

Q What is your greatest regret?

Stuart: Hurting people I love.

Bruce: None.

Tony: Not learning how to play golf at an earlier age.

Pat: Regrets, I've had a few but, then again, too few to mention.

Q What or who is the greatest love of your life?

Stuart: My wife and family.

Bruce: Wife, sons, 1952 Les Paul Standard, 1960 Fender Stratocaster, 1948 Sputnik 5 speed unicycles.

Tony: Jackie, Joey, Alex and Jake.

Pat: My daughter, Lucy.

Q What is the trait you most deplore in yourself?

Stuart: Procrastination.

Bruce: Resentment.

Tony: My inability to be reasonable.

Pat: Paranoia.

Q What is the trait you most deplore in others?

Stuart: Intolerance.

Bruce: They think I'm mad.

Tony: Their ability to be unreasonable.

Pat: Violence.

Q What objects do you always carry with you?

Stuart: Nothing.

Bruce: Cigarettes and an unicycle repair kit.

Tony: Raybans.

Pat: French/English dictionary.

Q What makes you most depressed?

Stuart: Injustice.

Bruce: Reading about child abuse in the papers and tax bills.

Tony: Arms dealers and child abusers.

Pat: Cruelty.

Q What do you most dislike about your appearance?

Stuart: Spots.

Bruce: Nose and penis - both completely out of proportion with the rest of my body.

Tony: Nothing, I like the way I look.

Pat: The occasional spot.

Q Who are your favourite musicians/composers?

Stuart: Leonard Cohen, Kate Bush, Bill Nelson.

Bruce: Neil Young, Lou Reed, Howling Wolf, The Allman Brothers, George Harrison.

Tony: Jimi Hendrix, Pete Townshend, John Lennon, Bob Marley.

Pat: 10CC.

Q What is your favourite building?

Stuart: East End Park, Dunfermline.

Bruce: St. Pancras Station and St. James Club, Hollywood.

Tony: The huge cathedral in Milan.

Pat: The Willy Wonker Chocolate Factory.

Q What is your favourite journey?

Stuart: Along the Great Glen.

Bruce: Nowhere to anywhere.

Tony: The journey home after a tour.

Pat: The shortest.

Q On what occasions do you lie?

Stuart: When the truth would harm others.

Bruce: Press and Promotion, Radio, T.V., Questionnaires.

Tony: When I have to talk about politics, i.e. "No, I didn't vote at the last election".

Pat: When it's easier.

Q Which words or phrases do you most over-use?

Stuart: I swear far too often.

Bruce: 'Honest guv, it went off in my hand' and 'Sorry, missus, I didn't know it was loaded'.

Tony: Have a nice day.

Pat: Nice.

Q What single thing would improve the quality of your life?

Stuart: An honest Government.

Bruce: An exact full scale replica of the Flying Scotsman made out of solid gold.

Tony: A decent living wage.

Pat: A faster double bass drum technique.

Q Which talent would you most like to have?

Stuart: Kevin Schwantz's motorcycling skill.

Bruce: I would like to learn how to ride a unicycle.

Tony: Horse riding.

Pat: Skateboarding.

Q What would your motto be?

Stuart: Onwards.

Bruce: Here to-day, gone to-day.

Tony: I was born to love.

Pat: Always finish what you ...

Q How would you like to be remembered?

Stuart: As someone who knew his own truth.

Bruce: As the man who unicycled his way to the top of the charts with hits such as 'Saddle Up And Ride Your Unicycle', 'Dark Side Of The Unicycle' and 'Tales of Topographic Unicycles'.

Tony: For the colour of my character.

Pat: With my name spelt correctly.

Q What keeps you awake at night?

Stuart: Everything.

Bruce: I don't sleep - sleep is for wimps.

Tony: My wife ... if she phones.

Pat: Nothing.

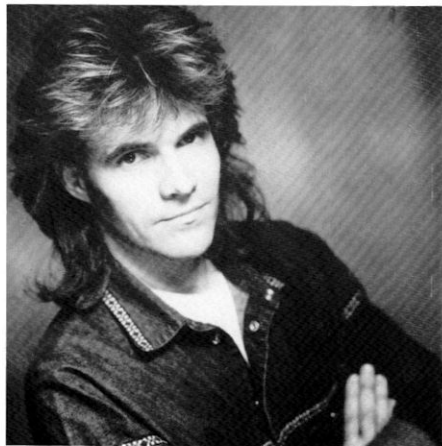
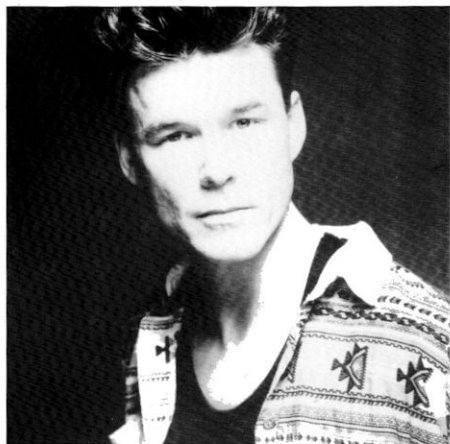
Q What is your present state of mind?

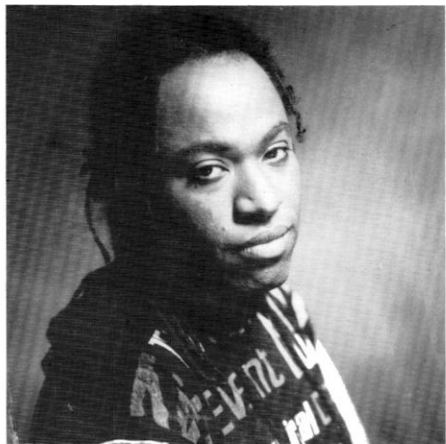
Stuart: At peace with myself.

Bruce: Confused.

Tony: Ask my analyst.

Pat: Stable.





THROUGH A **BIG** COUNTRY GREATEST HITS

ALBUM

Release date: 14th May 1990
by Phonogram/Mercury

Vinyl 846 022-1
Cassette 846 022-4
C.D. 846 022-2

FEATURING:

Side One

SAVE ME
IN A BIG COUNTRY
FIELDS OF FIRE
CHANCE
WONDERLAND
WHERE THE ROSE IS SOWN
JUST A SHADOW

Side Two

LOOK AWAY
KING OF EMOTION
EAST OF EDEN
ONE GREAT THING
THE TEACHER
BROKEN HEART
(THIRTEEN VALLEYS)
PEACE IN OUR TIME

Additional musicians: Pat Ahern Maxi Anderson Christine Beveridge
Merry Clayton Donna Davidson Ina Wolf and Peter Wolf

12" SINGLE BIGC 812

SIDE ONE: SAVE ME
SIDE TWO: PASS ME BY : DEAD ON ARRIVAL

7" SINGLE BIGC 8

SIDE ONE: SAVE ME
SIDE TWO: PASS ME BY

ALSO AVAILABLE ON: CASSINGLE BIGMC 8 / C.D. BIGCD 8 / 12" GATEFOLD AND BOOKLET BIGCX 812

"THROUGH A BIG COUNTRY"

MAY 1990

TOUR PERSONNEL

THE BAND

Stuart Adamson Guitar and vocals
Tony Butler Bass and vocals
Bruce Watson Guitar and mandolin
Pat Ahern Drums

Ian Grant Manager
Henry McGrogan Tour Manager

Bob Lopez Monitors/Crew Manager
Beetmal Troy Bass and Drum Technician
Alan Short Guitar and Rack Technician
Robin Walker Guitar Technician
Billy Worton Sound Engineer
Ian Newton Sound Technician
Ian "Chip" Calder Lighting Director
Firman Moriarty Lighting Technician
Louisa Parkinson Caterer
Lyane Duckett Caterer
Rod Whitby Truck Driver
Les Mars Crew Bus Driver
Steve Hillier Merchandiser
Stuart Hurd Merchandiser

TOUR COMPANIES

Lights Chameleon
Sound Roadstar
Trucking Transam
Bus company Berryhurst/Bandwagon
Catering Flying Saucers
Travel Agent Acton - Berkeley Travel Ltd.
Merchandisers Winterland

Management Ian Grant Management
Management Assistant Lynda Fletcher
Agent/promoter Solo
Record Company Phonogram Ltd.
Publishers 10 Music Ltd.
Accountant Melvyn Singer
Lawyer David Gentle

FAN CLUB

Country Club P. O. Box 59,
Ashwell, Herts SG7 5NG

BIG COUNTRY

