

**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**

**EXTENDED due
to POPULAR
DEMAND**

Sunday, July 29th

DE PANNE: Belgium,
Beach Festival

Friday, August 3rd

TIPPERARY:
Thurles Festival

Saturday, August 4th

MANCHESTER:
International 2

Sunday, August 5th

CARDIFF:
St. David's Hall

Tuesday, August 7th

DONCASTER: Dome

Wednesday, August 8th

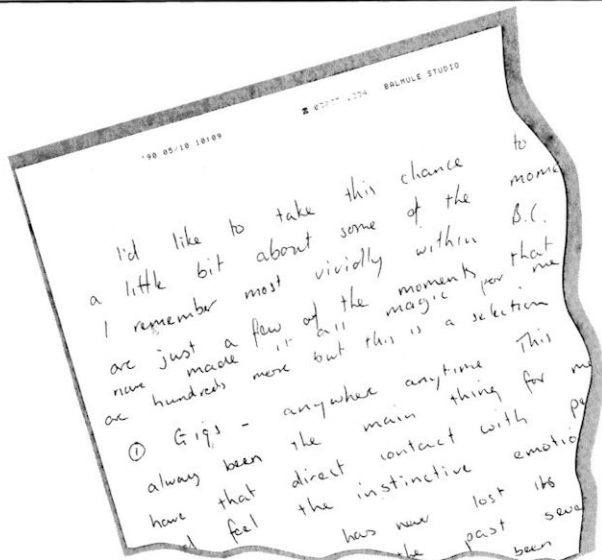
CAMBRIDGE:
Corn Exchange

Friday, August 10th

LONDON: Town
and Country Club

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.



A SHORT NOTE FROM H.Q.

This programme is essentially an up-date of Country Club Magazine Issue 18 and has been reprinted for the extra four days, arranged due to popular demand. That issue served as a programme/fanzine combined, on the May tour dates. This is not Issue 19 – that will follow in September. Country Club had been on the rocks for the last eighteen months, to say the least, but, with Andrew and Jan Bremner now at the helm, it is functioning better than ever. The increase in membership since they took over has been tremendous. Letters have been coming in at the rate of hundreds per week, ever since the release of "Save Me" and the compilation album, "Through A Big Country" which, as you will know, has done tremendously well. It debuted at Number 2 and has been in the Top 20 ever since. Sales are approaching Platinum (300,000). Unfortunately, the singles "Save Me" and "Heart Of The World" have not been the same story. The Band has been on every TV programme around – "Cannon and Ball", "Rock Steady", "Chart Show", "The Big Day", "Ghost Train" and "The Garden Party" just to name a few. But, dear old Radio 1 has decided Big Country are obviously not suitable for their particular format any longer. Without Radio 1 support, it is difficult to have a successful single, even with TV and Press exposure. Hopefully, this situation will alter before the next album is released. It certainly puts a large question mark over the validity of releasing singles, when balanced against the cost of recording them and making the obligatory video.

Listen out for "Rock The Class". The Band is involved and it's linked to Radio 1. It basically involves 6,500 schools in Britain. Because of the Radio 1 tie-up, perhaps matters will change on exposure. So, watch out for the campaign that commences in September.

Apart from the Radio 1 problem, all things have been bright and beautiful in the Big Country camp recently. The May tour was one of the best. The Band was in tremendous form and new drummer Pat Ahern slotted in immediately, totally accepted by all. The audience on every date was remarkable; tonight will be no exception, I'm sure. The TV appearances were all fun to do and the Band came over well. The videos were both excellent, probably the best the Band has made, and playing with Tina Turner in Switzerland and Van Morrison in Belgium were successful ventures to two overseas festivals.

The Band have been demoing new material throughout July, only interrupted by "Ghost Train", The Radio 1 Roadshow, a jaunt on Lake Windermere for BBC TV and the Prince(less) Trust at Wembley Arena. They will continue demoing after these dates and then commence their fifth studio album in September for release in early 1991.

It's all go, go, go for BIG COUNTRY.



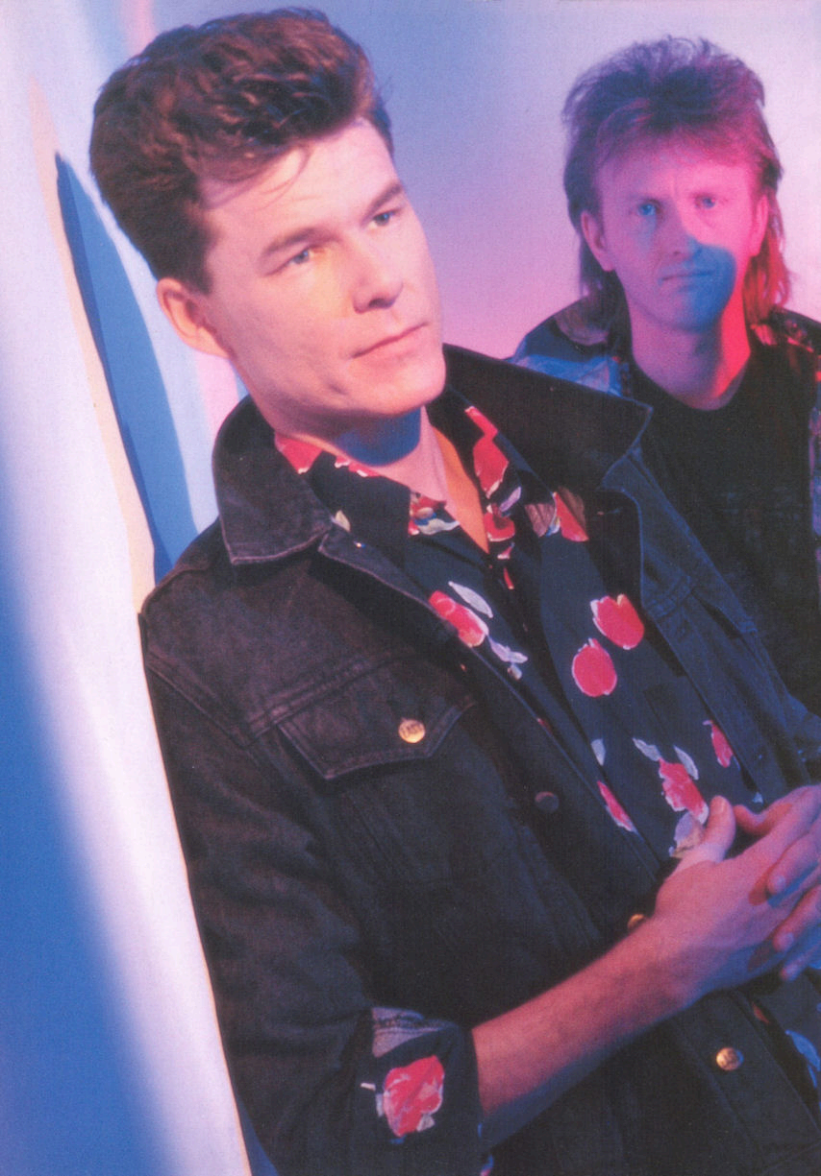
COUNTRY CLUB

As mentioned opposite, this is really a mixture of a fanzine and a programme for the "Through A Big Country" Tour, prepared by Country Club.

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 is 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.

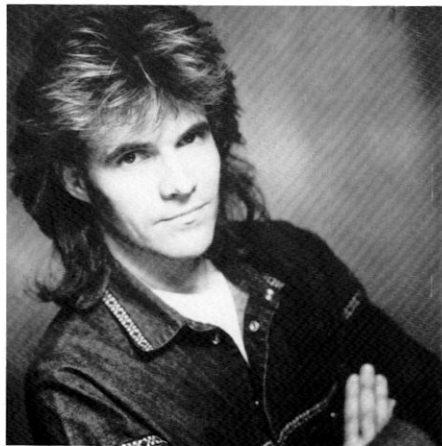
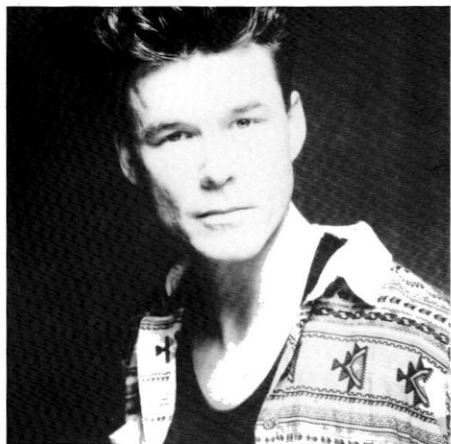
Q What is your present state of mind?

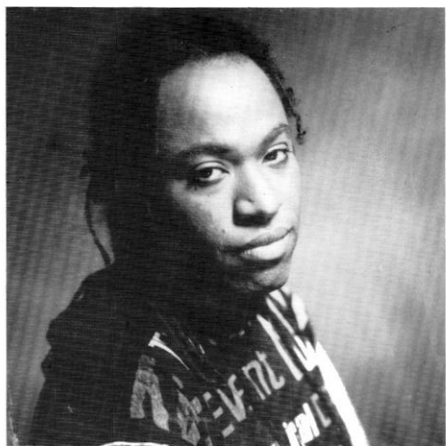
Stuart: At peace with myself.

Bruce: Confused.

Tony: Ask my analyst.

Pat: Stable.





THROUGH A **BIG** COUNTRY GREATEST HITS

ALBUM

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

THE DOUBLE GOLD ALBUM

**STILL IN THE TOP TWENTY
AFTER 10 WEEKS!**

"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
Lynae 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

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BIG COUNTRY

