



HEEPSTERS  
MAILING LIST

# URIAH HEEP Carolina Heepsters Association



HEEPSTERS  
ON THE WEB

VOL. II • ISSUE I

"THE SHADOWS & THE WIND"

JANUARY, 2002

## HEEP & HENSLEY TOGETHER AGAIN

*Contributed by: Mac Steagall*

On December 7th, 2001, Ken Hensley once again shared a stage with Uriah Heep, the band from which he walked away over two decades ago. Although Ken indicated at Heepvention 2000 that he had attempted to make amends with his former bandmates, there have been rumors of lingering animosity. This popular belief made the announcement of Hensley making a guest appearance with Heep at the Magician's Birthday Party extremely surprising. Some speculated Heep would just merely tolerate Hensley's presence on stage for the fans' benefit during this once in a lifetime event. The event was advertised as a chance for Ken to say goodbye to the fans from the stage, something that had been impossible in 1980 due to the circumstances of his departure from the band. During the week before the gig, Ken and Lee Kerslake were seen chatting and even hugging. This sight until recently, would have been just as stunning as a Bigfoot sighting. Are Uriah Heep and Ken Hensley back on friendly terms? That remains to be seen. In the meantime, someone call the National Enquirer. I've got photos!



Lee Kerslake (background) and Ken Hensley after a short hug and small talk during a break at the Uriah Heep Festival Events on December 7, 2001



### Dave's Teasers

**Contributed by: Dave White**

- Look for the next studio release to have a cameo from a very un-expected guest ;-)
- Plan for the next US tour to visit a very well known venue...from the past.
- Wait till you see what \_\_\_\_\_ has coming out.
- Rumor Rumor.....remember "Battle of the Bands".
- Can we pick and choose our next "Single" release from Uriah Heep?
- A birdie tells me that the 2nd 1/2 of 2002 will be as different from the 2nd 1/2 of 2001 as it could be...
- Leave September open...

### A DREAM COME TRUE

**Contributed by: Rod Werneck /www.ken-hensley.com**

If I ever had a kind of biggest dream that I would really love to become reality, then it doesn't exist anymore. After spending half a day inside an airplane between Rio de Janeiro and London, I can say that it was nothing considering that The Magician's Birthday Party event included a moment that I will treasure for all my life: Uriah Heep performing "Paradise / The Spell", including Ken Hensley's slide guitar solo at the end! This has to be my favorite musical moment ever! Not to mention "July Morning" with both Mick Box's wah-wah guitar and Ken's Hammond B3..... this is what it's all about! Together with the other related concerts happening on the same weekend, and being able to meet old and new friends from all corners of the world, this whole event was something so special that I won't forget easily!





## *In Memory of Jim Hughes*

### *1955 -2001*

Jim Hughes - Jim was one of those guys you could sit and talk to. We were fortunate to become friends with Jim in the summer of 2001. I asked Jim what he like to do when he wasn't tuning guitars. He told me he liked to read. And, at that time he was reading the Harry Potter books because those books were "easy reading." Jim was a deep thinker and read books such as the rise and fall of some extinct empire. We sat in the shade of a tree in Sioux City. His eyes glistened and a gentle breeze tossed his short gray hair as he explained the details of how his house overlooked the water and how he was looking forward to remodeling. He asked me if I knew that his hair had been long, down his back, before he became sick. Jim said "You wouldn't believe that I was big." Jim, my heart weeps for you and you'll never know how much you will be missed. Here's a hug coming your way...

Bobbie Hinson

Jim Hughes was a member of Uriah Heep. Maybe he didn't perform on stage with the guys, but he lived through the ups and downs, the good and the bad, just as much. Jim exhibited the professionalism and friendliness which are Heep hallmarks. One of the highlights of the 2001 tour was Jim's friendship. Jim's smiling face and his bear hug always welcomed me and Bobbie to the next gig location. Some special memories include: Jim and Charlie working together to get the sound just right; Mick getting Jim to help finish off yet another pitcher of beer before we could go back to the hotel; Jim escorting an overzealous female off stage in Scranton, when she got up to dance in front of Mick; Jim's special effort in making sure we knew where the after gig party was in Henderson, NV; Jim handing the guitars and picks to Mick; and last, the hug in LA. Jim, I will miss you and always keep you near to my heart.

Lannis Ethridge

## *New Lyrics to the Magician's Birthday Party*

Contributed by: Bob Winward

In the Shepherd's Bush,  
Most were drinking, Mike Taylor was dancin', while the  
spotlight on Heep shined brightly overhead

Our Heep stars so gaily glistened,  
as Pip Williams in silence listened,  
the members tell of amends that they have said

Let the bells of Heepdom ring,  
Tales of Hope were sung by Ken

We all went to the Magicians Birthday  
Over in London, but not so far away  
much to drink and much to say  
while we listened to the Heepen Orchestra Play

Then at the stroke of Midnight  
as the bg girls in outfits so tight  
made us get hot and seemed to fan the flame.  
The band roared on, the music was not jaded  
filled with baited breath we waited  
as we knew great music is why we came.

I challenge you, I challenge you all  
to name a greater band then Heep  
and by all the powers of the amps I will hear what is fine!

Admit All Heep is Good Heep now or face my spite  
I grant you, it was Friday night  
But did you know this day also numbered Ken and John

First they gave us Return to Fantasy  
then they slipped into Universal Wheels  
however they did not give us dreammare  
but for our honor created a magic dream

Ken and Lee did not fight & buried the sword of hate  
And one thing we could plainly see, the answer is  
an impenetrable future of all Heep is good heep.....

The band went as quickly as they came  
The air was magic, we knew the heepfire burned again  
the guitars seared, the organ played  
John and Bernie sang to greet the fans

And then we knew that all, all heep is good, good heep...  
all heep is good heep..... La, la, lala.....





Stephen Fontaine

## ***Catching Up With Former Heep Vocalist Stephen Fontaine***

***Contributed by: Kevin Julie / Universal Wheels***

One time Heep lead singer Stephen Fontaine returned to recording in 2000 fronting a band called 'Heartache City'. Indeed the band was named after the Heep song from "Equator" - which Fontaine loved [in fact he cites "Head First" as the first Heep album he ever bought!]. Anyway, HC saw him team up with Orange County based guitarist Ron Sachs, after they met at a gig where Fontaine was fronting his ill fated "Nightmare Carnival" act. Heartache City features a number of Ron Sachs penned tunes, as well as a few from Fontaine's past re-hashed [things demoed with past bands like Ringleader and Dirty World]. The album is a solid Metal album, boasting a few killer tracks like "If I Could Fall In Love Again", the power ballad "It Won't Be Long", "Some Gotta Win" [from Ringleader], a cover of "Respect", and most notably the powerful "Last Chance". Sachs throws in a few unique musical interludes such as "Intrigue" which piece the tunes together nicely. Fontaine sounds strong, but this is more of a metal album, very guitar heavy, where I think Fontaine sounds strained at times to be heard in the mix. The album also suffers a bit from a 'booming' mix, reminiscent of Heep's "Equator" outcome. However, it is a decent album worth checking out to hear Steve Fontaine.

Following one live gig with HC Steve up and left the band, and soon after began working with LA guitarist Iain Ashley Hersey. In September 'Fallen Angel' did one show in Hollywood, but that project too is at a standstill with Hersey announcing future work with another singer. Fontaine, who's best known for his work with 'Joshua', as well as a short lived stint in Driver, Heep, and the Eddie St James Project is also currently trying to track down his past recordings and items, hopefully for a web site and collection of privately released tunes. Since the late 70s Steve did a lot of albums and demos, much of which is obscure and/or unreleased. "I've done so much stuff.....I'm like a musical whore - if people paid me, I sang!" laughs Fontaine.



<http://go.to/universalwheels.com>



## ***Advance Orders For Running Blind Shipped***

The advance orders for Ken Hensley's "Running Blind" were sent out the week of December 18, 2001. The booklet and the video will be sent on a later date. The international release date is scheduled for February 11, 2002. For all the latest information visit: [www.ken-hensley.com](http://www.ken-hensley.com)



## ***The Heepsters Mailing List***

***Contributed by: Mac Steagall***

The Heepsters Mailing List, an internet forwarding service, is now beginning it's sixth year of operation. The Heeplist has allowed fans to discuss Uriah Heep and a wide range of additional subjects since October 1996. While E-Heep fills an important niche for Heep fans by providing specific Heep news in a weekly email, the Heeplist serves an entirely different function by being a place for Heepsters to get to know each other. Since the list isn't restricted to only Heep related posts, it is more of a conversational list for Heepsters to discuss a wide range of non-Heep topics.

Due to the loose format of the Heeplist, the email volume can often be very heavy. You should plan on receiving from 20 to over 100 emails per day. If you aren't looking for this kind of commitment, I recommend E-Heep. In fact, I highly recommend E-Heep to ALL Heep fans!

If you'd like to join the Heepsters Mailing List, email me at: [rsteagall@carolina.net](mailto:rsteagall@carolina.net)

