

THE OFFICIAL
URIAH HEEP
APPRECIATION SOCIETY



♪ We Wish You a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! ♪

Drawing by Steve Whitworth

ISSUE 10

THE OFFICIAL

**URIAH
HEEP**

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URIAH HEEP'S OFFICIAL WORLD WIDE FAN CLUB -- ADMINISTERED BY DAVID OWEN & ALAN HARTLEY

Hi again and welcome to issue 10,

As we go to press Heep are in the middle of their tour of Canada and the USA together with Wishbone Ash, Blue Oyster Cult and Nazareth as we reported in the last issue. Many of our members in North America have used the concert dates service of the society to obtain the dates when they were confirmed but for the rest of the members the schedule is listed below.

- 5th Nov, Comodoor Ballroom, Vancouver B.C. Canada.
- 6th Nov, Comodoor Ballroom, Vancouver B.C. Canada.
- 7th Nov, Riverside Coliseum, Kamloops B.C. Canada.
- 9th Nov, Max Bell Centre, Calgary AB. Canada.
- 10th Nov, Convention Centre, Edmonton AB. Canada.
- 11th Nov, Titan Place, Saskatoon SASK. Canada.
- 12th Nov, Convention Centre, Winnipeg MAN. Canada.
- 13th Nov, Target Centre, Minneapolis MN. USA.
- 14th Nov, Mamorial Hall, Kansas City KS. USA
- 16th Nov, Convention Centre, Stevens Point WI. USA.
- 17th Nov, Piere's, Fort Wayne ID. USA.
- 18th Nov, Pllanwood House, Buffalo, N.Y. USA.
- 19th Nov, RPM Warehouse, Toronto ONT. Canada.
- 20th Nov, Lulu's, Kitchener ONT. Canada.
- 22nd Nov, Battelle Hall, Columbus OH. USA.
- 24th Nov, Boomers, Martinsburg W.V. USA.
- 26th Nov, Westbury Music Fair, Westbury N.Y. USA.
- 27th Nov, Valley Forge Music Fair, Devon PA. USA.
- 29th Nov, Palmer Auditorium, Davenport IL. USA.
- 30th Nov, Coronade Theatre, Rockford IL. UAS.
- 1st Dec, Club Eastbrook, Grand Rapids MI. USA.
- 2nd Dec, The American Theatre, St Louis MO. USA
- 3rd Dec, Rosemont Horizon, Rosemont IL. USA
- 4th Dec, The Palace of Alburn Hills, Alburn Hills MI. USA.

As we've gone to press in early November with this issue to ensure that it's out for Christmas, there are no live reports from our members of the North American "Total Recall" tour but we hope to bring you some in the next issue so you folks on the other side

of the Atlantic, let us know how it was for you. Please send any press reports of the concerts also. The tour of Germany and Austria during December is exactly as it was reported in the last issue, the other bands on the bill are Girlschool, Wishbone Ash, Blue Oyster Cult and Molly Hatchet. Heep are scheduled to be on stage between 10pm and 11pm and for the new members who have joined since the last issue, the dates are as follows:-

- 8th Dec, Stadthalle, Offenbach, Germany.
- 9th Dec, Stadthalle, Fuerth, Germany.
- 10th Dec, Haldenberghalle, Goepingen, Germany.
- 11th Dec, Eissporthalle, Halle, former East Germany.
- 12th Dec, Phillipshalle, Dusseldorf, Germany.
- 14th Dec, Wikinghalle, Flensburg, Germany.
- 15th Dec, Musichall, Hannover, Germany.
- 17th Dec, Hessenhalle, Alsfeld, Germany.
- 18th Dec, Eberthalle, Ludwigshafen, Germany.
- 19th Dec, Terminal 1, Munchen, Germany.
- 20th Dec, Kurhille Oberlaa, Vienna, Austria.

Enjoy the shows and once again, send us your reports from the concerts for the next issue.

Now to some bad news, we'd no sooner finished patting ourselves on the back after all the letters saying how good it was that we hadn't put up the membership fees this year when what happened? yes, the post office go and spoil things. We knew the postage costs were going up but they had said that the increase would only be 1 penny or so, no problem we thought, we won't need to put up the fees for an extra 1 penny on the postage of each issue. Sure enough the cost of inland post in the UK has only risen by 1 penny but for overseas post it's a different story. We use the printed paper air mail service as it's the cheapest but now, on this service and the small packet airmail service, the Post Office has abolished the lower weight bands. The magazine postage was charged in the weight band of up to 60 grammes but now the weight banding starts at 100 grammes. This means that for us there is an average price increase of around 45% in our overseas postage costs and this will be reflected in a £1 increase in overseas membership fees. We are sorry about this but we have no choice. There is one good thing to come out of this, the small packet air mail service is now the same price as the printed paper airmail service, we will now send the magazines to our overseas members using the small packet airmail service. The advantage of this service is that we can now seal the envelopes which should mean that the magazines are less likely to get lost or damaged on the post.

As a follow on from Bill Smith's letter in the last issue about Heep on the radio, we have heard from a good source that Virgin 1215 radio were recently requested to play a Heep track but when the DJ read out the letter he said, "we don't have any of their records" and played a Rolling Stones track. Richard Branson who owns the station is supposed to be a fan of Heep, we suggest you all write in to Virgin and ask them to get, and play some Heep records.

Also following on from the last issue, we've had a letter concerning the compilation albums feature. Kevin Penberthy of England wrote in and enclosed a photo copy of the sleeve of "The Best Of Uriah Heep" ST 3392 from Thailand. This was the one featured in

the first part of the article in issue 8 that we didn't have a sleeve photo for. Kevin says he was offered the album many years ago, he didn't buy it but the seller gave him a photocopy of the sleeve which he's sent to us. It's not really a good enough quality copy to reproduce in the magazine but the sleeve is made up of photos from the "Live 73" album we think.....it's hard to tell.

Many letters are coming in on two subjects, the first is how many members are there and what countries are they from? Well at present there are 319 members and there is a steady increase in membership throughout the year. (We are also hoping for more members from the North American and German tours). A little over one third of the membership is from the UK with the rest coming from Australia, Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Faroe Islands, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Holland, Ireland, Italy, India, Japan, Malta, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Russia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, South Africa and USA. Hope we've not missed anyone out!! The second subject is the interest that's been shown in a complete listing of world wide single releases from Heep. This is an impossible task as there are no real records of what was released where, even though the singles all had catalogue numbers there are no catalogues to refer back to. Some may think that the band would know, Mick in particular, but this is not the case, they didn't have much say in what was released in what country and some members, through their collections, will be more informed than Mick on world wide single releases. But, if a singles listing is what's wanted then with your help we'll attempt it. Please send in your collection list and from these, together with our own knowledge and any info we can get from those involved with the band, we will try to compile a master listing for publication in the magazine...or rather David will as he drew the short straw on this one! This list will only be as good as the information that's available to us so we are relying on you to help us out here.

There's only one new CD release to report for this issue. It's David Byron's "Baby Face Killer" which has been issued in Germany on the BMG label, cat number 74321 154812. Thanks to Christopher Hoeglmueller from Germany for this information. This is a disappointing release as they haven't bothered to include any bonus tracks. Some time ago, at the request of Repertoire Records, we supplied information about this album (and the Rough Diamond album) and possible bonus tracks but we're sorry to say that BMG have beaten them to it and gone ahead with this release. It's a shame when re-issue companies don't take that little bit of extra time to give the fans and collectors real value for money. Repertoire have not ruled out further Byron releases so we'll keep you informed.

Our thanks once again go out to the following people for their help and support, Phil, Mick, Lee, Bernie and Trev, Paul Newton, Keith Baker, Tina Lewis, Steve Whitworth, Stefan Pawlata, Issabella Seefriedt, and everybody who contributed to the members reviews of "The Lansdowne Tapes". The band and the Society also want to thank you all for your support over the past 12 months and we collectively wish you all a MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HEEPY NEW YEAR.

Enjoy the mag,
Keep on rockin'
and we'll see you in about 3 months.

Alan & David

December 1993.

THE LANSDOWNE TAPES - MEMBERS' REVIEWS

The CD was well worth waiting for, all these years I've been a Heep fan I've longed to hear some of their music prior to the Very Eavy Very Umble period, this hope has now been fulfilled. I think the CD is very good, especially the slower, more jazzy numbers such as "Here Am I", "Magic Lantern", "What's Within My Heart" and "Why". I even think that I prefer this diversity of style to the pure heavy metal they play on their latest records. What I really like about this CD is hearing all the Heepy fragments in the Spice tracks which come back in some latter Heep songs, eg, pieces of the guitar solo and the bass from "Salisbury", the guitar solo of "Gypsy" and the guitar riff of "High Priestess". It's like listening to the development of later Heep material.

What I disapprove of about "The Lansdowne Tapes" is that there are also previously released songs included. "Why" is good because it's really a different version from the one on the B side of the single, and "Simon The Bullet Freak" I can also understand, because the single is no longer available. "What Should Be Done" is OK as it's a slightly different version from the album track though I really would have preferred another unreleased track instead of it. However, "Lucy Blues" and "Look At Yourself" are totally misplaced as everybody has got them anyway. I'm sure that most Heep fans like me would have preferred something else, eg, older Spice recordings as there will be many more of us who don't have the Spice single than don't have these two tracks. I don't think it's a good excuse that they only wanted to record the transition from Spice to Heep as "Look At Yourself" isn't exactly from that period either. I see no reason why they couldn't let us hear the whole development of Spice. Anyway, I'm glad they made this CD and I hope they will continue to release this kind of material.

Elina Aaltonen, Holland.

"The Lansdowne Tapes" CD is brilliant, I'm very pleased with it. The insert is very informative and the pictures are great.

Tony Mason, England.

I got my copy of The Lansdowne Tapes today, thanks it's great. I love "Born In A Trunk" and "Here Am I"(what a track). "Magic Lantern" is also excellent, I love those drums though I'm not too fond of the piano part. "Why" is a fabulous song as is "What Should Be Done". In the sleeve notes the quality of sound on a few of the tapes was questioned but the sound is fine and even if it wasn't that good I'm sure most of us would have been happy to buy the CD. I loved the shot of Ken Hensley with his afro hair style.

Kevin Julie, Canada.

Before listening to the CD it was a great surprise to see such an insert with all the information and photos that I had never seen before. The music was another big surprise, most of the songs are still of good sound quality but also as compositions, they could have been released as Very Eavy, Very Umble Part 2. My favourite songs are "Astranaza" -beautiful voice of David, nice jazzy up tempo mid part and a typical ending. "Schoolgirl" - Again, fabulous singing which we don't often hear these days. We can hear that some of the later close harmonies of Heep were also present in Spice. "Why" - Ken's organ is one of my favourite sounds, in this song it can be heard in long passages and Mick's solo

shows his talent on the guitar. "What's Within My Heart" -unbelievable that this song never made it onto an album, David is at his best. I also like "Here Am I" which is very Hensley, "Magic Lantern" and "Celebrate". The quality of this release is excellent and sounds good in my car everyday.

Louis Rentrop, Holland.

I got the CD today and even though I haven't listened to it so many times it sounds great. It's something I've been waiting for since I already have all Heep's records. What happened to Mick's fingers when Spice became Uriah Heep? The guitar solos sound so much better. I'm surprised how good the songs are from this period even if I don't like some of the jazz parts, for example in "Magic Lantern". Now that I have The Lansdowne Tapes and Rarities From The Bronze Age, I'm looking forward to more releases like these.

Jari Nousiainen, Finland.

I've been waiting for The Lansdowne Tapes a long time but it was worth the wait. It's magic to hear David's wonderful voice again on songs that I've never heard before.

Barbara Ullrich, Germany.

To receive The Lansdowne Tapes after so much anticipation only served to add urgency to my critical consideration of it. The sleeve notes and photos are outstanding, a real tribute to Rob Corich and everyone involved. This CD (no matter what the self-absorbed press may say) is an invaluable addition to the now rich archive of early Heep material. It also chronicles the musical emergence of a seminal heavy rock band admirably. I hope that the momentum for producing unreleased material of this kind will continue.

My initial reactions to the material expressed here will probably change as repeated listenings will no doubt modify my opinions progressively. "Born In A Trunk" - features great vocals by David that displays an urgency that fully justifies the busy drumming. This seems a little heavy for a Spice number with its Bird Of Prey style riffs. "Simon The Bullet Freak" - is far heavier than the US album version. It has better definition both in guitar sound and in the clear expressive vocals. It also boasts a better outro. "Here Am I" - a beautiful, typically Hensleyesque ballad come Heep rocker! There is a high lyrical standard but The Gods like chorus, "here am I give me love" may have counted against the track for use by Heep. "Magic Lantern" - with its Very Eavy Very Umble style intro and hints of Wake Up at the start of the jazz sequence, I want to like this song. However the frantic drumming renders it a bit to loose. "Why" - a more atmospheric rendering than the B side version. Another powerful and expressive Byron vocal, though with a harder edge. Excellent instrumentation, especially guitar wah wahs and solo break. "Astranaza" - begins in a Zeppelinesque way. Though the drumming is again too busy. It's quite effective really but what the heck is Astranaza? "What's Within My Heart" - a lovely ballad which shows Ken's vocals to best effect. Makes me yearn for a Heep unplugged set. My only problem with this is its protracted ending. "What Should Be Done" - a more reflective almost melancholy version than the album. Great vocals and piano intro but other instrumentation, especially the drumming could be tighter. "Lucy Blues" - so close to the album version to be as excellent here as there. "I want You Babe" - rather too jumpy. The excellent vocals seem to leave the instrumentation far behind especially the busy drumming again. "Celebrate" - an untidy piece with nice interludes. For example Byron's

vocal is set in a very Heep style progression. "Schoolgirl" - I really like this cheeky and appealing bit of Spice pop. "Born In A Trunk" (inst) - damn good rock roots here with a strong Salisbury flavour. "Look At Yourself" - this has been chopped a bit too much for my liking. "Dreammare" (intro) - is this the one used on Very Eavy?. Märvellous vocal out takes at the end, more please!! I know these are very subjective comments. They are only an initial reaction and I could end up loving the songs I find quirky at the moment given a month or two.

David Bartle, England.

What an insight into Heep's past. It goes a long way to making my collection complete. It's a little rough round the edges, but the seeds of greatness are sprouting out all over the place.

Lannis Ethridge, USA.

My favorite track is "Hear Am I" followed by "Born In A Trunk" but over all the whole CD is fantastic. The power of David's voice, Ken's harmonies and Mick's guitar is great. Mick was really well ahead of his time, don't you agree?

Mark Owens, England.

I find The Lansdowne Tapes to be a fine and nostalgic momento of what Spice/Heep were all about in their early years. I also feel that the recordings although a bit 'tinny' capture the early 70's feel and do the band justice. My favourite tracks are "Simon The Bulet Freak", "Magic Lantern" and "What's Within My Heart". Although the tracks were archived for so long, they are part of Heep's history and I believe it is only right that they be released to let everyone hear the original sound. The CD is well packaged and is a very good collectors item indeed.

Ian MacLaren, Scotland.

The Lansdowne Tapes is great! I especially like the Spice tracks. I really like their style and I can see the influence that Ken Hensley had on the band. The compiler states in the notes that except for the lead break, the track "Schoolgirl" didn't translate well to tape, I disagree! It's a brilliant song and I can see how it would have been a scorcher live but it also works well in the studio. It's one of my favourite tracks from the CD.

Joe Doran, USA.

When I first heard about The Lansdowne Tapes I thought 'man, they're really scraping the bottom of the barrel with this one'. But the release does have several redeeming features, most notably the excellent singing of David Byron, he definitely validates the Spice material which is otherwise hindered by mediocre musicianship and songwriting. Overall the CD is pretty good but I think I'd rather seen a re issue of Byron's Rough Diamond or Baby Face Killer.

Gary Brines, USA.

David Byron once sang in a latter project, 'Every Inch Of The Way', "music don't fit with the change of the times", "Born In A trunk" was good for 1969 but is lost in 1993. However it's my privilege to hear it. "Here Am I" is a wonderful song, music that dreams are made of, what's this? it's heavy to...nice solos. "Magic Lantern" is neither very eavy

nor very umble but very raw and very jazzy. "Astranaza" wouldn't fit into 93 any better than "Born In A Trunk". "What's Within My Heart" is a beautiful love song that would have fitted on any of the albums. "I Want You Babe" is similar to 'Wake Up' but I prefer the latter. Gerry Bron should have left alone the Three Dog Night song "Celebrate" but I bet this is ten times better than the original. "Schoolgirl" at this point I decided I much preferred Heep. The instrumental version of "Born In A Trunk" is the best Spice track on the album, I really like this one, good eadbanging stuff. I would have liked to see "What About The Music On this CD but overall I love the songs after the change to Uriah Heep. I'm not sure about the Spice stuff, I guess I've always been an eadbanger!!

Bill Smith, Scotland.

I'm very happy to get The Lansdowne Tapes because up to now I have nothing of Spice. Spice were a very good group and Byron had a wonderful voice. I very much like "Magic Lantern", "Astranaza" and "Born In A trunk" from the Spice tracks. From the other part of the CD I like "Here Am I", for me it's a wonderful song and the long version of "Why" gives each member of the group space to play.

Carlo Mantelli, Italy.

The CD is an excellent companion piece to the 'Rarities' disc. The first thing I noticed was the enthusiasm and David Byron's strong vocals. The Material is really strong to me and I particularly enjoyed "Magic Lantern" and "Astranaza".

John McCraney, USA.

What an excellent album. Spice were obviously more into jazz at that time as it also came out on Very Eavy Very Umble with 'Wake Up (Set Your Sights)'. I really love the song "What's Within My Heart" with its lovely acoustics. "Born In A trunk" is a good one to, very different but still jazz comes through. I don't think this track sounds like early Deep Purple, it's better!!

Colleen Bolstad, New Zealand.

To me this is the hardest thing to write since the UHAS survey last year, (10 favorite songs, 5 favorite albums), now really, it can't be put into words other than incredibly awesome. No, that aint it, sounds too corny. Just listen to the album and hear how good it sounds just like everything else Uriah Heep have ever done, I'm lost for words.

Barry Lombardo, USA.

Just to finish this section of the magazine off here is an early illustration of one of the original ideas for the cover of the CD. It was only at the rough draft stage and the reproduction here in the magazine may not be top quality but it at least gives us a peak behind the scenes. Thanks again to everyone who sent in a review, we're only sorry we couldn't fit them all in the magazine.



DISCOGRAPHY NO 10, HIGH AND MIGHTY

High and Mighty was released in June 1976 with its own huge launch party in Switzerland. Unfortunately the album is more notorious for the events which occurred after! All the internal wrangles within the group coming to a peak and ending with the loss of John Wetton and David Byron. The album does contain some good tracks but overall it's not one of Heep's best...unless you think otherwise!

Side 1.

One Way Or Another
Weep In Silence
Misty Eyes
Midnight
Can't Keep A Good Band Down

Side 2.

Woman Of The World
Footprints In The Snow
Can't Stop Singing
Make A Little Love
Confession

LP Releases.

Bronze ILPS 9384 1976
Bronze BRNA 384 1977

CD Releases.

Castle CLACD 191

7" Releases.

One Way Or Another/Misty Eyes, Bronze BRO 27
One Way Or Another/Misty Eyes, Bronze BRO DJ1 pic sleeve promo

Important 7" releases worldwide.

Make A Little Love/Weep In Silence, Bronze 28 pic sleeve, Sweden
Woman Of The World/Can't Keep A Good Band Down, Bronze 16871 pic sleeve promo, Germany

Mick's memories.

We did a lot of experimenting during the recording, David sang through the bottom of a tom tom drum and three of us lay under a grand piano and sang harmonies through the strings, this took about 5 hours to do as we couldn't stop laughing. Each time we did something different Gerry Bron would walk in, he'd take one look and say, "you're all mad" and leave. To get our own back we sang "you can stick your contract up your flue" as the backing vocal to "Woman Of The World". We all cringed when Gerry listened to the LP for the first time but he didn't spot it and it stayed in, give it a play and listen for yourself!

David Owen

