

YOUR LETTERS

Dear Trevor, Pat, Richard and the John's,

Just to say that my membership package arrived safely today and that AfterMath is great, I especially enjoyed John MacGillivray's review of the Radio 2 series in #1 - I agree with him about Paul Gambaccini (though I didn't hear the programme) I always thought Gambo was an unctuous bigot! He's one of those who rejected rock in the 80's and declared classical music was all that was left – yeah, really.

I lived in London between 1972 and 2001 when I returned to New Zealand (which is not permanent as I hope to be back in the next year or so - for good). It's a little frustrating to be so far away when so much has been happening, especially this past year. My brother gave me a laptop a few months ago and now the Fan Club, website and internet help keep me in touch but sometimes there's no substitute for being there to really appreciate everything in it's wider cultural context.

I've been a big Stones fan since around 1963-64 and Brian was absolutely always my favourite (Venus and Mars in Pisces perhaps?). I still don't recall the first Stones record I ever heard, but I do recall the photo in '*Fabulous*' magazine that really did it for me and several TV appearances, largely on the imported American shows like '*Shindig*' and '*Hullabaloo*' where the Stones appeared to be regulars on both in the mid 60's. I tried to run away from home to see them here in Wellington in 1966 (I was just 13!) but didn't get very far. It wasn't until I got to London that I was able to see them – both Wembley gigs in 1973 then again in 76, 82 and finally 1990. I always remember though when first arriving at Heathrow early in the morning of Sunday 5th November 1972, I picked up the latest NME and reading the headlines on page two, '*Stones Tour Australasia*' I thought damn – I come all this way to see you and what do you do.....!??, ah, the frustrations of fandom.

As I finish this letter '*Satisfaction*' is playing on the radio, once again thanks for everything, this is fantastic, well done.

Best wishes to all involved

Regards

Janet Langbein (Member #1238)

Dear all,

Many thanks for the copies of Aftermath and the excellent fan club CD which I found very entertaining, congratulations.

Perhaps I could offer my own personal views on what I would like the fan club to offer. Essentially my interest is solely musical, both Brian solo and his time with the Stones. Hopefully you will avoid the old clichés of Brian's sexual habits, his drug habits, his personal characteristics etc, and focus on his many musical talents, and the recording legacy that he left behind.

There are many mainly unreported stories to tell, particularly about his musical activity outside the Stones, e.g. Jet Harris, Nico, Peter and Gordon, Jimi Hendrix etc. Also the Degree of Murder soundtrack recording, this is surely the real Brian Jones solo album, not the Jajouka LP. Perhaps the club can report on recording details of these sessions and recordings?

With the interest currently so high for all things Brian Jones, why does someone not have the

wherewithal to trace the original tapes and issue a soundtrack album, even a DVD release of the film must be a commercial proposition?

Most books claim Brian couldn't write songs, but several were recorded by the Stones, plus the evidence of his film soundtrack, the Rice Krispies commercial, the lyrics for '*Thank You For Being There*' (later put to music after his death). All this demands re-evaluation as far as I can see!

Well, sorry to bore you with my thoughts, but I guess any fan club needs feedback from members as to what their expectations are. I would be very happy if the club magazine can add to the musical history of Brian, and if new facts and information can be unearthed, then this would make the club really worthwhile as far as I am concerned!

Thanks for listening, keep up the good work and best regards

Cliff Lawes (Member #1256)

Dear Trevor

I am writing in response to your letter dated 6th April 2004 and wish to say a great big thank you for such a superbly written fan magazine! I was extremely excited when I received it and please find enclosed my completed membership form and fee. I am also requesting a further two forms for my sister and my friend – thank you. I'm so looking forward to the second magazine and my CD.

I did indeed relish every single word written in *AfterMath* #1 but on the same '*turn of the coin*', felt extremely angry about Brian's death, somebody, somewhere robbed the world of a truly remarkable man.

As I stated in my first ever correspondence to you, I am completely Brian mad, so much so that my youngest son (Liam aged 6) was celebrating book-week at school and it's traditional that on the last day the children dress up as someone from a book, as you can see from the enclosed photograph Liam went as Brian. Some of the teachers knew who he was but none of the children did, so Liam '*educated*' them!



Please keep me informed of absolutely everything in the world of Brian. Once again thanks to you all for the good work.

Regards

Jane Hepworth (Member #1271)

Thanks Janet, Cliff and Jane for your comments and for sharing your thoughts. If you would like to contribute, we would be more than pleased to include your letter in the next *AfterMath* - please write to e-mail the Editorial Team at the address on the inside front cover or through the website.