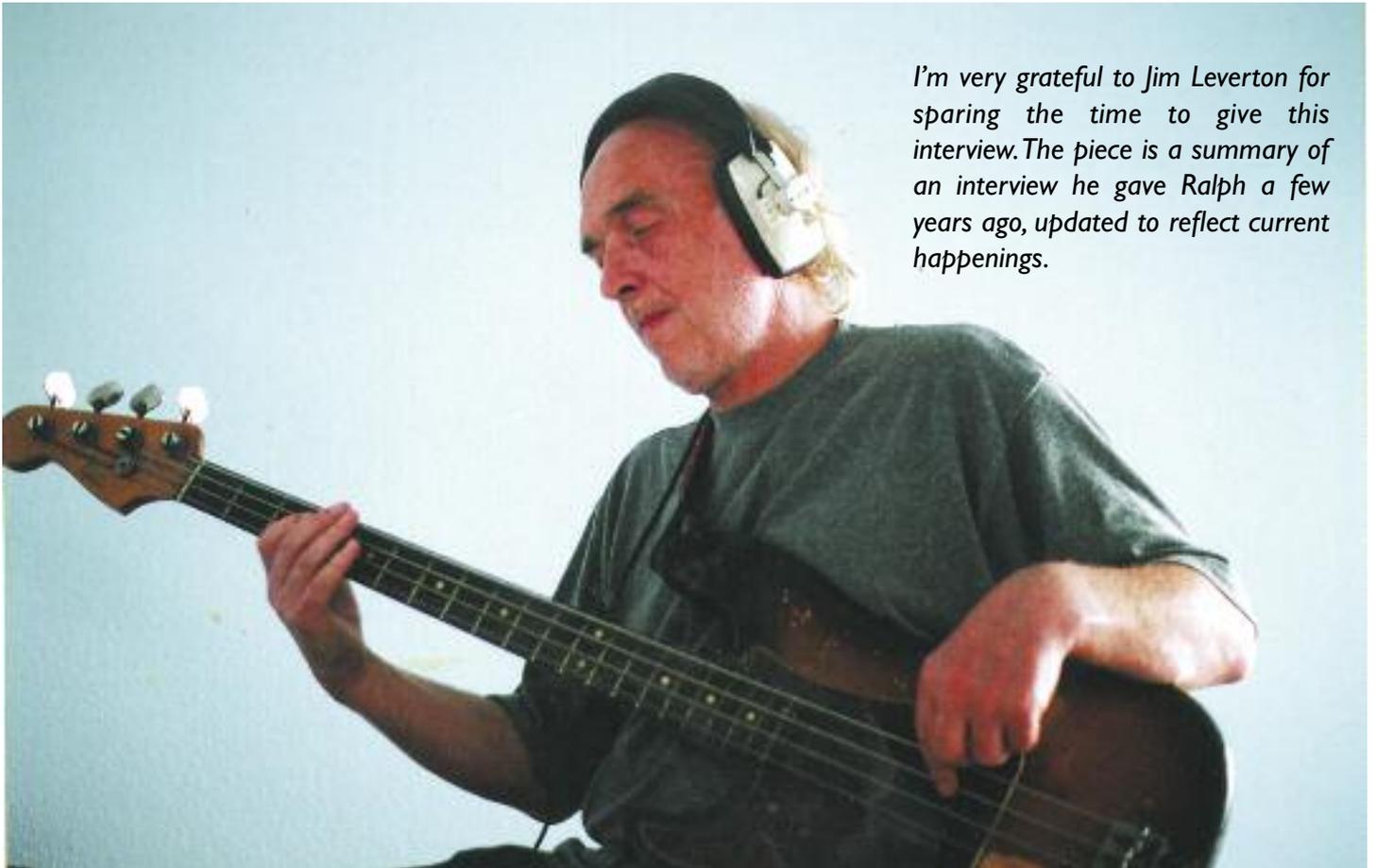


# Where but for Caravan Would I?



Issue No.19

March 2005



*I'm very grateful to Jim Leverton for sparing the time to give this interview. The piece is a summary of an interview he gave Ralph a few years ago, updated to reflect current happenings.*

## INTERVIEW WITH JIM LEVERTON

As background, Jim came from a musical family at took up piano at an early age. At the age of 8, he took up guitar, left handed and is self taught. Aged 14 Jim joined his first semi-pro group, "the Big Beats" who played rhythm and blues around the Dover area. Leaving school at 15, Jim became an apprentice bricklayer which lasted around 9 months when he was asked to join "The Burnettes" a professional band from Folkestone who played in both the UK and in Germany. His friend, Noel Redding was on guitar. The Burnettes recorded 2 singles but after about 18 months, the band broke up. The remnants of the band became

"The Lonely Ones, subsequently to be named "The Loving Kind" and managed by Gordon Mills. The band recorded 3 singles for Pye records and their drummer Pete Kircher ended up in Status Quo. At the time Noel Redding was invited to audition for Eric Burdon, but the vacancy was filled. But as fate would have it, Chas Chandler needed a bass player for another band so Noel was drafted into the Jimmy Hendrix Experience.

With Noel leaving, Jim began to do session work for Tom Jones, Englebert Humperdink and Gilbert O'Sullivan.

Gordon Mills who managed all three was also looking for an opening for Jim. Around the same time (1968) Noel Redding, still with Hendrix, had also formed Fat Mattress and Jim played on their first LP and was with them on tour to support Hendrix. When Noel left Hendrix they decided to give Fat Mattress a real go with Eric Dillon on drums and Neil Landon on vocals. Arguments etc. ensured that the band split and Jim was invited to join Juicy Lucy with whom he remained for one and a half albums. At that time drink and drugs were taking their toll so by mutual consent jim left the band.

# Where but for Caravan Would I?

## FOREWORD

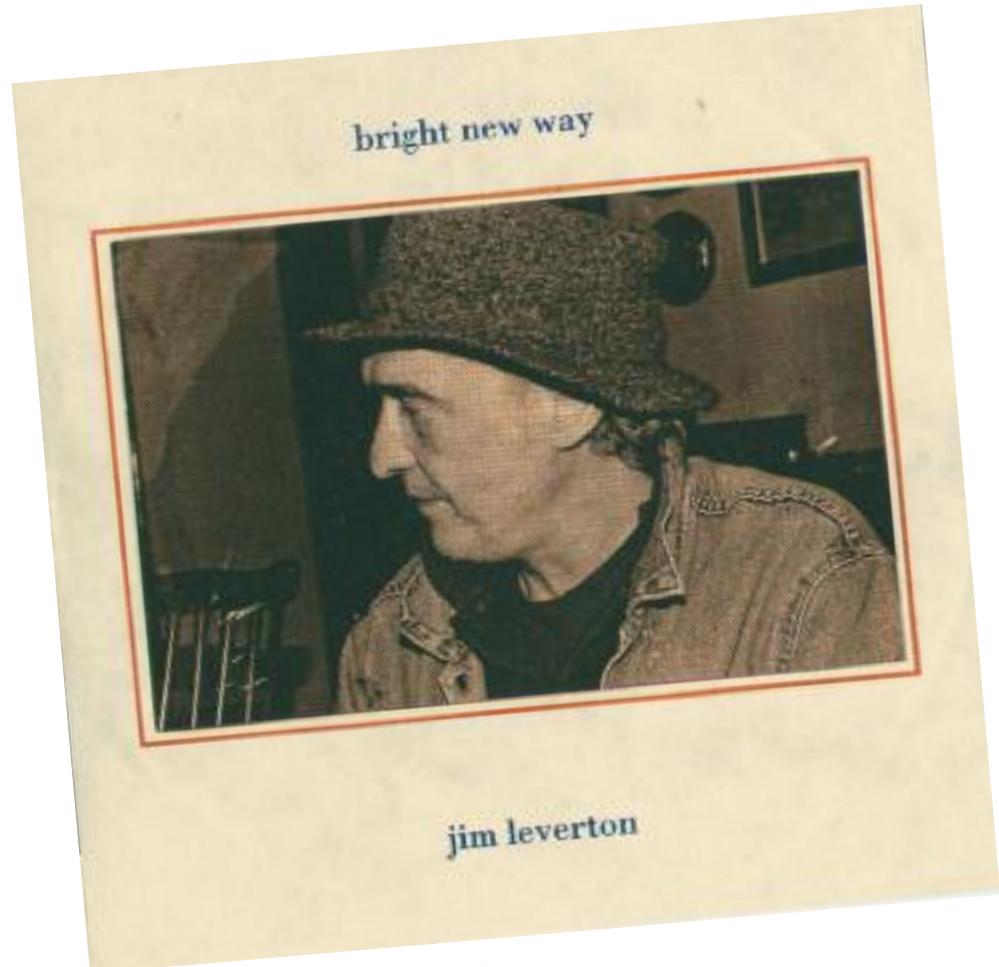


A very happy New Year to all readers. Well, the Caravan shows no sign of slowing – quite the opposite, in fact, with the band having circulated the globe

over the past six months. It is heartening to receive letters and e-mails of support from a host of new younger fans as well as the more established fan base. A highlight for me was being invited along to the soundcheck at Edinburgh in December, the first time I have been present at such an event. Without boring you, it took over 3 hours which gives an indication of the sheer professionalism of the band members, the Liquid Room sound engineers and Chas, the band's technician. A particular highpoint was listening to Pye playing acoustically prior to the check – a very talented guitarist. The gig itself was a corker despite Doug's amp problems on "Nine Feet", with Pye and Geoffrey stepping seamlessly into the breach until Doug resumed normal service. It was great to see the band receiving such a great ovation, and also the number of youngsters who were present. That said, I did receive a letter from a longstanding fan who thought the gig and venue was awful – so it just shows that you can't please all the people all of the time.

I'm very grateful to all contributors to this edition. On the album front, Better By Far is released for the first time in CD format. Pye has been writing bits and bobs and Geoffrey and Francis Kendall are about to release their second album. Geoffrey has also been completing a solo album at his studio and Doug is working on his solo album which he tells me will be uncompromising. All this brings us to Jim's piece which I hope you enjoy. And many thanks again to Codge for all his input.

Eric



From there Jim took a year off with the money he had earned from Fat Mattress and managed to get himself straight. In 1972 he was asked to join Steve Ellis and they recorded an album (with Zoot Money). Miller Anderson then invited Jim to join Hemlock which he really enjoyed and the band toured Europe and the states for a couple of years. He then did some work with Henry McCulloch and did dates with Frankie Miller. In 1974, Jim joined Savoy Brown with of course Kim Simmonds, and Miller Anderson, Stan Webb and Eric Dillon. The band recorded "The Boogie Brothers" and toured extensively in the States.

In 1975, Jim then was invited to join Leo Sayer and toured the world for the best part of a year and was even paid a retainer when not on the road. After that Jim joined Joe Brown and the Bruvvers with Zoot Money on piano and Vicky Brown (Better by Far) on vocals. In 1978 Jim joined Steve Marriott and remained an integral part of his band (and best mate) until 1991. Jim subsequently joined Rory Gallagher on keyboards. Jim then played with Bloodwyn Pig and the Dubliners.

*I understand that you also played with the Walker Brothers?*

Yes. their regular bassist, Cliff Barton, became indisposed in the middle of a tour so I was asked to step in. Cat Stevens was on the same tour and was using Cliff on bass, so I ended up playing in his band during the tour too.

*Were Savoy Brown not quite big in the States?*

The band was very successful in the USA. When I was with them we were playing venues such as Madison Square Gardens.

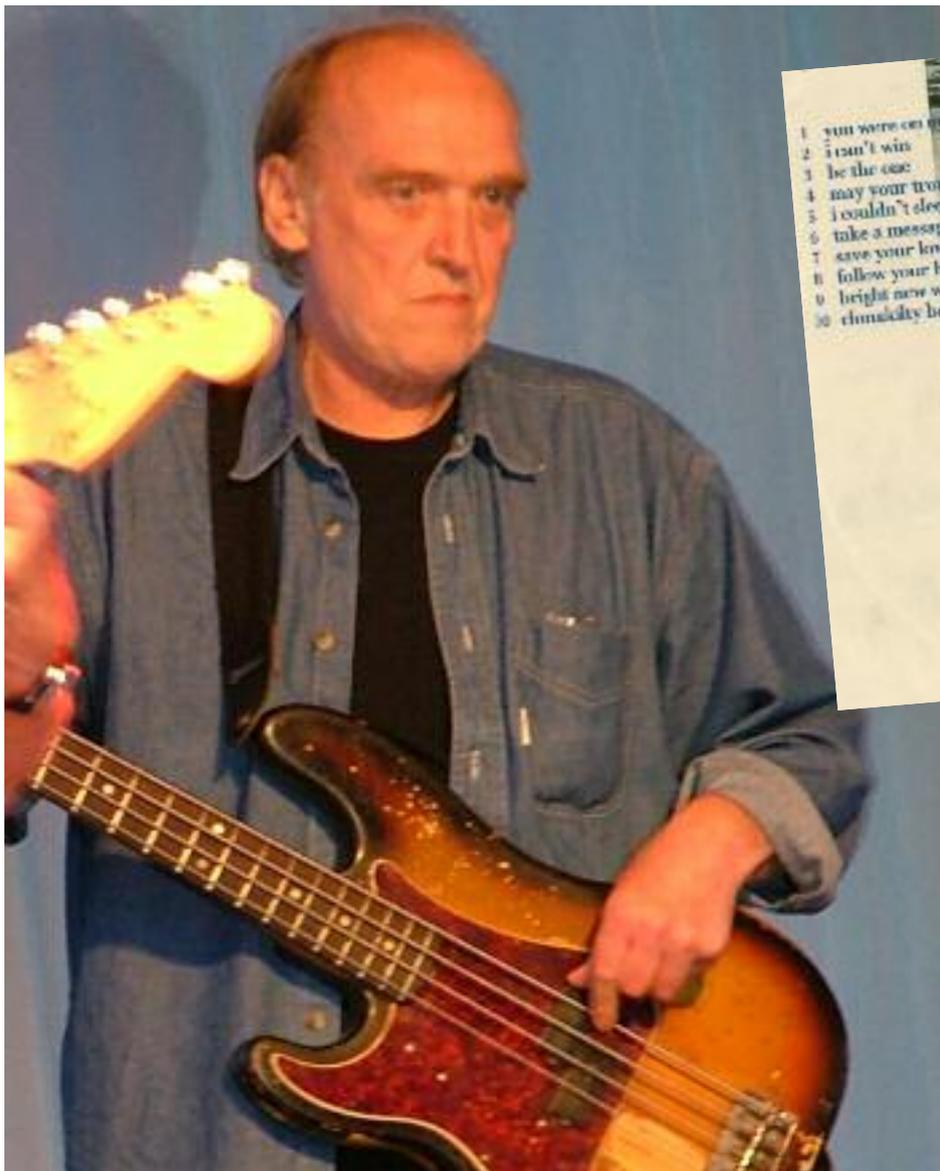
*Any idea what Miller Anderson is up to these days?*

The last I heard he was playing with Zoot Money in a band called Endangered Species.

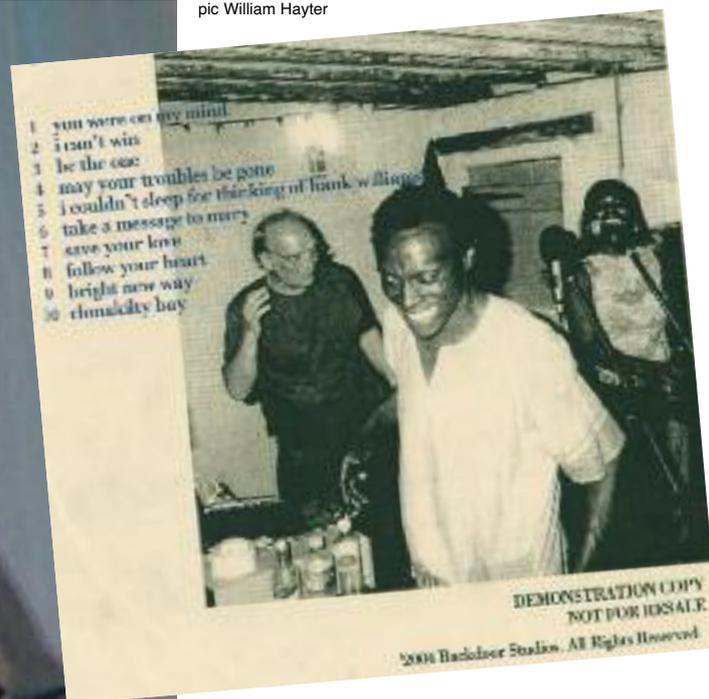
*How did the gig with Caravan come about?*

Through Geoffrey who was working at the time with a friend of mine restoring antiques. Geoffrey and I hit it off and started playing pub dates with the aim of recording an album together. The result was Follow your Heart which we produced on a shoestring. Geoffrey put

# Where but for Caravan Would I?



pic William Hayter



my name forward for Caravan when Richard Sinclair left. I must admit that I didn't know much about them, but quickly realised that they were a cracking band. At the start, I struggled a bit both socially and musically, but I'm really settled in the band now.

*Apart from Caravan what other work have you been doing?*

When schedules permit, Geoffrey and I have a regular (weekly) gig at the Neptune in Whitstable, a great bar on the beach. From time to time Coughlin also gives us a gig at this hotel/pub, the Sun Inn in Faversham.

*I gather you have also completed a new solo album?*

Yes. It was recorded at my own studio in Whitstable and took about a year to complete in between Caravan work.

*Can you tell me a bit about it?*

It's called "Bright New Way" and is certainly not Caravan. It's got more of a country feel to it. There are ten tracks:

**You were on my mind** - J Brown, J Leverton

**I can't win** - J Leverton

**Be the one** - J Leverton, S Marriott

**May your troubles be gone** - J Leverton, J Whitfield

**I couldn't sleep for thinking of Hank Williams** - H McCullough

**Take a message to Mary** - Bryant and Bryant

**Save your love** - J Leverton, S Marriott

**Follow your heart** - J Leverton

**Bright new way** - N Landon, J Leverton

**Clonakilty bay** - J Leverton

*Who are the musicians playing on it?*

**Me** on acoustic, electric guitars, piano and keyboards.

**Geoffrey** on viola, violin, mandolin, banjo, acoustic and slide guitars.

**Ian Lander** on piano, keyboards, harmonica and percussion.

**Richard Coughlin** on drums.

**Kevin Richards** on harmony and backing vocals

**Chris Hunter** on drums, percussion and backing vocals.

**Abigail Baker and Rosey Edwards** on backing vocals.

*How can we get hold of it?*

I'm currently in talks with a couple of labels who are interested and am currently preparing it for general release. But if any one would like to buy a copy direct they can contact me at jimleverton@tiscali.co.uk. For those of you on snail mail write to Eric Gray, 20 Greenbank Loan, Edinburgh and Eric will forward the details.

Since preparing this piece, Jim has let me hear the record. I think it's excellent with a number of great tracks. My favourites are the first two tracks and Bright New Way.

# Where but for Caravan Would I?

## BETTER BY FAR

For the first time, Better By Far is now available on CD on Eclectic Discs. Originally produced by Tony Visconti, the album has been remastered by Paschal Byrne who re-mastered Caravan's other CDs.

The album can be purchased by sending Eclectic Discs a cheque for £11.50 (includes postage) to Eclectic Discs Ltd, Unit 1, the Brewery Business Centre, 75 Stour Street, Canterbury, Kent CT1 2NR.

## ESTELLA IN LUX

Also available in the next few weeks will be the Geoffrey Richardson/Francis Kendall new album "Estella in Lux". Please contact Eclectic for details.



## TOUR DATES

### FRANCE

**Thursday 5th May:** Prog Sug

### GREECE

**Saturday 16th April:** The Rodan, Athens

### POLAND

**Sunday 13th March:** Theatre Roma, Warsaw

### UK

**Saturday 7th May:** The Zodiac, Oxford <http://www.thezodiac.co.uk/>

**Sunday 8th May:** The Stables, Milton Keynes <http://www.stables.org/>

**Tuesday 10th May:** Town Hall, Hartlepool  
<http://www.hartlepoolnow.co.uk/events/caravan>

**Wednesday 11th May:** Manchester (venue to be confirmed)

**Thursday 12th May:** Boardwalk, Sheffield <http://www.theboardwalklive.co.uk/>

**Friday 13th May:** Y Theatre, Leicester (YMCA)

**Saturday 14th May:** Arts' Centre Norwich. A gig at the home of the Caravan website- *miss it if you dare. Tickets are limited!*

**Saturday 21st May:** Cheese & Grain, Frome, Somerset  
<http://www.cheeseandgrain.co.uk/Mainpage.htm>

**Sunday 22nd May:** Phoenix Arts' Centre, Exeter <http://exeterphoenix.org.uk/>

**Friday 10th June:** Old Market, Brighton

**Sunday 12th June:** Isle of Wight Festival

### USA

**20th March- 3rd April 2005:** West Coast tour, dates to be confirmed

### MEXICO

**March 30th- April 2nd 2005:** Baja Prog Fest, Mexicali (close to border with California). Date of appearance to be confirmed

<http://www.bajaprogram.com/>

## THE CARAVAN ON LINE SHOP NOW OPEN

Full secure cardtaking facilities. All orders delivered within 21 days and all prices include postage anywhere in the world. The site also has a mailing list facility if you would like to be kept up to date with any new Caravan or Caravan related products/releases.

**THE UNAUTHORISED BREAKFAST ITEM** Can be purchased on line at [www.eclecticdiscs.com](http://www.eclecticdiscs.com) or via chq or PO or cash to Eclectic Discs,

The Old Brewery, 75 Stour Street, Canterbury, Kent. CT1 2QL. All cheques for new album to be made payable to eclecticdiscs.

All other items cheques to be made payable to Mark Powell-Caravan account.

New album is £11.50 including postage to anywhere in the world.

Prices for other items as follows

**All over You/All over you Too/Canterbury Collection** £9.50 inc P&P

**Nottingham Live 75/Cool Water /A Nights Tale (CD)** £10.00 inc P&P

**Caravan 1990 Classic Rock Legends DVD** £13.50

**A Nights Tale (USA 2002) DVD** £13.50.



# Where but for Caravan Would I?

**Faithful subscribers will be aware of Caravan's celebrity fans, including Steve Davis and Jeremy Clarkson. Over Christmas another star underlined her dedication to the band, the illustrious singing superstar Carmen Biryani.**

hold Caravan. This gets us damned as old hippies by some people, but we don't care. I still recall with fondness the squillions of times that we must have played the title track from their classic album, *In the Land of Grey and Pink*, as our fifth and final encore while leading the whole audience in a special Biryani conga. We even restored this song to the Carmen's Capital Christmas set-list,

Hastings boys turned up on TV one Saturday night in the late 1960s, playing in a beat combo, my father spilled ink all over what by necessity became the second-last draft of his next day's sermon. I, for my part, had rushed out and bought the first Caravan album after hearing them perform *Place of My Own* live on the late John Peel's radio programme, I believe it was, and became a confirmed Caravanner.

## Carmen's Christmas Message

Best known for her box-office megasuccesses at the Edinburgh Fringe and her consistently sold out appearances in the world's capital cities, Ms Biryani went to great lengths in her Christmas message to her fans worldwide to tell them how much Caravan meant to her and her band and how disappointed they'd all been to miss Caravan as the two bands' respective schedules meant that they never quite managed to be in the same city at the same time. We're grateful to Ms Biryani for granting us permission to publish the following extract from her Carmen's Capital Christmas newsletter.

As we've rolled from awesome Oslo gig to stonking in Stockholm and on to being bravoed in Berlin on this special Advent-ure, the only real letdown for all of us is that our itinerary has managed to side step at every turn that of the Biryani band's all-time favourite combo, Caravan, who have been back on the road too these past few weeks. There they were, playing hither and yon while we were playing, well, yon and hither, it seems.

We missed them by a whisker in Edinburgh when we sold out the Usher Hall and, in retrospect, should have offered them a support slot instead of them having to slum it in the Liquid Room. We were a few weeks too early and too late, respectively, for them in Dublin and London. We had just left town when they turned up in Paris, I believe. And horror of horrors, we actually had an enforced stopover in Warsaw on the very night when they were due to make their Polish debut there and dear old Pye Hastings, Caravan's main man, had to call off due to a throat infection. We were all devastated because, by all accounts, the latest edition is playing some of the best live gigs of the group's thirty-five years long and counting career.

Long-term Biryani followers will know, of course, the great affection in which we

inserting our own lyrics ("In the land of frost and snow where all the Santas 'ho ho ho'..." – and so it continues with poetic inspiration), in hopes of the boys turning up at one of our gigs to join in.

They still might, if they can make it along to one of our London nights, and I'm sure they'll want to. Indeed, I wouldn't be at all surprised if a combined Carmen-Caravan version of this song became the front-runner for next Christmas's number one single spot. Heaven knows it's about time both of us made a reappearance on *Top of the Pops*. The last time, Pye and the boys were performing their classic *If I Could Do It All Over Again, I'd Do It All Over You*. And the Biryani bonce could clearly be seen in the corner of the screen, nodding appreciatively to the Caravan beat and in recognition of Pye's wisdom in adding my name to the TOTP guest-list.

Of course, Pye and I go back much further than that. In fact, our paths first crossed when he was a young lad in the small Banffshire village of Tomintoul and my late father used to be seconded to the local church there for the summer while Tomintoul's minister took over dad's flock in Comrie.

Pye didn't play guitar then – that came later when he met that charming rogue Kevin Ayers, who taught Pye to play guitar and, well, I won't tell you what he taught me to play with. There must have been a music gene in the Hastings pool, though, because I remember my father enthusing over Pye's boy soprano in the Tomintoul Sunday School choir. Then there's his older brother, Jimmy, who in next to no time would progress from the Beach Ballroom Band in Aberdeen to playing saxophone for Frank Sinatra. This made Jim an immensely romantic figure to a young country lass like me.

It's always tickled me that one of the most quintessentially English of rock combos should be fronted by a Tomintoulian. Certainly, when both

Indeed, membership of the 'Van's fan club has been virtually a prerequisite for joining the Biryani band over the years. It's one of the reasons why we're such a happy family. Play the sublime *Nine Feet Underground* through any house PA, even today, and whatever ills might have befallen us en route, you'll have a smiling Biryani orchestra instantly.

Our good friend Eric, who is responsible for Caravan's newsletter – a sort of equivalent to these epistles, I like to think – recently alerted us to the band's *Back to Front* album's reissue on CD, and of course, we had to have one, in fact we ordered one each. Its evocations of Hollywood idols and Herne Bay idylls spill out of every dressing room nightly as we get into costume.

The only drawback has been that this has reminded Sticks, our drummer, that the yummy Richard Coughlan, Caravan's own Mr Sticks, did the spoken part on *Proper Job* ("What did you say you earn, a billion pounds a night? What, each?" – such bons mots). He's since been angling for a vocal role in Carmen's Capital Christmas. He'll be lucky. He'll just have to settle for his usual Yuletide walk-on part as our very own Father Christmas on Christmas morning, I'm afraid.

Although we all spend Christmas Day together, we don't exchange extravagant gifts. I generally arrange for the special Christmas jumbo crossword-bearing editions of all our favourite newspapers to be gift-wrapped, and Sticks distributes them - with considerable ho ho ho aplomb, it must be said. The Dickensian vision of contentment that ensues makes the Cratchits, post Ebenezer Scrooge's turkey donation, look like *Les Misérables* on Mogadon by comparison.

And with that happy thought, I'll wish you all the very best for 2005 from all of us here in Biryani Wonderland.

Be good,

*Yours truly, Carmen Biryani*

# Caravan

do  
it all  
over  
again

ONE of the more interesting events of last year, away from the resurgence of rock 'n' roll in all shapes and sizes, was the first album by Caravan. Clever, uninvolved, and promising, it really looked at though music was coming back. The LP attracted a good deal of attention and nice reviews, and when Caravan played the Albert Hall with Richie Havens, aside of a few rough edges, they really came across.

## No contract

But that was over a year ago, and although we heard bits and pieces, it seemed as if the Caravan had moved on. They had been involved with MGM Records, who suddenly became a small subsidiary of EMI, and they were left without a contract. Offers were made, but none were tempting enough for the band to jump into an unsure deal. But they were anxious to record again, as material was piling high, and

they had gained confidence as a stage band.

'We were in a situation which was becoming increasingly frustrating,' explains lead guitarist Pye Hastings. 'The whole group was contributing ideas to seemingly no end product. We have to record to fulfil ourselves.'

Then came the right offer, from Decca, and album No. two was released. Not only does it fulfil the promise of the first LP, it prompted one notable writer to describe as 'one of the best things from Decca this year.' The album is called *If I Could Do It All Over Again, I'd Do It All Over You*, morally reduced to tiny letters on the LP sleeve, with dj's shortening the title to save early morning embarrassment.

It really is a total effort by the group, with each member outstanding in his own field. David Sinclair, on organ, plays fine lyrical pieces, uncluttered, and tuneful, adding melody to Pye Hastings's

distinct guitar and vocal. David's brother Richard plays bass and sings, adding the foundation with Richard Coughlan on drums.

'The album was a joint effort all through,' says Richard Sinclair. 'After the first LP, we wanted to produce ourselves, and learnt the different sound techniques and recording possibilities as we went along. Robin Sylvester engineered, and he helped immensely. It was O.K. up until the mixing stage, but we overcame the problem with John Punter and David Grinstead, the remix engineers.'

All the numbers on *If I Could . . .* were written by the band, and it shows their complete ability as a group. 'We're slowly changing' explains Pye. All of us are developing the writing side. If it's Caravan we use it, but there are a lot of songs that we think other people could use. They don't quite sound like us. We really don't want to be anything we're not.'

'I think the feeling within the four of us now is "You like Caravan, or you don't like Caravan",' says Richard. 'We're showing off a bit more now—success breeds confidence, and we feel there is some success now. We can't afford to be blasé about what we do. We realise that every small thing helps, and it's nice to see money coming through.'

'Money is obviously important,' says Pye. 'But I'm in it because I write, sing and play, and I want as many people as possible to hear the sound and songs. Albums are the one thing, gigs the other. We work about four times a week now, all over the country, and more on the continent. We did a couple of festivals in Rotterdam and Germany, which worked out O.K.'

'And with the new album, we have something to work for.'

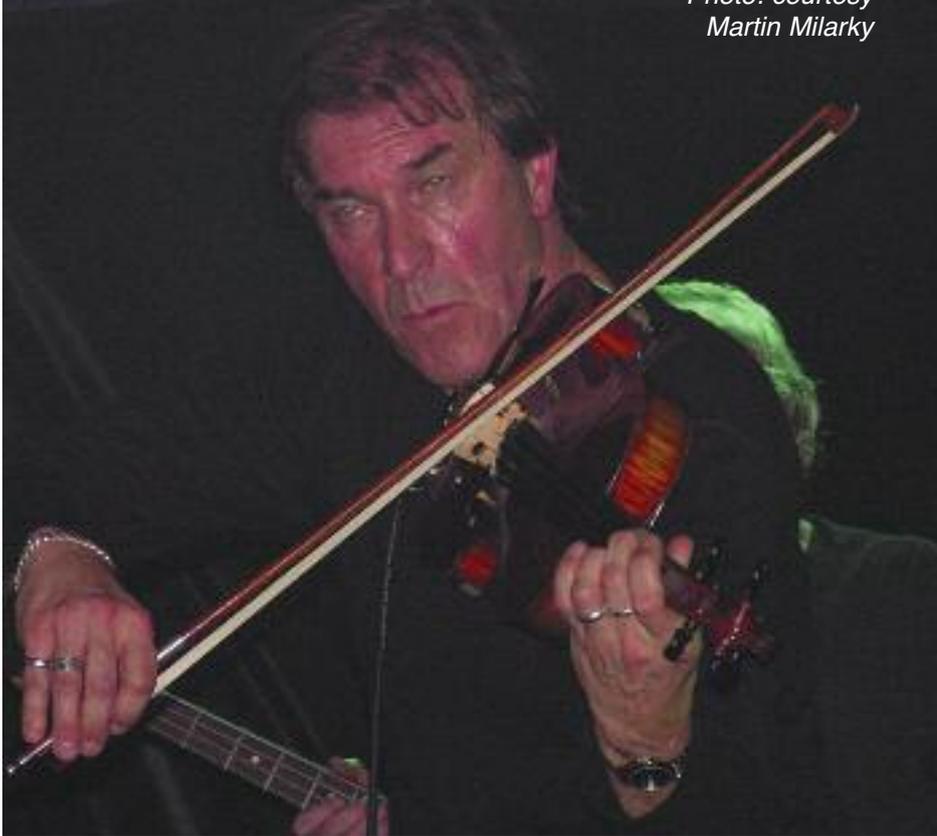
So 12 months on, Caravan are fulfilling that early promise, realising perhaps that a year isn't all that long to wait for something good to come along.



# Where but for Caravan Would I?

## Letters, Emails & Odds...

*Photo: courtesy  
Martin Milarky*



Can anyone shed any light on any possible recordings of "Zappa Variations" which Caravan played on a number of live gigs Graham Gynn went to : probably Ewell Tec and it was the first band... before Dave Sinclair left for the first time. Zappa variations was their version of basically Gumbo variations from Hot Rats.

My friend Julian Porter recommends a trip to Reading Museum that has a gallery devoted to the Reading Festival. Amongst the memorabilia is a list of bands and their charges for playing. Around 1973-75, Caravan were paid £200 of which £25 went to their manager, so the band presumably split £175. The next day was topped by Traffic who were paid £5,000!!! Not a bad amount of money in those days.

Pye was seen coming out of the McDonalds in Sturry Road, Canterbury. Pleased to say that his taste in music is better than his taste in food.

THE MARLOWE THEATRE, 17 October  
- CARAVAN

## ROCK AND STROLL (SHEAR DELIGHT)

Beating out a pleasant stroll across the city where they had their birth an age ago: Guitar attack; viola jousting with the axe and then the keys across the stage; Rhythm section driving on, then stepping back to let the stories flow:

Wistfully the flute adorns such passages, until again the strings engage. And shears? Oh yes, the shears! No hedging bets amongst this company, But those who brought you nice white gloves and spoons by way of prog variety Can claim another first, green-fingered all the way to rockin' virtuosity, Home Caravan is always welcome in this city.

*Bob White (Written 17 October 2004)*

## MESSAGES

Let's hope for another great year for the boys. Please pass on our best wishes to them for all the wonderful music and keeping the Caravan faith alive. It means so much to many of us. Spent the Christmas listening to the Unauthorised Breakfast Album and it is absolutely superb, with several of the highest quality tracks. They really should get wider recognition for their sheer musicianship, originality and quality, something sorely lacking often these days.

Hope to catch the band, this year, probably in Brighton. The whole family, including my 17 year old son, saw them in Canterbury in October, and they were truly fantastic.

*Patrick Coffey*

I hadn't seen Caravan Live for thirty years but my wife and I are lifetime fans. When I found your excellent website and you posted the Paris gig I decided to take my wife for a long weekend to see the show. Fantastic atmosphere, fantastic show. Even Geoffrey Richardson's French didn't put me off! I left the venue into the French night air feeling high as kite from the exceptional musicianship of the band. It's weeks since the show and I haven't come down yet.

I have just played "the unauthorised breakfast item" CD and it is as always an exceptional collection of Caravan music. Jimmy Hasting's saxophone playing is beautiful. Thank you Caravan, I will never forget the night in Paris.

*John Head*

I bought my first Caravan LP in 1973 so I have been a fan for awhile. I'm hoping to see them at The Stables in May and this will be only the 2nd time I have seen them live! What have I been missing! The time before was in Southampton in 2003. I think it is tremendous that they are still playing together and long may it last! Its thanks to people like you that I think we have to thank for a lot of hard work behind the scenes. Well done! Happy Caravanning.

*Mark Harding*

# Where but for Caravan Would I?

I took your advice and went to see the lads in The Liquid Rooms in Edinburgh. Absolutely wonderful - I spent the whole time with a broad grin on my face (after my initial shock at finding Josef Stalin on drums). Can't wait for the next visit.

*Tom Christie*

Saw the band in Atlanta this year. Best show I've seen in many a year. Also got the last cd (signed with live disk). Listen to it all the time. Is there a better group in the world? NO.

*Bob Amato*

It was a treat seeing them live again (Atlanta,GA). They still sounded great! I bought the new CD. I hope it does well. They deserve it. A good bunch of musicians they are!

*Scott Hanna GA, USA*

Hello from Norway. Great gig at the Herzberg this year too. Saw you last year and in 2001: all great. Thanks. My wife starts crying in a moment with your beautiful music so I was so happy that your music can create good feelings for her. Have been a big fan in many years and have almost every record. Maybe we can look forward to hear you again sometimes.

*Best wishes from Alf and Inger.*

I'm really a Caravan fan. I watched the show in Canecao, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. I'm from Brazil, and I have very interest in progressive music, particularly in Caravan shows, CDs, et al. The show in Brazil was really nice, very nice. The public was very glad because the show was perfect. I would like that Caravan will come to Brazil another time. I would like to hear other classic tracks, that the group don't played in this show. Maybe, Caravan will includes in your set list other classic songs like "The Show Of Your Lives", "Waterloo Lily", "Place Of My Own", "Love Song", "Aristocracy" and "Love In Your Eye".

I'm interest in know about Caravan news. I have a "fotolog" about Progressive Music <http://www.fotolog.net/ragnarock> which is used to divulge artists and to count a little of the history of progressive music. If you have some influence on the group, I would like that you requested they will came back to Brazil in a new chance, and that the group includes more of the classic songs in the show. Long life to the Progressive Rock!

*Rafael*

I'm a new fan of the band, and I was thrilled to discover them. They're a phenomenal group. I had no idea they were still touring, as most of the great prog bands gave up live gigs long ago. Thank you for providing such a great service.

*Ty Rayner*

I was at the Bloomsbury gig last night. It was first time that I had seen the band play live although I am an "old" fan going back to the early 1970s. I thought they were absolutely stunning . . . there was so much energy . . . the old songs sounded very fresh and exciting and the new material from "Breakfast Item" was very strong. I took a mate with me who I've just introduced to some Caravan stuff and he was very impressed too, so you've got a new fan. Please pass on my congratulations to the band and good luck for the future.

*Pete Weller*

Just to write that Debbie and I really enjoyed the gig last night at the UCI Bloomsbury. Doug Boyle really seemed to be enjoying himself! I am delighted to report that a younger friend who was our guest, had never been to a rock band before and was hooked at then end! He particularly liked the "no-nonsense, joined-up bits"! So - good luck to the band; another wonderful evening excellently performed.

*Peter and Debbie*

Hi Eric, what a knockout gig (Liquid Room)! It was good to meet you and to talk to the band. My pal's 19-year-old son was entranced by the band and kept banging on about his chat with Pye after the show (all about bands in Canterbury



# Where but for Caravan Would I?



and something called Local Heroes, which Pye is involved in down there!). Hope we don't have to wait another year to see them again. A truly superb night.

*Jim Bruce*

Hi, I was at the Pittsburgh show, I was the screaming meemie! Why I'm writing is cuz I love the music so much, and they were so fucking great that night. I have turned so many people on to the Caravan sound and people respond so well to them. I hope to see them in the States again soon and maybe next time I'll have a gang with me. Jan really was great, well everyone was great but he smiled during the whole show, he really looked like he was so happy to be playing such great and important music! Take care and thank you for caring about Caravan!

*Elyse*

I don't know why, but it only occurred to me today to find out the whereabouts of one of my all-time favourite bands. I had no idea that they were still on the road. I've heard little or nothing about the talented guys for years, such is the fickle music industry. Mind you I have only just got myself online, so I've only myself to blame. I've been searching for the "Better by Far" album for ages in the music shops, but to no avail. That was the last album I had of theirs. My all-time favourite album is "for girls who grow plump". Thanks.

*Mick Arloe Kliszcz.*

I recently attended your concert here in Pittsburgh, PA. I had never heard of your band, but I was instantly mesmerised by your music! You guys were just so awesome! I would really love to have a cd with the songs that y'all performed, but I don't know the names of any that

you played that night. Is there any way I can obtain a playlist? I have a son who just turned 17 and would love for him to hear your music. I am sure he will enjoy it as much as I did. Thank-you so much,

*Leah*

Had the good fortune to see Caravan & Nektar perform at a small club setting here in Pittsburgh, Pa. (USA) on September 23.....Caravan & Nektar. Both bands played about an hour and 45 minutes each and Caravan really knocked my socks off.....what a show, what a performance, what a jamming kick ass band. It was a whirlwind nite. Caravan really impressed the hell out of me.

*Regards, Mitch*

Hello, Thanks for the info on the world's greatest band- Caravan I had the pleasure of seeing them last night in Atlanta and they blew Nektar off the stage!!!! Rock on!!!!

*Allforben*

My name's Jack Bronis, and I'm a fan here in Chicago, where the band played tonight (with Nektar). My ears are ringing, as I got home ten minutes ago... It was absolutely exhilarating to watch Caravan perform; not only are they consummate musicians, but also they're wonderful at conveying their enjoyment of playing to the audience.

I just wanted to drop a line at Caravan's website to let you know just what a great show that the band put on last night (9-19) in Chicago. What a band! They were so tight, if they put this show on CD people would think it was a studio album were it not for the crowd cheering madly after each song. I know that the guys could feel the love. What a class act they are. I truly hope to be able to see them again in the future, I know that the tour with Nektar is really picking up steam with every date. Please pass my thanks + to the band, they were fantastic.

*Yours Truly, Bob Nelson*



# Where but for Caravan Would I?



Congrats to you all for an absolutely wonderful concert in Milwaukee, WI, USA on Monday Sept. 20, 2004. It was the first time I have ever heard Caravan (having gone to primarily see Nektar that night). I must say I was most pleasantly surprised by a terrific performance! Excellent songs, beautifully executed! You earned a fan in Milwaukee this night! I will be purchasing some CD's very soon. (Any chance of getting the show recorded in Milwaukee? <grin>) Take care, all. Hope to see you again!

*Michelle Michaels*

When are Caravan next touring in Britain? I have just listened to 'In the land of Grey and Pink' and was honestly blown away. As I am only 19, I had never heard of Caravan before but now I have and I cannot tell you how fantabulous that I found the experience!

*Dan Hewines*

I just experienced a performance by Caravan for the first time at the Agora in Cleveland, Ohio 22 September 2004. Awesome show! I was amazed to learn the band formed in 1968 and wondered why their incredible talent went horribly un-noticed by the mainstream music industry. Millions of people have missed out on these guys!

**Caravan**

Seu sombrio de d'altre o nome mais importante do Brasil, não só por sua cantabilidade, qualidade, como também por seu significado histórico. Trata-se de um dos grupos pioneiros do movimento musical surgido na Inglaterra na segunda metade do século de 60 e que viveu a sua grandeza como Band Progressiva, o Caravan surgiu em 1968, em Cambridge, próximo a Londres, trazendo consigo em sua discografia: Ian Gillan, Pink Floyd, Michael Gough em que destacamos também o Pink Floyd, Soft Machine e Moody Blues, mesmo assim em sua história surgiram o seu "Influência progressiva" e uma de suas maiores obras-primas, o disco "In the Land of Grey and Pink" lançado em 1974. Durante estes anos todos o grupo lançou 10 discos "Caravan" sempre à vontade denominada "escala do Canterbury" (uma espécie de "Clube da Escala" dos ingleses de onde surgiram grupos tais como Camel, Egg, Soft Machine, King entre tantos outros) mas de suma importância para o país e para a música brasileira e a extrema sofisticação refinada na rock, jazz, blues e clássica, no caso do Caravan, uma feita inserida no um ambiente harmonioso que faz com que a arte de cada um seja apreciada, mesmo sem tanta como estrada, ambientação e apresentação desde grupo em Portugal através da sua discografia, um momento histórico, uma vez que a primeira apresentação desta fantástica banda no Brasil ocorreu em 1974.

A formação atual do Caravan, que vive a noite e a seguir:

Phil Hawkins (guitarra, vocais): Foi um dos fundadores do Caravan e acompanha a banda a quase 30 anos.

Jan Schellhaas (bateria): Já tocou com muitas bandas como Phil Lynott (Thin Lizzy), Gary Moore e o MAFIA Gama.

Richard Cochrane (bateria): Quem nome histórico do Caravan e da escola progressiva do Canterbury.

Jeffrey Heywood (vocal, flauta, clarinete, banda de 4-8 partes): Além de membro histórico do Caravan, já tocou com os grupos: BOB DYLAN, Chris De Burgh, Marillion, Jethro Tull, Marillion, Dandelion, Penguin Cafe Orchestra e Bob Dylan.

Simon Benoit (contrabaixo): É o mais recente integrante do Caravan e possui formação erudita, com gravação em caravanas ultra.

Dois Bowls (guitarra): Quem ajudou a formar da banda, já tocou com Robert Plant, Led Zeppelin e Nigel Kennedy.

Jan Leighton (bateria): Antes de entrar para o Caravan tocou com uma infinidade de bandas e solos de rock, incluindo Neil Young (Neil Young & Bo Diddley), Rory Gallagher, Steve Marriott (Humble Pie), The Hollies, Juice Lucy, Big Horn, Harry Nilsson, Frankie Miller, Doreen Rorick, Joe Brown, Leo Sayer e Jimi Hendrix.

**PROGRAMA DO CONCERTO:**

Edat

Where 2004 Where 2004 Where 2004

Setlist!!!! Setlist!!!! Setlist!!!!

# Where but for Caravan Would I?



They would have been right there among bands such as The Moody Blues, Yes, and King Crimson in my very humble opinion. I wish them continued success!

*Thank you. Ron*

My wife and I flew into Philadelphia (from Dallas/Fort Worth, Texas) on Friday, 10/24/04, just to catch the Caravan / Nectar show. We then returned to Texas on Saturday. We had the greatest time. I want Caravan to know that I so greatly appreciate them touring the US, giving my wife and I our first opportunity to view them. Their passion for their craft is quite evident

and admirable. They were the most enjoyable act at the venue (Nectar was great, as well). It was certainly an honour to meet and talk with them after the show, especially the prog-legends Pye, Richard, and Geoffrey, not to mention Jim and Jan and the incredible Doug. They seemed appreciative of our travels from Texas. We purchased their latest album (The Unauthorized Breakfast Item). It is a truly fine and fresh album. I was very impressed each track. I cannot properly express how impressive it is to retain the writing and composing edge that Mr. Hastings has, track after track, album after album, for all of these many years.

The contributions of Geoffrey, Dave Sinclair, and Doug are the whip cream completing the fabulous dessert that is The Unauthorized Breakfast Item.

My wife and I have never made such a venture. Texas (or the South) does not attract the Great Prog Bands. So I was determined to finally see them for myself, with no regrets, certainly. Next month, we are taking another overnight trip to New York to view The Strawbs for the first time. I bought my first Caravan album (IF I COULD DO IT ALL OVER AGAIN I'D DO IT ALL OVER YOU) about 20 years ago (at age 13), and

# Where but for Caravan Would I?

photo: Martin Millarky



soon pursued the remaining catalogue (I'm now 33). Their sound is still so very fresh. Sorry for being so long-winded. This was just such a tremendous experience to realise and it is difficult to limit the words. Again, thanks so much for continuing to spread your music, influencing others, and giving us Americans some of the best music ever recorded. I'm very grateful for your contribution to human culture.

Hope to see ya'll again soon.

*Cheers! Jeff McCully*

Saw Caravan Friday night, September 24, 2004, at the Keswick Theatre in Glenside, Pennsylvania, just north of Philadelphia. Venue holds around a 1,000 or so. Very nice old theatre with great

acoustics. They were touring with Nektar. Caravan opened. They were introduced by none other than Annie Haslam of Renaissance. During the 70's she (Renaissance) had the same management. She supposedly lives in nearby Doylestown, PA. Caravan was great with the same line up on "The Unauthorised Breakfast Item"\* with the exception of any guests from that CD.

*They played the following in this order:*

1. Memory Lane, Hugh
2. Headloss
3. And I Wish I Were Stoned-Don't Worry
4. Golf Girl
5. Smoking Gun (Right For Me)\*
6. The Unauthorised Breakfast Item\*
7. Nightmare
8. Nine Feet Under Ground

*Encore*

9. Who Do You Think You Are

It appeared to me that more people came for Caravan than Nektar. Both performed very well, but I also was one of those who came to see Caravan along with my older Brother in-law. I wish they had played all night long. This was the final concert of this particular tour in the USA. I never thought I'd see Caravan with 2 original members, 2 other previous members and 2 new members.

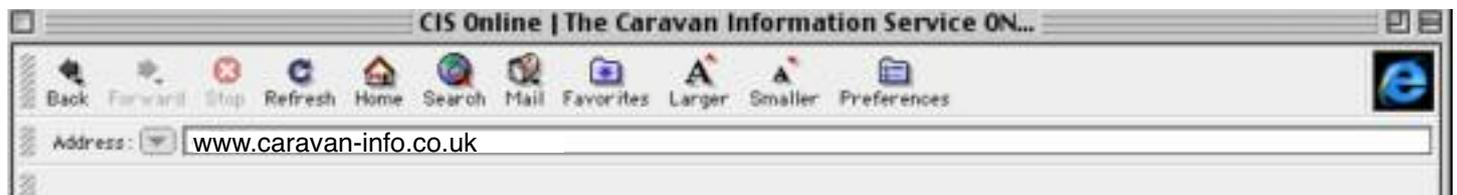
*Bravo! Brian McElroy*

Having never heard Caravan live I can't judge it against other performances, but I can say that the performance I saw was well worth the trip from Louisiana to Paris (you may quote me if you like). You were absolutely correct – I was not disappointed. Despite your not being there to assist, luckily I was with Aymeric Leroy who advised me to hang around for a few minutes after the crowd departed, and I managed to shake everyone's hand and get autographs on my ticket stub. I'm not sure Pye believed me when I told him I'd come all the way from Louisiana to see the show (his words were something suitably British like, "Blimey, surely not!"). I did not have the nerve to ask them where they would be drinking and so that was the extent of it, but it was an unforgettable experience.

*Lake Hearne*

Happy New Year to all followers of Caravan and best wishes for 2005. The band really appreciate all of your support and knowing you are out there makes it all worthwhile. Together we can make this year even better.

*Best wishes, Ralph*



**Jasper Smit** Continental Caravan Campaign\* and European Information Services. Kleingouw 34A, 1619 CB Andijk Tel: 0031-228 59 35 25 - Fax: 0031-299 42 99 85 (copies of the double CD Back On The Tracks - Live in Holland are available by contacting Jasper)

**Manfred Bress** publishes 'Canterbury Nachrichten' which covers the whole Canterbury scene. This can be obtained from Nikolaistr. 90, D-47055, Duisburg, Germany.

**Calyx, Caravan Website:**  
[calyx@club-international.fr](mailto:calyx@club-international.fr)

*I get lots of people saying how difficult it is to find Caravan's material in the shops. Try the following:*

**Piccadilly Records** of Manchester. Tel: 0161 839 8008

**GFT** of Surbiton Tel: 0181 339 9965

[www.kelkoo.com](http://www.kelkoo.com) An excellent source for material supposedly unavailable elsewhere: in addition this web site searches out the cheapest copies from a variety of suppliers.

Many thanks to Codge Barber who is helping compile this Issue of the Fanzine - I couldn't do this mag. without you.

The latest Newsletter remains FREE i.e. all that is required is an S.A.E. in a decent sized

envelope or International Reply Coupon for Europe and The World (*any donations are welcome however, simply to defray costs of production which are down to Codge and myself*).

*Back copies i.e. combined issues 1/2 and issues 3-17 as well as the booklets for the 1990 and 1991 concerts at Old Buckenham can be obtained for 2 x 1st class stamps per issue as well as a stamped addressed envelope (2 x 1st).*

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