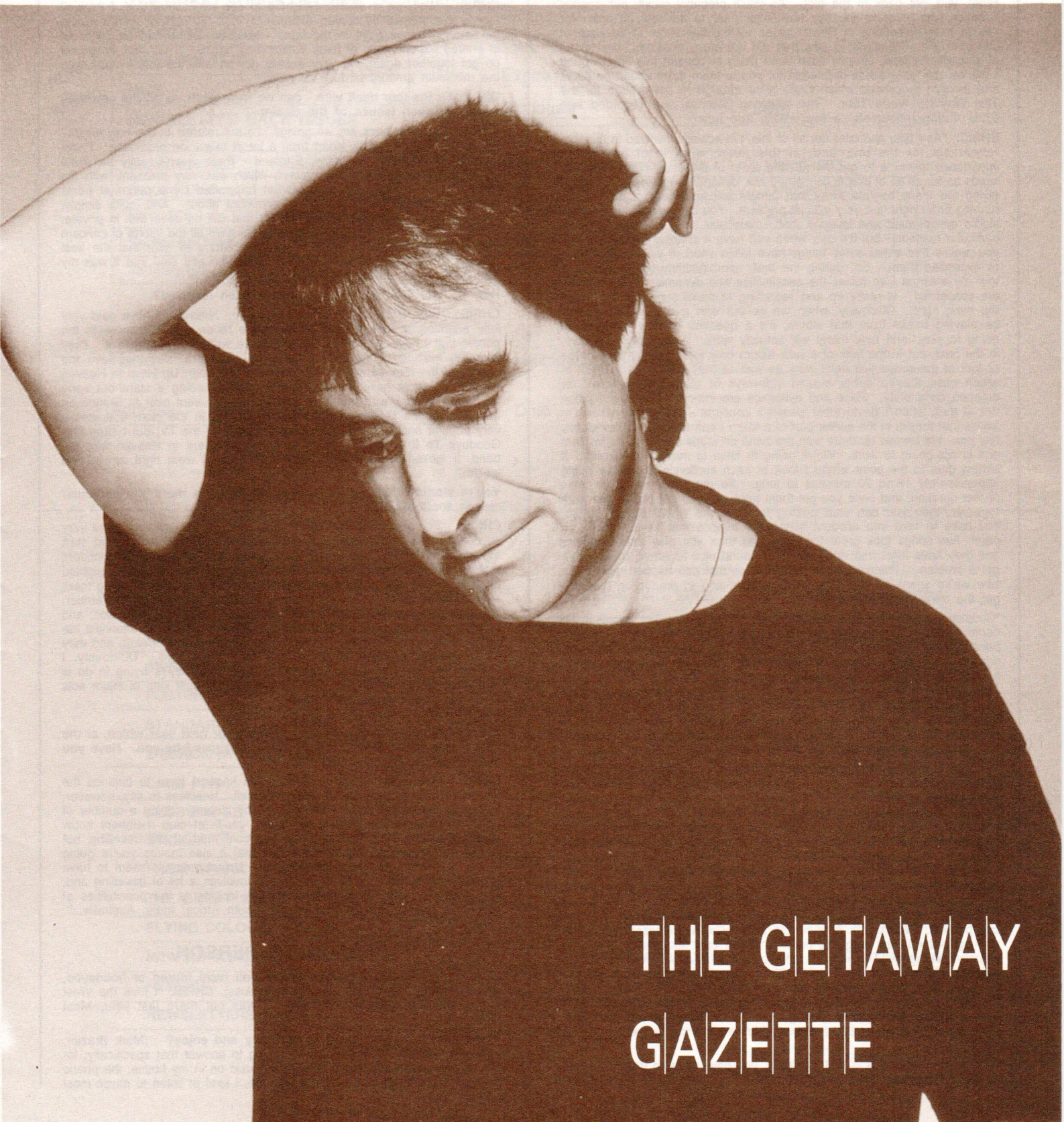


THE NEW *Chris de Burgh* CLUB

P.O. BOX 276 LONDON E2 7BW

NOVEMBER 1994



THE GETAWAY
GAZETTE

Greetings and, as ever, welcome to another issue of the Gazette. If you're living in the UK, this newsletter should be accompanied by a booking order form for trips to see Chris in concert. The trips - to Berlin, Cologne and Munich - will all be leaving from a variety of destinations in the UK which is why, to explain, you will not have received a booking form if you live elsewhere. However, if you're residing outside the UK but wish to make your way there to join any of the trips then, please, write to the club straight away and we'll send you all the details. Each of the trips has been organised by the leading concert travel company In The Limelight, with the full co-operation and endorsement of the club, but we are in no way responsible for either the organisation of travel arrangements or the receipt and banking of money. In other words, all of your queries on or after booking must be referred to In The Limelight - and not to us here at the club. Of course, in the extremely unlikely event that you experience any problems, do let us know. That said, these trips, which include the price of your concert ticket, are most efficiently run, as those who joined the club tour to see Chris live at Le Zenith in Paris a couple of years ago will already know. Read your booking form carefully and you'll soon see that the trips are great value for money, great fun and a great opportunity to see Chris perform outside of the UK with plenty of sight-seeing time into the bargain. Don't waste any time at all in getting your booking form back to In The Limelight (don't send it into us at the club; we'll only pass it on, which will cause a delay!) Enough said.

Right, let's get back to the plot. As you'll probably recall, our original intention was to bring you this newsletter prior to the tour, in order for you to read something of Chris's plans for his live show in advance of you seeing it. Needless to say, that did not prove possible - and many of you will, by now, already have seen Chris in concert this time around - but we still felt it would be of interest for you to learn more about the detail and thought processes which Chris went through in preparation for the This Way Up World Tour. The following interview was recorded with Chris during rehearsals...a few weeks ago now!

CHRIS: "As I talk, and consider all of this, I'm actually involved in the final rehearsals for the tour and, at this point, what is of paramount importance to me is to get the running order of the show right. The key words as far as all of that is concerned are 'dynamics' and 'pace'. Without giving too many secrets away that people will be aware of, to get the running order right is a very difficult problem. You can work in a rehearsal studio environment and imagine that a particular song is going to get a particular reaction - but it's only when you have a chance to play live that you realise that either some things have fallen short of your expectations or exceeded them. So, during the first, approximately, 20 shows of a tour my antenna - so far as the sensitivities and dynamics of the concert are concerned - is really up and searching to make sure that we've got the thing right. Obviously, when we go out with a new album we will be playing tracks from that album; it's a question of how many we're going to play, and how many will actually work. Sometimes we have, in the past, put in the bulk of a new album only to find that maybe three or four of the songs just don't work as well as they do on the record. In which case they're either moved sideways or placed elsewhere - or dropped completely. Pace and dynamics are critical. The way I judge this is that, when I go to other people's concerts - particularly when I'm aware that they're in the earlier part of a tour - I can see where they clunky bits are. I'm always up there with the band on stage saying to them 'That one is not going to work. We're going to have to move this around.' It almost gets to the point where I look at each section of the show being approximately 15 to 20 minutes to long. So the show comes in bites of that duration, and once you get them right and you get tracks that work together, then you can start putting together the whole puzzle. Also, you have to take into account things like tempos and keys. When on paper two songs look great together, and then you play them together and they have keys that don't marry or sound nice together, then you've got a problem. There's lots of subtle things that can happen, and that's why we've spent a lot of time in rehearsals and in production trying to get the thing right.

"Coupled with all of that is the necessity to remember that people have come to hear favourite songs. Now this may sound simple enough, because you can run a scan of the songs - but I have actually recorded something like 135 songs... Choosing from those and putting them into a show that is going to be tenable, is pretty hard. I work a very hard tour - I work long hours and do many shows in a week - so, obviously, I don't want to burn myself out. With that in mind, I'd say the maximum amount of songs you can do in a concert is probably in the order of 24 to 26 songs...which is a lot. So, choosing not only material from a new record plus favourite material from old records is extremely difficult to do.

"In addition to all of this is that fact that having performed some of these songs hundreds and hundreds of times...the band and I get a little bored with performing them. So one is tempted not to do them again, but then you run into the problem of having people coming up to you on the road and asking 'Why didn't you play that song?' People will frequently be disappointed that they haven't heard what they feel are their favourite songs, for them. Indeed, different countries have different favourites! In fact, I've just received a list of favourite songs in The Lebanon - and some of them are really surprising, because they go back many years. So, to actually try and please all of the people all of the time is almost impossible. You have to temper your selection against how you feel you can present a song with how people actually want to hear them. The running order is an on-going process which can take many shows to actually get right. The more I talk about it, the more I realise it's an absolute nightmare to get it right! It's a very complicated issue, but it's all down to people's physical and emotional reactions to each song. Usually what happens is that I turn around to the drummer, Jeff, and catch eyes with him at the end of a song. We both, with a shake of the head, either agree or disagree that the song didn't work or couldn't work. Watch us.

"The point in all of this is that, basically, you have to be in front of people to see if things are going to work or not. The intention, at the end of it

all, is to leave people with that feeling of euphoria that they've attended something uplifting and something that is satisfying and fulfilling - not only for the audience. It's a collective feeling of everybody involved, the band, the crew and the audience, that we've attended something that is a great deal of fun - and something that you'd like to do again."

Prior to the rehearsals you're now working on, when was the last time you saw the guys from the band?

CHRIS: "Not so long ago, actually; June, three months. So what we have to do now is just clear away the rust of three months of not playing together and, basically, get round to the two real problems of presenting songs in a new fashion, some of them, and secondly getting a running order sorted out - and a production. We also need to arrive at an overall vibe and view of how I want the show to be presented. We are going to be doing a pretty stunning visual display, which Andy Doig, the lighting designer, has come up with. I haven't seen any of this stuff as we speak, but I'm certainly aware of it and I've just had a lot of discussions with Andy about various images. I think that's going to be a very interesting extra dimension to the show."

Having worked with the band for so many years now, when you get together again for rehearsals how much time, if any do you spend catching up on each other's news? Or do you just get straight down to work?

CHRIS: "Well, we're always delighted to see each other and, I think, if friends are created by shared experience then my closest friends would be amongst these guys in the band - because we've had an awful lot of shared experiences, of fairly outstanding nature. That said, when we do get together again, we very quickly get on with the job in hand with the minimum amount of fuss or delay."

OK, that's the tour dealt with - can we now catch up on the news, as usual, between issues of the Gazette?

CHRIS: "How far back are we going? To the release of the new album? So, that's May 16. Well, apart from a lot of television promotion - I was in Belgium, Holland, Germany, England - there wasn't really an awful lot going on. I had a quiet summer, which was very pleasant, with the family and children. I suppose what happened on a personal basis during that period I should make a comment about. And, quite simply, the comment is that it's a private matter that will be dealt with in private. More than that, I will say how much I appreciated all the letters of concern and support sent to me - and it was interesting to note that the vast majority of those letters were entirely supportive and said that it was my music they were interested in - not my private life."

How do you feel the new album has been received?

CHRIS: "Well, d'you know, since it has been released, I have paid very little attention to that. I think it has been received extremely well; the people that I have spoken to and who have written to me...love it. They love the mixture of the ballads with the orchestra, and they love the energy of the rock songs. A big favourite has been Up Here In Heaven - a lot of people have mentioned that track as being a stand-out song for them. In fact, with reference to that, when I went over to France on the QE2 for the D-Day commemorations earlier in the year, that was a very popular song. I don't know if you saw it on the TV, but I sang Say Goodbye To It All on the piano and then Up Here In Heaven with the band. It looked wonderful, and that transmission went right around the world."

You're starting the tour in Turkey this time. Is there any particular reason for that?

CHRIS: "For one thing, our dates over there on the last tour were very successful and, for another, what we wanted to do is go out and start the concerts somewhere we've been before and where we're confident that we can start putting together a really good show. We were delighted to go to Turkey two years ago - and we're looking forward to going there again. We're doing a couple of dates in Beirut, too, during September. My manager went out there recently on a trip to look at the place, and I had a television crew come over from Beirut to Ireland to interview me just a while ago. They were lovely people, they lived in Beirut, and they said that everything is much calmer over there now. Obviously, I wouldn't be going to a war zone but I think what they're trying to do is re-build - and it's thrilling for me to be one of the first kind of major acts to go in there and play concerts." again to try new places..."

I've seen a rough outline of your itinerary for next year which, at the time it was given to me, had still to be approved by you. Have you seen it yet?

CHRIS: "Yes...and I threw it away! You know, I have to balance the fact that I have to be with my family, as well. Needless to say, however, I will also be very busy, by the look of my itinerary, doing a number of other things next year which, no doubt, you'll let club members know about as we go along and as things are confirmed. I like travelling, but you've got to temper that with the fact that it also means you're going to be away from your family and home. Unfortunately, I seem to have chosen a profession and a career which involves a lot of travelling and, so far as next year is concerned, we are looking at the possibilities of playing in places like South America, South Africa, India, Australia..."

PERSON TO PERSON

Of all the places in the world where you have toured or holidayed, which is your favourite? (Sandra Hotchkiss). **CHRIS:** "I love the West Indies and Barbados in particular. I was out there last year, Most recently."

Who's music do you listen to currently and enjoy? (Mark Brazier, London). **CHRIS:** "I'm not actually going to answer that specifically, for the simple reason that every time I put music on in my house, the phone rings or the kids tell me to turn it off. So, I kind of listen to music most

in my car and I enjoy a wide selection ranging from classical to pop."

Why has the song 'Love Is My Decision' not appeared on any of your records? (Mandy Hunsdale, South Africa). **CHRIS:** "Because it's a soundtrack song; it came from the soundtrack to the movie Arthur 2: On The Rocks. However, I know that this is a question which people regularly write in to the club for an answer to, and I'd like to think that one day the song will turn up on a record of mine which is readily available for people to buy - although, I suppose, there must be a soundtrack album out there somewhere. That said, I would think there'd be a contractual problem between the fact that the song is from a soundtrack when it comes to actually moving it across to a personal album. That could create a problem."

Have you ever thought about putting together an instrumental, mainly piano, collection of your songs? (Mandy Hunsdale). **CHRIS:** "Have I ever considered doing it myself? No, I'm not a good enough instrumentalist - but I would certainly like to hear orchestral versions of some of my songs."

There has been a lot of talk about a Beatles reunion. If you were asked to be John Lennon's replacement for a one-off concert - would you accept? (Justine Doorne). **CHRIS:** "Immediately!"

I'm going mad trying to get hold of the box set CD for This Way Up, as was shown when Chris appeared on GMTV in the UK during May. Every record store says they know nothing about it - why not? (Joanne Sherriff, Lincolnshire). **CHRIS:** "I know about this; this person has already written to me. On GMTV, the presenter held up a small wooden box and inside the wooden box was a CD and a leaflet about the record. These were for promotional purposes *only*, but the presenter thought they were for sale - and has driven your correspondent wild! They are not for sale; they're only for sending to radio stations and journalists, unfortunately, and they are not available to the general public. I've got one, though."

If you weren't in the music business, what career would you like to follow? (Vicky Bell, South Africa). **CHRIS:** "Ooh, I don't believe that's ever come up before. I would be interested in something creative, and there was a time - until very recently - that I'd thought of being a journalist. But now I think so little of journalists and the medium in which they have to work, that I would no longer choose this as an alternative career. However, I would be somehow involved with the public - perhaps as a hotelier, or maybe as a PR or in advertising. Something like that."

In the last issue of the Gazette, you spoke about three other songs you had recorded during the sessions for This Way Up. Why did you not include them on the CD, and will we ever be able to find them on record one day? (Jean-Marie Le Dru, France). **CHRIS:** "Well, of the three songs, two of them have already been released as B-sides, on CDs. One of them was called Strangers On A Train, which was on the B-side of Blonde Hair Blue Jeans. Another was Can I See You Tonight, and that was, I believe, on the B-side of This Silent World CD. The third song is called I'm Not Crying Over You - and that will probably not be released until next year."

I would like to know how the new tracks, featuring the orchestra, will be recreated for your live performances. Will there be a touring orchestra, or will you use their part of the tracks put on backing tape. (Kath Williamson). **CHRIS:** "No, we never use backing tapes and to tour with an orchestra is indescribably difficult and problematical - so I won't be doing that. No, we're going to try and recreate the orchestra with the musical talents and instruments we have available on stage. So it'll be done in a different way, but the songs will certainly remain the same."

Did you have a video of the Power Of Ten Tour made and, if not, do you intend to make one of the This Way Up Tour? (Paul Moss, Devon). **CHRIS:** "There was no video done of the Power Of Ten Tour, but I think it's always very nice to have a good video shoot of an existing tour - and, hopefully, towards probably the end of the European tour we may consider doing a video then."

One of the songs on your new album is called Here Is Your Paradise - what is your idea of paradise? (Claudine Tredinnick, Cornwall). **CHRIS:** "Peace of mind."

How do you go about choosing a support act when you go on tour? Do you contact artists you know, or is it done by the record company or your manager? Also, do you personally get a choice in the matter? (Christine Staniforth, Luton). **CHRIS:** "Submissions are made to both the record company and the management company, and when they are whittled down I am then sent tapes - which is why we wound up with that lovely English singer, Martyn Joseph, last tour. I loved his record and said 'Yes, I'd love to have this guy on the tour.' So it does come down to personal choice. Sometimes those choices don't work out, in which case - in the past - contracts have been terminated! Basically, selection comes down to various things that management go through. Incidentally, the support act for a UK tour, for example, will not necessarily be the support act for other areas which a tour might visit. But that's another story."

Have you ever taken part in a Desert Island Discs-type programme and, if so, which records did he choose? (Eileen Ray, Banbury). **CHRIS:** "No, I have yet to be invited - but I'd love to do it. I'll reserve my essential selection choice until then."

Do Hubie and Michael go to a kindergarten or nursery school? (Sabine Stay, Germany). **CHRIS:** "Oh, yes, they both go to a learn through playing school. They're three and six-years-old respectively now and they both go to a school where they learn to read and write and play."

Do you like comedy and, if so, what and who would you most enjoy watching on TV or video? (Christine McGowan, Hayes). **CHRIS:** "Comedy... Yup, I love a good laugh. I recently watched a film called Dennis, with Walter Matthau. It had me rolling in the aisles; it's very funny and is about Dennis The Menace. I have a fairly wide enjoyment of

comedy from Monty Python's Flying Circus, from way back, to even Benny Hill. But I find a lot of alternative comedians of nowadays just do not appeal to me sense of humour."

You've talked about doing an album of favourite ballads - does this mean a solo tour could still be on the agenda? (Christine McGowan). **CHRIS:** "Yes! Watch this space."

Remember, if you have a question you'd like to ask Chris, then send it along to the fan club address marked 'Person To Person'. As you've just read, we put your questions to Chris however weird, wonderful or plain inquisitive they might be - each time we conduct an interview for the Gazette and, space allowing, we will always print as many of his replies as we possibly can. This is your opportunity to interview C de B, so use it...

THE C de B HOTLINE

This is the premium rate phone line service set up by the club in addition to the one indicated on the reverse of the your membership card. The service enables us to up-date information about Chris at a much faster rate than normal - but calls will be more expensive. The charges are **39p** per minute cheap rate, and **49p** per minute at all other times. Unfortunately, this service cannot receive calls from outside of the UK - the telephone system has quite mastered this yet - but we will be maintaining our original line, purely for members from abroad. Messages will only put on the new phone service when relevant - and the date the message was recorded will always be mentioned first to enable callers who have already heard it to hang up immediately should they choose. The number to call is:

0891 334 225

COLLECTOR'S CORNER

For the information and benefit of any new members of the club, this occasional section of the newsletter is here for any among you wishing to buy, sell, swap or borrow various items of C de B memorabilia. Here's the latest batch of people looking for or offering items of interest.

Doreen Gardner, 11 Keldhead Orchard, Kirkbymoorside, York, YO6 6EF, England. Ask 'Does anyone have a copy of 'Love Is My Decision' or 'Live In South Africa' on LP, tape or CD?

Maria Bonner, 55 Cecil Road, St Thomas, Exeter, Devon, EX2 9AQ, England. Would like a copy of the This Is Your Life TV programme featuring Chris and is willing to provide a VHS video tape and pay for postage.

Mandy Hunsdale, 93 James Wright Avenue, Norkem Park 1619, Transvaal, South Africa. Seeks a copy of High On Emotion, the BBC Radio 2 series about Chris, and information from anyone willing to sell copies of Chris's back catalogue.

Claudine Tredinnick, 38 Godolphin Road, Helton, Cornwall, TR13 8QD, England. Has a copy of all three parts of the BBC Radio 2 series which she would like to swap for a copy of This Is Your Life on video.

Morten Rose, M.Bechs Alle No.6 - 2 T.h, 2650 Hvidovre, Denmark. Has interviews with C de B for sale on video and cassette tapes for sale - and seeks a copy of an interview broadcast on the Norwegian station NRK at the beginning of 1993, possibly in March.

Richard G F Falkingham, 73 Yew Tree road, Birchencliffe, Huddersfield, HD3 3QR, England. Seeks a 'Separate Tables' box set and will pay £15, depending on condition.

Daniela Klein, Pommerstr.67, 36251 Ludwigsau-Ersrode, Germany. Seeks photographs or written material of Chris's band. She has lots of C de B material to swap, or will happily pay.

Mrs Kate Radcliffe, 17 Debbs Close, Stony Stratford, Milton Keynes, Bucks, MK11 1DJ, England. Seeks a copy of This Is Your Life, the BBC Radio 2 series and 'Chris de Burgh - The Video'. She's willing to provide blank tapes, pay postage or buy.

If you are desperately seeking something C de B, or are able to help someone out who is, then send your details into the club address - and we'll do the rest.

PERSON TO PERSON EXTRA!

Earlier in the year, long-standing club member **Daniela Klein** wrote to the club offering us the opportunity of printing some questionnaires she had succeeded in convincing Chris and the members of his band to complete for her. At last, we are pleased to accept her kind offer - and hope members will enjoy reading the answers she obtained as much as we did...

Name: Al Marnie.

Date of birth: 26.10.50.

Place of birth: Toronto, Canada.

Where do you live now: England.

What did you do prior to joining the band: Played with many other bands.

In the band since: 1979.

What's your favourite C de B song: Crying And Laughing.

Food: Indian and Italian.

Drink: German beer and whatever wine that was that Chris had that night...

Film: Eraserhead.

Actor/actress: Pass.

Book: Glory And The Dream.

Sport: Ice Hockey.

Your favourite personal slogan: Life was so inexpensive when I was single.

Where would you like to live: Somewhere warm and politically favourable.

Your favourite holiday resort: Turkey.

Which three people or items would you take to a lonely island: Wife, son, daughter.

Which was the first/last album you bought: Walk Don't Run/Ventures. Harbour Lights/Bruce Hornsby.

Your favourite music: All music, when it's good.

Which living person would you like to meet: Mel Blick (singer).

Which historical person do you adore: Pass.

Which event would you like to have participated in: The invention of the English expression "anatomically correct."

Things you don't like: To be misunderstood.

Your wish for the future: To be understood.

Name: Danny McBride.

Date of Birth: 12.2.51.

Place of Birth: Toronto.

Where do you live now: Vancouver.

What did you do before joining band: Recording artist.

In the band since: January, 1983.

What's your favourite C de B song: Much More Than This.

Food: Pasta.

Drink: Water.

Film: Goodbye Mr Chips - the original.

Actor/actress: Robert Donat, Greer Garson.

Book: Tiapan.

Sport: Skiing.

Your favourite personal slogan: Pass.

Where would you like to live: Perth, Australia.

Your favourite holiday resort: Perth, Australia.

Which three people or items would you take to a lonely island: A girl, a barbecue, a boat.

Which was the first/last album you bought: Pat Metheny.

Your favourite music: All music.

Which living person would you like to meet: Leo Bescaglia.

Which historical person do you adore: Jesus.

Which event would you like to have participated in: Tearing down the Berlin Wall.

Things you don't like: Ignorance, war.

Your wish for the future: Peace.

Name: Glenn Morrow.

Date of birth: January 30.

Place of birth: Toronto.

Where do you live now: Toronto.

What did you do before joining the band: I had my own band, Chester, quality recording artists who had a Number 1 hit in Canada.

In the band since: July, 1977.

What's your favourite C de B song: Ferryman - or his next hit.

Food: Anything made with garlic.

Drink: Pils.

Film: Once Upon A Time In America.

Actor/actress: Jack Nicholson.

Book: Pillars Of The Earth.

Sport: Windsurfing.

Your favourite personal slogan: If it's worth doing, it's worth doing right.

Where would you like to live: Near the sea, in a hot climate.

Your favourite holiday resort: Barbados.

Which three people or items would you take to a lonely island: Wife, son, and a good chef.

Which was the first/last album you bought: Bitches Brew/Miles Davis, Randy Travis.

Your favourite music: Blues.

Which living person would you like to meet: Ray Charles.

Which historical person do you adore: I'm not easily impressed.

Which event would you like to have participated in: The design and planning for the building of the pyramids in Egypt.

Things you don't like: Smoke-filled rooms, rude people, sandy mussels, wasting time, warm beer, soft beds.

Your wish for the future: A long and happy life for my family and myself, lots of friends, no war and a cure for cancer and AIDS.

Name: Jeff Phillips.

Date of birth: 5.7.55.

Place of birth: San Diego, California.

Where do you live now: Germany.

What did you do before joining the band: I was a professional dancer.

In the band since: Pass.

What's your favourite C de B song: Pass.

Food: Mexican.

Drink: Water.

Film: To Kill A Mockingbird.

Actor/actress: Robert De Niro.

Book: Steppenwolf.

Sport: Golf.

Your favourite personal slogan: No problem.

Where would you like to live: Pass.

Your favourite holiday resort: Pass.

Which three people or items would you take to a lonely island: A typewriter and lots of paper.

Which was the first/last album you bought: The Beatles, '65.

Which living person would you like to meet: De Niro.

Which historical person do you adore: Jesus.

Which event would you like to have participated in: My birth.

Things you don't like: Not being polite.

Your wish for the future: More of it.

Name: Ian 'Koko' Kojima.

Date of birth: 28.12.51.

Place of birth: Toronto.

Where do you live now: Toronto.

What did you do before joining the band: Played in lots of other bands. In the band since: 1980.

What's your favourite C de B song: Crying And Laughing.

Food: Pasta.

Drink: Scotch.

Film: Pass.

Actor/actress: De Niro.

Book: Pass.

Sport: Ice hockey, golf.

Your favourite personal slogan: Pass.

Where would you like to live: Toronto.

Your favourite holiday resort: Australia.

Which three people or items would you take to a lonely island: Golf club, fridge, Scotch.

Which was the first/last album you bought: Beach Boys/Surfin' USA, new Donald Fagen.

Your favourite music: R&B, jazz.

Which living person would you like to meet: Al Jarreau.

Which historical person do you adore: Albert Einstein.

Which event would you like to have participated in: The British Open golf tournament.

Things you don't like: Bad Scotch.

Your wish for the future: A cleaner, non-smoking world.

Name: Chris de Burgh.

Date of birth: 20th century.

Place of birth: Planet earth.

What did you do before becoming a professional musician: Amateur brain surgeon (with Dr J. Phillips).

What's your favourite C de B song: N/A.

Food: Japanese/Italian.

Drink: Alcohol.

Film: 2001.

Actor/actress: Fred Couples.

Book: Amateur Brain Surgery by Dr J. Phillips.

Sport: Night golf.

Your favourite personal slogan: No brain, no pain.

Where would you like to live: Anywhere near a pyramid.

Your favourite holiday resort: San Quentin Holiday Spa.

Which three people or items would you take to a lonely island: A saw, a scalpel and Saddam Hussein's personal bodyguards.

Which was the first/last album you bought: Formaldehyde Is My Delight by Frank N. Stein.

Your favourite music: Handel, Bach, Pachelbel, Frolio, Amberlach, Suitcase.

Which living person would you like to meet: Robert Maxwell's swimming instructor.

Which historical person do you adore: Dr J. Phillips, brain surgeon (AM.)

Which event would you like to have participated in: Dr J. Phillips' discovery of frontal lobotomy whilst playing cards.

Things you don't like: Questionnaires.

Your wish for the future: A chance to work one more time with Dr J. Phillips, brain surgeon (AM.)

UNTIL THE NEXT TIME...

That brings this issue to a close with a smile - and if anyone knows the precise whereabouts of Dr J. Phillips, brain surgeon (AM.) could they please write in with details to the club address immediately. The next edition of the Gazette will be with you in the New Year, featuring an interview with Chris about life on the road during the This Way Up World Tour. We'd also like to include as much input from club members, so please remember to send any pen pal addresses, Person To Person questions or entries for Collector's Corner to the P.O.Box. Naturally, we'd also like to hear from you with any comments, criticisms, or ideas concerning the newsletter or the club and its service in general. Finally, just a few brief words about the somewhat erratic publication of the Gazette. As you might all be aware by now, its arrival on your doormat is not something which you can set your watch by! Indeed, the Gazette kind of reaches you when it's ready but, regardless of any of this, should always be in your hands on three separate occasions in any one 12-month period. This is what we aim to do, so please don't be concerned if each issue does not arrive when you think it ought to; so long as you're getting three copies in approximately 12 months, we're fine. And remember, membership to the club is not for a period of time. It's over the course of a number of Gazettes (i.e. three issues) so don't try and calculate when you might be due to renew your membership based on how long ago you originally joined. Rest assured instead that you'll automatically be sent a renewal form with the last issue of the Gazette due in your membership.

I hope that clears up the matter for you.

So, until the next time, all that remains for me to do is wish you a very merry Christmas and a Happy New Year - better early than never! - from all of us at the club and on behalf of C de B, his management and all involved. And, as ever, thanks for your patience, loyalty and support. Maybe we'll see you out in Germany on one of the In The Limelight trips...

The New Chris de Burgh Club, P.O. Box 276, London, E2 7BW.

PS: We hope everybody received good seats to Chris's UK shows as a result of the priority booking facility organised by the club prior to the tour dates going on general sale...

PPS: Chris's latest single Here Is Your Paradise was released in the UK on October 3.