

The Classical Connection II

Tour



At the tender age of 22, with the Fragile album from the progressive rock band YES in the top 5 of the album charts on both sides of the Atlantic, the keyboard player with that band wondered what on earth he would be doing when he reached his 40's.

At the not quite so tender age of 32, with punk happening all around him, and anything remotely in tune or melodic about as popular as President Bush in Iraq, Rick Wakeman wondered if he would be alive 10 years on, let alone making music!

At the age of 42, amazingly enough we know exactly what he's doing, at least tonight we do, as he will be performing selections of music, most of which he has written over the past 20 or so years, adapted into semi-classical form for this, the second Classical Connection tour.

The first tour, which came about following requests from venues around the country for him to appear very much as a solo artist as against that as part of a rock band, was put together with serious misgivings by Rick, who felt that people would not come and see him as a "naked" musician so to speak. Those misgivings soon proved to be extremely unfounded as full house after full house showed up to witness what was later reported as probably the most entertaining of Rick's solo shows to date.

A recording, aptly entitled The Classical Connection was released for the tour and sold out the first pressing in three weeks! All this was more than enough to send the message that this was a formula that Rick's fans liked, and indeed brought some new supporters into the fold as well who were pleasantly surprised that this old rocker could not only "play a bit" but also string words of more than two syllables together and best of all not send you home deaf!

If you haven't seen the man perform before, then you are in for a few surprises. Generally accepted as having the fastest fingers in the business, he has also brought a unique sense of musical feel to digitally programmed keyboards and coupled with some quite different and outstanding arrangements genuinely brings a new music into the 1990's.

For this tour a new CD has been produced, Classical Connection II, (not exactly the most original of titles we know, but it says it all as regards the music), and tonight's performance will be taken from this and the first album, along with one or two other selections especially adapted for this show. So sit back, relax and voyage on a unique musical journey that probably no-one else is capable of taking you on quite like Rick Wakeman.



Rick's life history so far seems to have been written so many times that we thought it would be nice to present it in a different way this time around, and so we have chronicled some of the major and not so major events that have happened in Rick's life throughout each of the forty two odd years.

1948. Somewhere, around about August/September, Mildred and Cyril Wakeman have an early night and Richard Christopher Wakeman is conceived. (Incidentally, anyone calling him Richard these days is likely to get ignored).

1949. At Perivale maternity hospital in Middlesex on May 18th (presents and cards always welcome), a boy was born to Mildred and Cyril. Mildred wanted a girl and Cyril wanted a boy. They said in later years that it was amazing that they were both disappointed! Dad wanted to call him Simon and Mum wanted to call him Dianne. We do not know to this day where the name Richard came from.

1950. You must appreciate that we are working entirely on hearsay here as Rick's memory doesn't stretch back as far as nappies and prams. Anyway, we are reliably informed from Rick's mother that he cried and screamed from the moment he woke up in the morning until the moment he went to sleep at night. Subsequently during the day she would put the pram, with him in it, in the garden shed.

1951. Still refused to walk apparently. (This was cured in later years by strapping a golf bag on his shoulder). He crawled backwards and regularly jammed himself under the sideboard. (Riveting stuff).

1952. Walked, probably out of boredom and being fed up with being jammed under the sideboard, down to the end of the garden, where he fed the chickens with rhubarb. Rick claims to this day that the rhubarb could not possibly have been the sole reason from the death of all the chickens the following day. 1953. First family holiday in 1938 Morris 8 to Exmouth in Devon where they stayed at Mrs. Clarke's guest house at 24 Lawn Road.

1954. Rick goes to school. Wood End Infants to be precise just down the road from the semi-detached he was to spend all his childhood days. Annual holiday in Exmouth at Mrs. Clarke's. Rick recalls the Sunday evening musical evenings with his Uncle Stan on ukelele, his father on the piano and his mother singing. Rick joins South Harrow Baptist Church Sunday School.

1955. Rick's dad buys a television. Just the one channel with such delights as Andy Pandy and Muffin the Mule. Holiday in Exmouth (Mrs. Clarkes), but most importantly his first piano lesson with Mrs. Symes, who was to remain his teacher throughout.

1956. Found out that Father Christmas wasn't real. This was his first realisation that lies existed. Luckily found out in later life that

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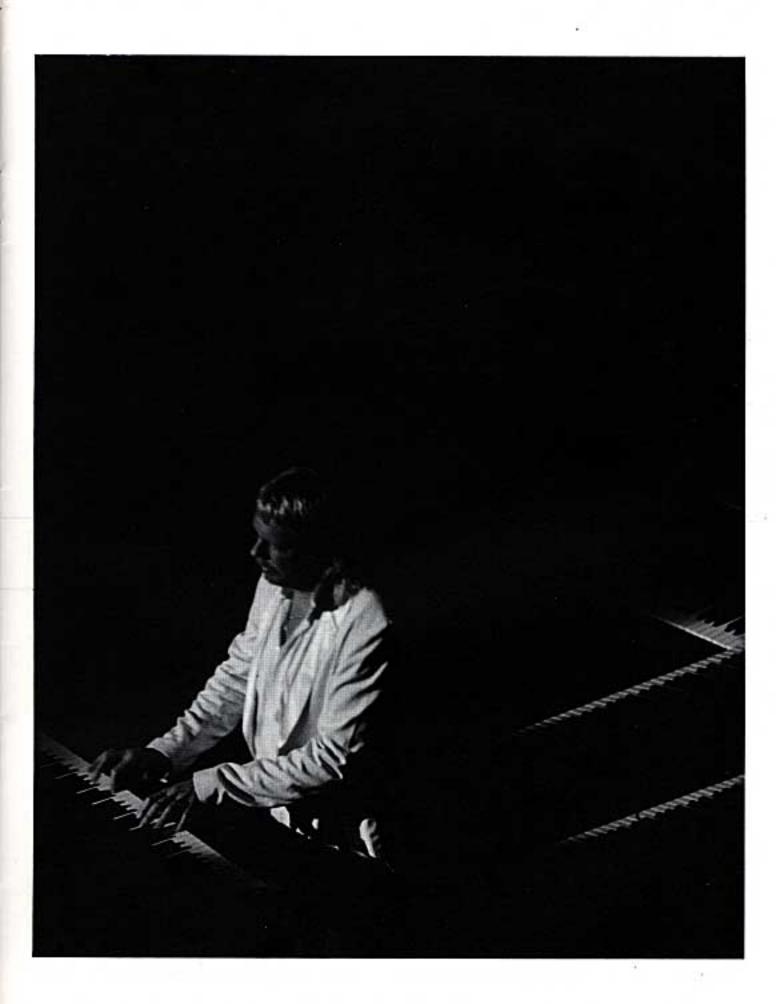


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THREE

Father Xmas does exist and won't hear anything to the contrary. Went to Mrs. Clarkes in Exmouth.

1957. Moved up to Wood End Infants. First music teacher there was Mr. Lewis who used to rap the children over the knuckles with a ruler. One naughty boy sawed Mr. Lewis's rulers in half but luckily they were never able to pin it on Rick as he put the saw back in the caretaker's room before it was discovered missing. First two weeks in August . . . Mrs. Clarke's, Exmouth. Was taken to Brentford to see his first game of football by his father. Became a lifelong fan.

1958. New school music teacher,
Miss Dennis. Large breasted and
freckly. Very popular. Rick performs
a Clementi Sonatina at the school
concerns with Side Saddle, which
was a huge hit for Russ Conway at
the time, as an encore. Joined the
1st Sudbury Scout Troop as a cub.
No need to tell you where the
Wakeman's holidayed.

1959. Passed 11-plus examination and was admitted to Drayton Manor County Grammar School in West London. His music teacher there was William Herrera, a brilliant man in his late fifties. He eventually ran off to Spain with a girl from the fourth form, where they married and lived happily ever after until Bill's death some ten or so years ago. We will let you decide what the possible cause of death was. Most of us who knew him tend to plump for ecstasy. Rick passes Grade One examination on the piano with distinction. (He gained distinction throughout the eight graded examinations). As a reward the family went to Exmouth for a holiday.

1960. Rick was entered for his first music festival and duly won his class. (The trophy still sits on his piano to this day). He also passed Grade Two both on piano and at theory. The theory lessons were held on Saturday mornings. Saturday lunchtimes were occupied by sitting on Sudbury Hill station bridge and attempting to drop the

rubbers taken from Mrs. Symes theory classes down the funnels of passing steam engines. The family decided to have a bit of a change for holiday this year and so went the last two weeks in August instead of the first two to . . . you've guessed it. Good old Mrs. Clarke's.

1961. Rick is entered for loads of festivals and proceeds to win most of them. It gets to the stage that he won't practice unless he has an audience. Grade three is achieved and he also starts clarinet lessons with William Herrera. Forms his first band, a trad jazz band called Brother Wakeman and the Clergyman. The band uniform is achieved by putting the school shirt on the wrong way round. Feigned serious illness, but to no avail . . . holidayed at Mrs. Clarke's.

1962. Commence church organ lessons. Grade four passed and more festivals won. Leaves scouts and joins Boys Brigade at South Harrow Baptist Church. The 1st Harrow. Heavily into trad jazz, (Kenny Ball in particular), has for Xmas a record



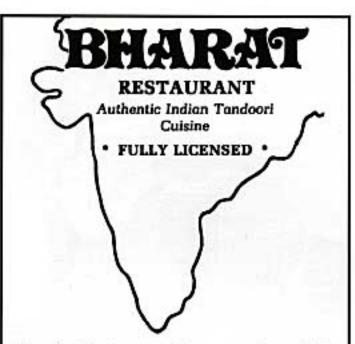
Rick plays for the Lords Taverners at Wembley



Name the two playing keyboards



Name everyone not playing keyboards!



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Rick and Nina are both regular visitors at both the Springs and it's sister health farm Henlow Grange

player . . . a Dansette Major! Rick has three singles in his collection, all of which are played in heavy rotation for the neighbour's benefit. They are, (the records that is, not the neighbours), Still Love You All by Kenny Ball, Have a Drink on Me by Lonnie Donegan, and Sleigh Bells by Russ Conway. Holiday in Exmouth, (now there's a surprise).

1963. Joined a local Blues band called The Atlantic Blues, who were famed more for their enthusiasm than musical prowess. This was noted with interest by Mrs. Symes whilst guiding him through grade five. Rick was amazed how well Mrs. Clarke looked during the Wakeman family holiday and Rick was picked for the Drayton Manor 2nd XI football team.

1964. The Atlantic Blues obtained a residency at the Neasdon Mental Rehabilitation Club. Quite seriously the band barricaded themselves in behind chairs and trestle tables for the first couple of weeks, but then grew up very fast and got to know the kids and become their friends. The band stayed there for a year and to this day Rick counts it as one of the most rewarding periods of his life. Grade Six is accomplished and

the weather is pretty bad in Exmouth during the first two weeks in August.

1965. Rick struggles through his Olevels and passes English, Spoken English, Maths, Art and Music and proceeds into the sixth form to take Art, Music and British Constitution. He leaves the Atlantic Blues and joins a local dance band quartet called the Concords. They did weddings and 21st birthdays as well as pub gigs. Rick was already six foot and soon discovered the joys of earning a couple of quid and spending it on light and bitters. Homework suffered as did piano practice. Grade seven was held over for a year. Rick brought home numerous holiday brochures about Spain, which were glossed over with moderate interest before the serious decision of which two weeks we would be going to Mrs. Clarke's was made.

1966. Passes driving test and purchases a 1958 Ford 100E Anglia. Prior to MOT testing, which was just as well, the car had four odd tyres, little or no floor, had more filler than metal and cost £30 inclusive of tax and insurance. Rick forms his own rock band, Curdled

Milk, named after Eric Clapton's Cream. The Band was a huge his at the school dance which was marred only by Rick driving his car over the headmaster's prize rose bed and subsequently forfeiting the fee. Knuckles down and passes grade seven. Also forms his own dance band, (The Green Dolphin Trio), and obtains a residency at the Borough of Brent Council Social Club in Alperton, Middlesex. Sells the Anglia and buys a 1957 Vauxhall Victor Estate. Refused point blank to go to Mrs. Clarke's and went for one weeks camp with the Boys Brigade, would you believe in Devon, and two weeks package holiday (£49) in Majorca with his best friend Pete Wakefield. Rick also did his first BBC sessions with the James Royal Set for Radio One. John Entwhistle played bass on some of the sessions, what price the tapes now?

1967. Passed Art and Music at Alevel. Failed British Constitution. (This has been a personal thorn in Rick's side and as he has built up a great interest in politics, intends at some juncture over the next few years to take the exam again as well as going for a degree in the subject).



Rick with his Island neighbour and long time friend Norman Wisdom, taken during studio sessions working on Norman's new album, on which Rick plays keyboards for Norman

Grade eight was passed as was the entrance examination to the Royal College of Music. Rick became a Sunday School teacher at the church and also left the Green Dolphin Trio and joined the Ronnie Smith Band which had a residency at the Top Rank Ballroom in Watford. It was here that Rick first met Ashlev Holt, who went on to become Rick's first choice male vocalist throughout his solo career. By now Rick had also changed cars, from a Ford Consul to a Cortina and this love of cars continued and he admits to losing count around about the hundreth one he owned!

1968. Attended the Royal College of Music, where he studied piano, modern music, clarinet and orchestration. The College was not exactly a happy period for him and he quietly returned during this period of his life to Mrs. Symes for further lessons. He was baptised at his church and was sacked from Ronnie Smith's band for not taking the dance music seriously enough. At the end of the year was reinstated with the band, this time

at the Top Rank Ballroom in Reading. In the time in between he started doing sessions for Regal Zonophone and for such notable producers as Gus Dudgeon and Tony Visconti. Holidays ceased, although Mrs. Clarke was to remain a regular haunt for Rick's parents up until she passed away in the late 1970s.

1969. Rick left the College of his own choosing and set about forging a career for himself in the music world. This was ably assisted by Ronnie Smith who sacked him for the second time for having the audacity to ask for more money. Rick joined a pub band called The Spinning Wheel which had a residency at the Greyhound in Chadwell Heath in Essex. It was owned by Bob Wheatley, who later went on to form Wheatley Taverns and do very nicely for himself. Rick has considerable admiration for Bob and enjoyed the few months he worked for him. Incidentally the bass player from that band went on to have hits with Pickety Witch and the guitarist wrote some very successful songs later to be recorded by artistes such as Cliff Richard. Recorded Space Oddity with David Bowie and did first sessions for Strawbs.

1970. Left the Spinning Wheel and joined Strawbs. Moved from the semi in Northolt, leaving behind his parents and three drawers full of black and white photographs of Exmouth. Made his first album with the Strawbs in the July of that year, live at the Queen Elizabeth Hall. . Just a Collection of Antiques and Curios. It was this concert, more than any other event up until that point, that brought Rick to the attention of the media. The Melody Maker seemed to sum it up with their headline "Tomorrow's Superstar". The Strawbs grew in popularity and Rick became heavily in demand for session work with other artistes. At the height of his session career, Rick was doing eighteen a week. It is estimated that he has performed on over 2,000 different tracks by artistes as diverse as Black Sabbath, Cat Stevens (Morning Has Broken being the most remembered), Mary

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1971. Made a second album with Strawbs entitled From The Witchwood which contained Rick's all time favourite Strawb's track . . . A Glimpse of Heaven, probably one of Dave Cousin's finest compositions. Moved from the rented flat in Ilford to a small two up, two down in West Harrow, Middlesex. Left the Strawbs in August and joined YES. Toured America for the first time and made the classic album FRAGILE, still regarded by many as the epitome of the progressive rock album. At the end of the year signed a solo contract with A&M Records and recorded Catherine of Aragon at Trident Studios in London.

1972. YES record Close to the Edge and the band establishes itself worldwide as one of the leaders in contemporary rock music. Rick continues recording the Six Wives of Henry VIII and moves from his terraced home in West Harrow to a detached four bedroomed house in Gerrards Cross, Buckinghamshire. The year was full of tours around the world and Rick's first son Oliver was born.

1973. The Six Wives of Henry VIII was released and in spite of indifferent reviews was a big hit worldwide. YES produced YESSONGS, a live three album set, and made a film which is available on video to this day. At the end of 1973 YES produced Tales from Topographic Oceans which ultimately led to Rick handing in his notice the following year. Again YES toured solidly and Rick moved once again, this time to Burnham Beeches in Buckinghamshire where he set about converting an old nursing home. Rick appeared on the Old Grey Whistle Test on BBC2 and his new fangled idea of putting keyboards on top of one another, which he pioneered back in 1970, now seemed to be catching on.

1974. Probably the most significant year in Rick's career. In a nutshell he recorded Journey to the Centre of the Earth with the London Symphony Orchestra with the resulting record appearing in the top ten of virtually every country in the world and in May left YES, the band he felt he could no longer contribute to. He toured the world with Journey, taking around huge orchestras and choirs, resulting in him spending every penny he had earned. His second son, Adam was born earlier that year in March.

1975. Rick performed Journey on stage at the Crystal Palace Bowl. He collapsed at the end of the show and later the following day was admitted to Wexham Park Hospital following a suspected minor heart attack. He remained in hospital for some weeks and whilst incarcerated



Spot the celebrity . . . and Rick

wrote The Myths and Legends of King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table. The album story became as much about the composer as it was about King Arthur, although this was never ever mentioned in any articles or interviews. The album was recorded at Morgan Studios in Willesden, North London. Rick also ventured into films by working with Ken Russell on Lisztomania at Shepperton Studios. King Arthur was performed as an ice show for three nights at Wembley Empire Pool and in spite of selling out lost a small fortune due to Rick's extravagant production. Wrote and arranged the music for Ken Russell's Lisztomania and also appeared in it as the Thor.

1976. Recorded "No Earthly Connection" in France with the English Rock Ensemble and also the music for the film "White Rock" and toured Europe, America and Brazil where Rick broke every indoor attendance record, all of which still stand to this day. A book The Caped Crusader by Dan Wooding hits the bookstores. He rejoined YES in November and moved to Switzerland.

1977. Released "Going for the One" with YES and toured the world for a change. Recorded "Criminal Record" YES had a top ten single with "Wondrous Stories".

1978. Released Rhapsodies, a double solo album, produced by Toni Visconti. Benjamin, Rick's third son arrived in February. Guess what . . . YES toured for a change and recorded a new album TORMATO. Originally titled YESTOR, it was renamed after Rick threw a ripe tomato at the master painting of the cover. Rick invested heavily . . . and unwisely in American soccer.

1979. A strange year this. It was the real emergence of punk. YES and Rick were very out of fashion and Rick recorded an album entitled MAYBE '80, which was released later on the now defunct Moon label under the name Rock and Roll Prophet. YES attempted to record

an album in Paris which ended in bitter dispute culminating in Rick and Jon Anderson leaving in the December. Rick becomes a director of Brentford Football Club.

1980. Rick resigns as director of Brentford Football Club and returns to England shortly after the sudden death of his father. Reforms the English Rock Ensemble and tours for a change.

1981. Records the music for the horror film "The Burning" in New York. Signs for Charisma Records and starts to record "1984", with lyrics by Tim Rice. Chaka Khan, Steve Harley and Jon Anderson provide the vocals. A huge tour is mounted around South America and the UK. It is during this tour that Rick meets Nina Carter, the former model who over the next ten years pulls his life and music back together.

1982. Records a new solo album, "Cost of Living", again with lyrics by Tim Rice and featuring some fine narrative work by Robert Powell.



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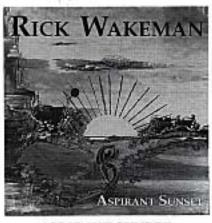
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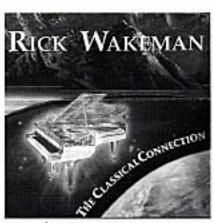
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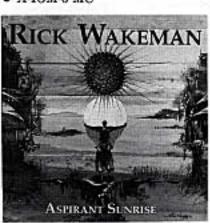
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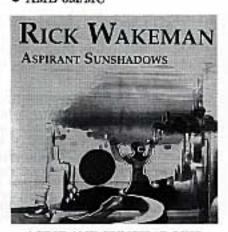
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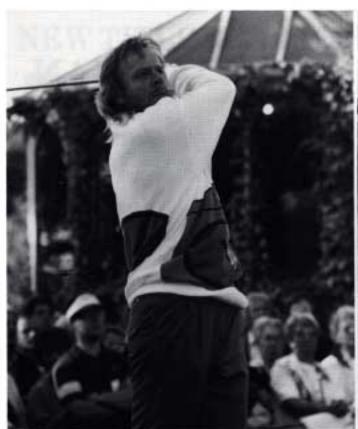
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Records the TV series Gastank with Tony Ashton for Channel 4 and finally releases Rock and Roll Prophet. Also the soundtrack from the World Cup is released entitled Gole.

1983. Jemma is born in Edinburgh in February and Rick and Nina move to Camberley in Surrey. Rick becomes chairman of Camberley Town Football Club.

1984. Discovers the joy of golf. Becomes an instant fanatic. (It is now a passion. Handicap 16. Proud member of Peel Golf Club on the Isle of Man and Shrigley Hall near Manchester.) Rick signs for President Records and produces "Silent Nights". The single "Glory Boys" gets heavy radio play, but the collapse of the distribution company foiled Rick's first chance of a possible hit single. Rick loses his driving licence after failing the breathaliser and marries Nina at Camberley United Reformed Church.

1985. Rick embarks on a massive tour promoting "Silent Nights". In Australia he is ill and gives up drinking for good. Makes "Country Airs" for Coda Records which stays at number one in the new age chart for over twenty weeks.

1986. Oscar is born in May in Guildford, Surrey. Rick embarks on producing a new age collection for President Records which culminate over the coming years in "Zodiaque" with Tony Fernandez, "A Suite of Gods" with Ramon Remedios, "Night Airs", "Sea Airs" and "The Family Album". "The Live at Hammersmith" album is released. 1987. "The Gospels" is recorded with Ramon Remedios, Robert Powell and the Eton College Chapel Choir. It is filmed in Israel for Central Television and shown the following year on Good Friday. Rick tours Australia with the band SKY. The album "Time Machine" is put together, intended to be a live spectacular ice show, but lack of sponsorship and funds reduce the project to a single album but containing classic tracks such as "Ice" and "Make Me a Woman".

1988. The Wakeman's move to the Isle of Man. Rick reforms The English Rock Ensemble and touring starts yet again, but all the while a master plan is formulating as to where Rick wants to take his music and his career. The first stage in this is to build his own studio.

1989. Touring continues but is cut short with the reformation of four of the old members of YES. Anderson, Bruford, Wakeman and Howe have a million selling CD world wide and a massive world tour is undertaken. Rick produces "African Bach", which contains some of the best vocal material he has ever written. Contractual problems delay the release until late 1991.

1990. Rick forms the Ambient group to look after his recordings and videos. First releases include "The Suntrilogy" and "Phantom Power". Anderson, Bruford, Wakeman and Howe commence recording a second album in France which suddenly becomes part of a newly formed eight piece YES album. Produces "In the Beginning" for the Christian charity ASSIST with Nina with all proceeds going to the charity.

1991. YES thur Europe and America and the Union album sells close on two million copies world wide. Rick makes an album with his great friend Norman Wisdom, Rick continues to produce solo projects for Ambient, which include "2000AD", "The Private Collection", "Classical Connection", "Classical Connection II" and "Softsword". A combined album with Rick and Mario Fasciano entitled "Black Knights at the Court of Ferdinand IV" is also released. The video of the "Gospels" is rereleased as is a video of the "Classical Collection" tour. Plans are laid for a re-make of "Journey to the Centre of the Earth" and a tour for "Classical Connection II" is put together which you've either just watched . . . or are about to!

There are so many more events that have happened in Rick's life, and some might say we've missed out some of the most pertinent, but we'll just have to save them for the next time.

1992. Obviously some guess work here but probably a new YES album and tour, perhaps a solo album with Jon Anderson. There is a big project based on the books of James Herbert in the making as well as Rick's ambition to re-do "Journey to the Centre of the Earth". Watch for Word records, Rick's new Christian label.







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AlanThompson

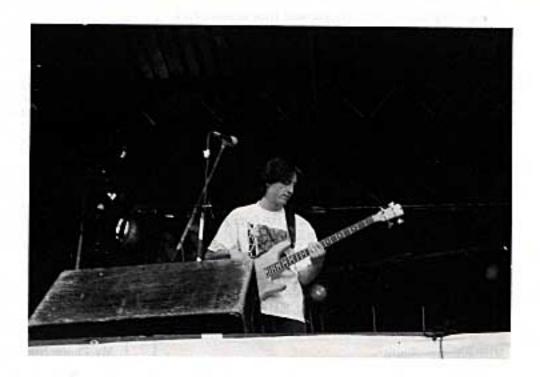


Alan Thompson was born in 1960. He started playing classical guitar at the age of 13, and very soon became proficient on the piano and violin as well. In 1980 Alan was asked to play bass guitar and has never looked back.

He has played in tours and sessions for many leading musicians including John Martyn, Phil Colins, Eric Clapton, Chris Rea, Jerry Donahue, Andy Summers and Julia Fordham.

Alan has also played keyboards for several years with the Scottish rockband Strangeways, and Geezer Butler who used to play keyboards with Black Sabbath. Alan was signed with the Island Record label for 3 years as a writer, and in fact, over the past 15 years has been involved with almost every aspect of the music business.

Alan is really looking forward to working with Rick. Rick is really looking forward to Alan buying the next round.



Communications



King Rick at the launch of Softsword at Rochester Castle in September 1991

MerchandisingWME (Isle of Man) Ltd.
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Rick's personal assistantSuzie James
RWCCJane Collister
Equipment TechnicianStuart Sawney
Tour ManagerFrank Fallows
Sound EngineerIan Barfoot
HotelsThe Queen's Moat Houses
ProgrammeColin Moran
Programme printed by Staples Printers, Rochester Ltd.

Many thanks to everyone who has helped by supplying photographs or by advertising.

A very special thank-you to Nina and the family without whom there is no music in Rick's life.

Equipment

PA—Carvin Desk. Celestion Speakers, Carvin Amplifiers.

Keyboards-Korg, Roland, Kurzweil, EMU, Ensoniqu and Cheetah.

Microphones-Shure.

THE RICK WAKEMAN COMMUNICATION CENTRE

The RWCC as has been abbreviated to, was set up some six years ago to cope with the moderate avalanche of mail and enquiries that came either to the office or Rick himself. It has grown considerably since its initial 100 membership and now flourishes with a two monthly newsletter being sent to every member bringing news of Rick's musical exploits and those of YES before anyone else gets to hear of them!

If you are interested in joining this select bunch then please fill this in (or if you are not into cutting programmes up, just write), to the RWCC, attention Jane Collister, Bajonor House, 2 Bridge Street, Peel, Isle of Man.

All merchandising, records, cassettes and CD's are available by mail order from Wakeman's Music Emporium. Telephone: 0624 844138 or by fax 0624 844135. Access and Visa welcome.

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The Crew

Few tours of any size can run successfully without help behind the scenes, and this one is no exception. Rick has been known in the past to be "tongue in cheek" mercenary toward these brave people in his programmes, so this time we asked him to calm down a bit, especially as this tour had "classical" overtones and we wanted the programme to have an up-market feel to it.

We failed.

This is Rick's description of the crew, although it is possible that after reading this programme we may have an entirely new crew.

Ian Barfoot

Ian is easily recognisable as being one of the two larger members of the entourage. He is also a brilliant sound engineer, but you will probably remember him more for being one of the two larger members of the entourage.

He is a highly intelligent gentleman, with an experience in both sound engineering and recording that match his waistline.

Vast

He will happily answer any questions of the intellectual kind, such as "What 'ya drinking Ian?" or "Are you sure you're all right to mix the sound after fifteen pints?"

In reality he is far and away Rick's first choice for front of house sound and his expertise in acutally putting the PA system together for this tour was invaluable.

Basically this is Rick's way of saying "If you don't like the sound, it's all the tubby chap with the hearing aids fault!"

Stuart Sawney

What can we say about Stuart that he hasn't already said himself? Well we could start with his list of nicknames that we promised not to tell anyone. We felt the fairest way of doing this without upsetting anyone would be to mingle Stuart's various nick-names in with some that are not true and leave you to puzzle over which are real and which are not.

- 1. Dr. Doom.
- 2. Sweetheart.
- 3. Scargill.
- 4. Darling.
- 5. Screw.
- 6. Cuddles.

Well that should keep you amused for a few seconds anyway.

Stuart's main occupation within the Wakeman camp is that of studio engineer and has in fact engineered no less than nine of Rick's solo albums.

However, as Rick spends equal time on the road and in the studio, and Stuart was finding it somewhat lonely in the control room whilst Rick was away, he decided it would be more beneficial if he came out on the road and helped Rick set up his keyboards. Rick also found this a great help as he had no idea how his equipment was plugged in.

Stuart is not one of the two larger crew members and may be distinguished by listening out for one of his well known phrases or sayings.

"It's all gone horribly wrong."

Frank Fallows

Frank is the tour manager.

Frank is slightly bigger than Ian.

We don't argue with Frank.

Frank is ALWAYS right.

Frank is also in charge of selling the merchandise.

We recommend you're jolly nice to Frank.

Frank is also Rick's right hand man, (although if he gets any larger he'll be a right and left hand man)!

A jovial character, Frank can often be seen helping the crew by loading inflight cases with his teeth.

He answers to friendly phrases such as "D'you wanna eat this?" or "I bet you couldn't eat a whole one". His favourite food is curry, which is just as well as it becomes somewhat of a staple diet when you're on the road and it is not uncommon to have a curry every night of the tour.

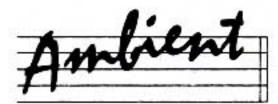
Everybody has a separate hotel room.

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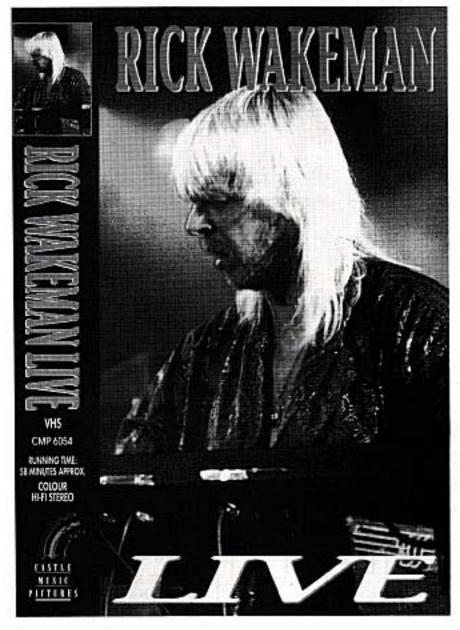
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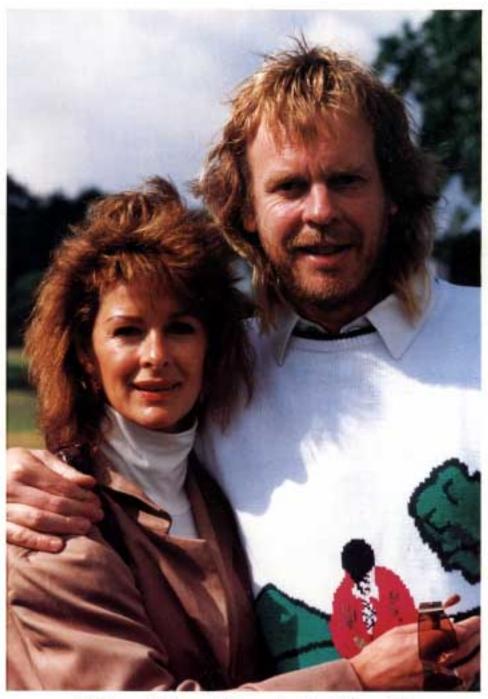
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Rick and Nina at home in the Isle of Man on the one day in 1991 when Rick was home and it didn't rain



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