

sarah newsletter

January 1993 no.2

Christmas Day.

The pudding's on to boil, the lights are lit on the tree, the cat's downstairs in the kitchen playing quietly with its GamePuss and here are we, hard at work putting the finishing touches to the second Sarah Quarterly, a perfect three months after the first. Whatever next, records out on time? Demos listened to as soon as they arrive? Gigs in Wales? A small dry sherry? Bless you.

Not that anybody's been up to too much lately, what with the cold, and Christmas Shopping and all that. Our deluge of Australians has abated slightly as **THE SUGARGLIDERS**, over in November and December, are now sadly departed - not in any glamorous Rock'n'Roll Suicide sense, I hasten to add (despite much prodding by us in our Press Agent hats - rather cute with little fold-down flaps over the ears - maybe you spotted us?), more as in tearful end-of-tour hugs in freezing cold Jericho Tavern carpark etc - though I felt I was looking pretty glamorous, and Josh had grown his beard back so was being quite man-of-the-world and - well, anyhow, they relented slightly in the end and let us lay them down in a couple of muddy holes and throw earth at them for a bit and - incidentally, before I forget, if you were one of those horrified by the insinuation in Melody Maker that The Sugargliders are the wizened old men of fresh-faced pop, could we just point out that, on the night of that review, Josh was 22 and Joel a mere 19 - obviously not entirely young enough to qualify as Riot Grrrr! Teen-Art boy-girl rebels but then Huggy Bear (paragraph ends oddly in mid-sentence)

Anyway, you have to grow up early in The Bush. Ask Harvey.* Now - in addition to the various gigs (and thanks to everybody who helped in whatever way, especially Mark from Mrs Kipling and Stewart from Boyracer - new Boyracer EP on Turntable Friend is brilliant, incidentally) - they did some recording while they were here, and there's a new 7"EP out on 15th March called "Ahprahran" (SARAH 72), recorded at the very fine CAT Studios in Mitcham by the very fine Ian Catt, famous for his work with The Field Mice and St.Etienne. Or "famous for his work with St.Etienne" as the world-at-large would say. They also recorded a couple of songs ("Unkind" and "Beloved") in Derby with Jyoti from White Town, and they'll record a third song - probably "Trumpet" - in Melbourne when they're home, so that'll all come out as another EP in early summer. Incidentally, the "LP" mentioned last time isn't imminent - for the totally admirable reason that Josh doesn't want to record an LP unless it's going to be as good as Orange Juice's "You Can't Hide Your Love Forever". If only more bands had this attitude... or that LP... or a tape of Huggy Bear's Peel Session or the Chia Pet single but that's irrelevant -

Anyway, right now they should be midway home - asleep on a beach in Bali if all's gone according to plan - and I think they'd like us to say thanks possum to everyone who helped make their stay a useful and productive one; and we'd like to say thanks Sugargliders for not minding all the driving up and down motorways to far-flung parts - though I guess "far-flung" has rather different connotations in Australia! In Australia, a farflung is a small winged mammal, rather cute with little fold-down flaps over the ears.

But of course no sooner has one door bolted than the next is off and running, and the **EVEN AS WE SPEAK** advance guard has now arrived from Sydney (we did one of those music-biz power-lunches in a cafe above a chip-shop in Camden Town last Tuesday - we're quite dreadful sometimes), after going missing for three weeks in Thailand. The others arrive by mid-January, and get to work straight away with a gig at The Chocolate Factory people's new venue, The Monarch in Chalk Farm... other dates confirmed so far are (turns page...):

* Harvey lives in Shepherd's Bush. Ha ha ha. Or ho ho ho, since it's Christmas. God, these crackers aren't very funny - pass me my paper hat and plastic aeroplane wrist-watch, let's show these people what time it is -