



THE  
NEW  
SPRING  
2002  
RETURN

# Orchestra



Former members of ELO and ELO Pt 2



Charles Bridge, Prague

## Merry Christmas

### Recommended Christmas Reads! For this Newsletter we move from the Guys Musical to Literary Taste.

**Mik Kaminski** – *A New Earth* by Eckhart Tolle. Mik describes this book as spiritual about life and living.

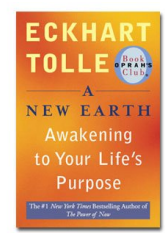
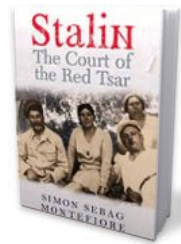
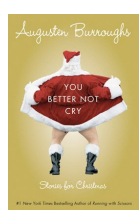
**Louis Clark** – *Queen: The Definitive Biography* by Laura Jackson Lou says he favours no particular genre of books but has found this book particularly interesting

**Eric Troyer** – *In The Court of the Red Tsar* – a biography of Stalin. 'A grim masterpiece, shot through with lashes of black humour... The personal details are riveting' Antonia Fraser, *Mail on Sunday*. Although Eric also enjoys novels he is particularly interested in political literature

**Phil Bates** – *The Girl who played with Fire* – Stieg Larson – Phil is a present enjoying crime fiction and the trilogy by Stieg Larson gets my vote too (this is the second book of the trilogy) They are stunning books. He also recommends the 'Matthew Shardlake Series' by CJ Sansom

**Gordon Townsend** – Nick Hornby, J.D. Salinger, Charles Bukowski, Augusten Burroughs – While Gordon does not recommend any one book, he enjoys reading works by all these authors.

**Glen Burtnik** – *To Kill a Mocking Bird* by Harper Lee is one of Glen's favourite books although he tends to most enjoy biographies



# Eric Troyer's Inheritance Tracks

I was brought up in Elkhart, Indiana, the home of the Miles Medical Company, who make Alkasseltzer, as well as many manufacturers of musical instruments, such as flutes, organs and band instruments. The town was a centre of the music industry locally and there was a strong Mennonite community. Mennonites originated from Switzerland and Germany and emigrated to North America in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries settling in Pennsylvania, through Ohio and Indiana and Illinois, Iowa and Nebraska... right across the Midwest. Many chose to settle in Elkhart due to the superior agricultural conditions.

My father was a science teacher and a naturalist. He loved the outdoors and when we were children he would take my sisters and me to nature reserves, hiking and camping. We learned about the environment as we travelled around Colorado, seeing the rock formations and learning about nature. My mother is very musical and loves to sing. She was very into classical music but also musicals such as My Fair Lady, and she encouraged us to listen to a very broad range of music at home. She has a particularly beautiful voice and her side of the family was extremely talented. Her oldest brother, Bud, had a voice that would raise the hairs on the back of your neck, it was magnificent, as rich and as resonant as Sinatra's with a crooner style favoured in that era. As a family we would have these huge family reunions of 50-60-70 people and we would all sing together and his voice would just make your jaw drop. Another of her brothers is also pretty well known in Northern Indiana as a Choral director. He has retired now but his son, my cousin, has now taken over the same school he used to teach in. In our house there were four children, my three sisters and I and our house was always full of music. When I think back to being a child and living at home I remember lying in bed and as I was falling asleep my sisters playing the radio and the sound of Kathy's Clown by the Everly Brothers drifting into my room. (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mxfljegYXk4>) It seems to me to have been one of the first 'sound tracks' to my life.



For my daughters when they reflect on me and their home I would like to think that they would remember how close we all are as a family. My daughters are pretty musical although they are not studying music and they still come and ask me for advice about things and I am probably quite a strong part of their lives. My daughter, Lindsay, recently sent me a paper she'd written for college to read and I basically sent it back and I had torn it apart - she said alright, alright - probably the last time she'll send me a paper. When my family all get together for a meal we sing grace and one that is very special to us is from a Walt Disney special cartoon about Johnny Appleseed

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V\\_IrdS-zu48&feature=related](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V_IrdS-zu48&feature=related)

Or The Doxology, a short hymn of praises to God, which we as a family, just sort of break out into as four-part harmony, <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mev2iXPOWi0>

Music is so special to me and my family. It reminds me of how close we all are, both the older and the younger generations.

## Su Duko Solutions

### Easy

A	E	S	I	H	T	L	B	P
T	L	H	S	B	P	E	I	A
P	I	B	L	A	E	H	T	S
I	P	A	H	T	L	S	E	B
E	S	T	P	I	B	A	L	H
B	H	L	E	S	A	T	P	I
S	B	E	T	P	H	I	A	L
H	T	P	A	L	I	B	S	E
L	A	I	B	E	S	P	H	T

### Hard

C	A	O	R	H	S	E	T	r
R	r	T	A	C	E	S	H	O
H	E	S	O	r	T	C	A	R
r	H	R	S	T	A	O	C	E
E	O	C	r	R	H	A	S	T
T	S	A	C	E	O	r	R	H
O	C	r	T	A	R	H	E	S
S	T	E	H	O	C	R	r	A
A	R	H	E	S	r	T	O	C



<b>Whose Car is Whose?</b>		
To the left are images of the guys first cars. Can you guess whose is whose and the make and model? Answers next newsletter!		
	Name	Make / Model of car
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		

## On The Road with - Stan . . .



Member of the Crew Stan can often be seen tuning instruments before a gig, during the interval or perhaps making a quick mercy dash mid-show to sort a problem on stage for the guys. Here he describes how the son of a West Country 'rock and roll bass-playing vicar' came to be a member of The Orchestra family.

In the late 1990s Stan started to become interested in the technical side of the music world through helping his dad at holiday clubs as Stan says "Just to keep me out of trouble". Stan, a talented bass player himself, enthusiastically stepped in when an opportunity arose to get involved in the technical side of school shows. Will's brother had been the main technician co-ordinating the sound and lighting for school, when he left Will and Stan stepped in and for the next four years taught themselves many of the tricks of the trade associated with putting on a show.

Stan's first break came when he met Jayke Szabo at the New Wine Festival in 2004. He attended just as your average punter and got chatting to Jayke who was engineering for his Dad, Production Manager at the event, "meeting the right people at the right time". This introduction led to a week's work experience and the die was cast. A year later Stan was invited back, this time as a paid employee and it was from this work that Stan began to develop his own music network started to grow, meeting people such as Phil McDuff, Monitor Engineer with the Band, leading to more work. It has been through working at hundreds and hundreds of low-level gigs that Stan says you just improve at the job and get more work.

When not working with The Orchestra Stan works as a freelance sound engineer, working on local gigs around Exeter. Stan progressed from technical assistant to running his own stage and co-ordinating bands at small events and over the summer months being a sound engineer at lots of different festivals. These range from national events when he says he is 'quite low down the chain doing 'patch' i.e. plugging in things or setting-up drum kits for people, to working with well-known bands at festivals such as Bloodstock, a big 'metal' festival in Derbyshire.

So what is Stan's ambition in the music industry? Well, as Stan says, "I love the industry and I am quite happy doing this job, but ultimately I want to be on the stage rather than at the side of it; I am only doing this because I am not in a successful band." As a back line tech, which is his role with The Orchestra, it is carrying on doing the same thing for other world famous bands, "not just for the sake of it - but to work for people who play good music which I enjoy and with people I get on with".

Lastly you cannot interview Stan without asking about the costumes he often dons on stage. Stan says it all started in April 2008 in Eastbourne. It is traditional on the last night of a tour for the crew to do something stupid to surprise the band. On that particular night he stripped off on a table by the sound desk back stage and danced around trying to distract the guys. It was Phil Bates who beckoned him on to the stage and there Stan was "dancing around in my boxers and a hard hat with I'm Gay for you in Sharpie on my chest!"

As Stan says, "of course I am not the only one - we also have another member of the band who has a large case of costumes, which he brings on tour - but I will leave you to discover more about him in a future issue!"

