



# TightConnection

NUMBER 50

ALTERNATIVES TO COLLEGE



## Bob Dylan Society sings out

THERE were enough Dylan Society members at the recent Steve Gibbons concert in Cambridge, to hold a small impromptu meeting.

We took over a noisy corner at The Junction on October 26 and graciously “helped” Steve and his band – called The Dylan Project – during some of the more complicated Dylan songs.

The band are currently on tour and played Cambridge for one night only, performing Dylan songs from the 60s to 80s – and a grand time was had by all, particularly Keith.

Steve was joined on stage by guitarist P. J. Wright and Fairport Conventioners Dave Pegg and Simon Nichol.

A song or two from the night might be shown at our next meeting at **The Golden Hind on Friday, November 27**, time permitting! My highlights were “Dark Eyes” and “From A Buick 6”.



### DIARY DATES

These are confirmed dates for The Bob Dylan Society at the Golden Hind:

Friday, November 27, 1998;  
Friday, January 29, 1999;  
Friday, March 26, 1999;  
Friday, May 28, 1999;  
Friday, July 30, 1999;  
Friday, September 24, 1999;  
Friday, November 26, 1999

Dylan’s “Royal Albert Hall” album has certainly sparked a lot of interest in all things Dylan, and particularly 60s Dylan, according to bulletins and news reports world-wide. It’s like Dylan fever all over again, and still the reports come in. Typical is the following, from Reuters/Variety, which also has D. A. Pennebaker and Mickey Jones talking briefly about “Eat The Document”.

### Dylan revisits pioneering past with ‘Albert Hall’

By Dean Goodman

LOS ANGELES (Reuters) - Rock icon Bob Dylan, who won three Grammy Awards in 1998 for his most acclaimed work in two decades, is ending the year by releasing an album documenting perhaps the most infamous concert of his career.

His much-anticipated trip to the archive also has yielded a bonus for fans in New York and Los Angeles, where screenings are scheduled this month for “Eat the Document,” a never-broadcast ABC television special from 1966.

The album in question, from the Manchester stop of his European tour of 1966, offers all the excitement of a gladiatorial concert. A reverential crowd turns ugly, and an embittered fan initiates the following dialogue:

FAN: Judas!

DYLAN: I don't believe you. You're a liar!

Why the animosity? Since releasing his first album in 1962, the fresh-faced troubadour had served as the poster boy for the folk community by performing protest tunes about social injustice. Then in 1965, he strapped on an electric guitar, hired a band and released a six-minute rock single “Like a Rolling Stone.” The long-time fans felt betrayed.

“It’s a bloody disgrace ... He wants shooting,” an outraged Englishman says on “Eat the Document,” an hour-long film documenting Dylan’s European trek.

The “Judas” exchange has entered Dylan mythology, partly because the recording has been available for years in a high-quality bootleg form.

Continued over

Useful Telephone Nos: John Stokes (01480) 468726; John Nye (01223) 561532; The Golden Hind (01223) 420816

#### Title wrong for a reason

The title tips its hat to early bootlegs, which incorrectly ascribed the concert to the famed London venue instead of to Manchester's Free Trade Hall.

The second half of the show has Dylan backed by a five-man combo that would eventually become known as The Band. Over booing and slow hand-clapping, he blasts out eight electrified tunes ranging from the never-released "Tell Me, Momma" to the concert closer, "Like a Rolling Stone." "We got booed everywhere," Mickey Jones, the group's drummer, told Reuters. "They really did think that Bob Dylan had become a traitor and we were the instruments of his defection, when in reality we thought we were doing something totally new in music.

"Bob Dylan would go out and do the first half, and the audience loved it, but when he would come backstage between sets, he couldn't wait to strap that Telecaster on, and he would prance about the dressing room. He couldn't wait to get out there and play electric. The electric part of the show was where Bob Dylan had the most fun of all. And we all did."

Jones quit the group after the tour to focus on acting and was replaced by Levon Helm. He remains friendly with Dylan, last seeing him earlier this year backstage at a boxing match; Dylan, now 57, is a boxing enthusiast.

#### Dylan not looking back

The singer himself has nothing to say about the release. "I would say this is particularly under his radar," said a source at Columbia Records, speaking on condition of anonymity. "Bob doesn't look back. Bob is a touring and recording artist, and what he does is like to make contemporary records and record things. There's a lot of demand for these reissues, and

when you have a window of opportunity with nothing else coming out it was time to finally release this."

The source said Columbia has tentative plans to issue more rare material in 2000, but declined to go into detail. Dylan's most recent release of new material was 1997's "Time Out of Mind," whose Grammy haul included the award for album of the year.

The screening of "Eat the Document" is considered a marketing hook. It will run at the Museum of Television and Radio from Oct 8 to Nov. 13 in Los Angeles, and Oct 8 to Nov. 20 in New York. The Columbia source said there would be no general theatrical release or home video version.

The film features tantalising snippets of concert performances interspersed with unexplained footage from backstage and on the road: Dylan reads his horoscope! Dylan jams with Johnny Cash! Dylan gets teased by John Lennon! Dylan had hired D.A. Pennebaker, director of the 1965 documentary "Don't Look Back," to help him on the project, but found himself overwhelmed by the task at hand.

"I was really just the cameraman, and my role was much less forceful and directorial than his," Pennebaker told Reuters. "But he wasn't a director either. The whole thing was kinda uncertain from the start."

Jones, who has his own copy, wishes it could have contained more concert footage and "goofing around." He recalled how everyone went sightseeing and started snickering as the guide explained a historic site: it didn't make the final cut.

ABC also was disappointed, cancelling the project in the spring of 1967. It has not been seen theatrically since the early 1970s, when it was screened at New York's Academy of Music and the Whitney Museum of American Art.

---

## THE GOLDEN HIND

### 8pm November 27, 1998



### HOW TO FIND THE GOLDEN HIND

The Golden Hind is very easy to find. It's an extremely large pub set back off the road at a key junction North of the City on Milton Road.

If you're coming from outside Cambridge, it's best to approach it from the A14. Leave at the A10/A1309 turn-off and head into the City. The Golden Hind is on the right at the fourth set of traffic lights. There is ample parking space at the rear, accessed via King's Hedges Road.

The Functions Room is on the first floor.

---

**The Golden Hind,  
335 Milton Road, Cambridge  
(Tel : 01223 420816)**