

THE
NORTH EASTS
ALTERNATIVE
PRESS

MUTHER GRUMBLE

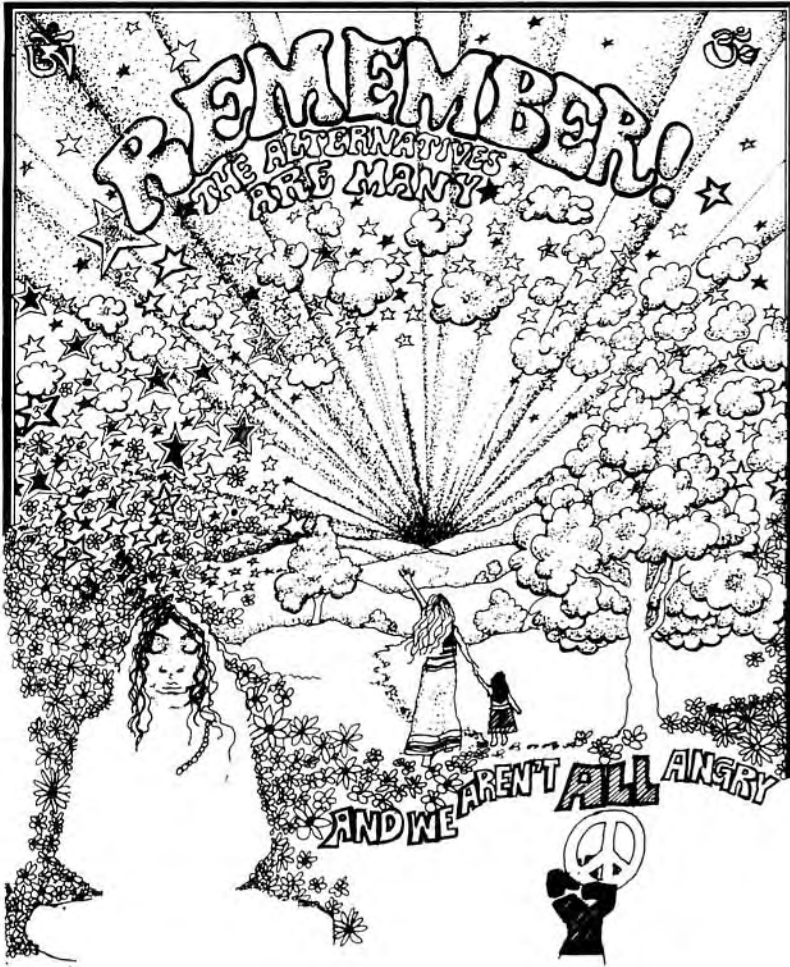
SEPTEMBER
'73 No 15

10p

**INTERVIEWS with McCARTNEY and
JACK the LAD**



also: U.F.O's. NIXON and What's On



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This issue appears more by luck than judgement.

Apologies for the quality in some places but our typewriter died on us and most of the staff seem to have followed suit.

The following may be held responsible for all that happens on later pages:-

Don, Bill, Sue, Mike, Janis, Andy, Tristan, Rik, Pat, Pete, Wyn, Chris for his baby typewriter and the GPO for forgetting to cut it off.

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Continuing The Rape Of The Earth.....



1. SITUATION

Flass Vale is only a short walk from the centre of Durham City. It is bordered by Western Hill, the railway and the Great North Road. It is surrounded by housing on all sides, but this is not at all evident from within the vale where life is radically different.

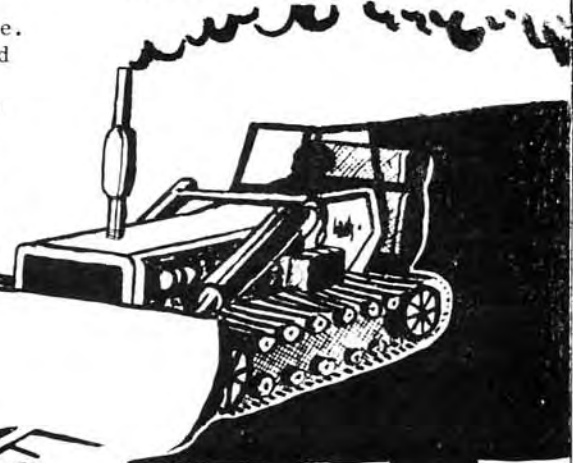
The Vale is thickly wooded on the south side with general copses and hillocks throughout. There are many splendid beeches and oaks. In the moist valley bed willows cast shade over orchids. There is a loganberry burn where white berries make it even more unique. Foxes, badgers, hares, etc., etc. live in the Vale. Hoopoes - rare migratory birds of stunning beauty have rested in this place of tranquility. Flass Vale abounds with wildlife.

People who live around the Vale use it frequently but with respect, Their children can play there in safety in the natural playground. Walking in the maze of paths around the vale and through the trees appeals to the light of foot. There is something for everyone in Flass Vale. It doesn't have to be advertised - those who seek it, find it.

Unfortunately to some, the value of Flass Vale is totally convertible to money. In the early sixties one of the major property owners applied to the County Planning Department for

building permission. In accord with their policy, this application was refused. The owner appealed to the Ministry of Housing who granted the appeal on the condition that the houses be built for rich people. That was in 1962. The land owner subsequently died and the 'right' to possess the land found its way into the hands of Wilson (Spennymoor) Ltd. This building firm under investigation turns out to be Northern Securities. It was reluctantly granted planning permission by the County Planners, who feared that if they didn't accept the plans, which were within the conditions of the successful appeal, they would run into trouble with the Ministry of Environment.

Wilson Ltd. plan to build 33 houses starting at £30,000 a piece; they will be built on sand and will look over the best part of the Vale. When sold another 120 houses will be built filling the vale. There are alternative but less lucrative sites all around Durham. Good housing in Langley Moor, Hett, Mount Pleasant, etc., is going to be bulldozed. ££££££££££



FLASS VALE

2. ACTION

Since 1962 there have been moves to make the preservation of Flass Vale legally binding. Information has been difficult to acquire. Individuals have tired of pursuing protection against malicious builders who at the time were not in the least apparent. That Flass Vale would ever be built on seemed simply absurd.

With the completely discordant appearance of a solitary bulldozer in the vale, local people acted. Information was sought, a petition organised and Councillors Sam Green and Harvey Smith and others co-ordinated. The City Trust has gone to London to seek a High Court Injunction. Even if the attempt to gain an injunction it will take time to come into force.

Meanwhile the bulldozer moves on uprooting trees and disrupting animal life. The injunction will only be the beginning; it will enable blanket preservation orders to be established. If the vale is ruined before the injunction no such presentation orders will be granted. ALL DESTRUCTION MUST BE STOPPED.

Those who have faith in the possibility of the injunction being given are putting all their eggs in one basket. That basket is not held by them but by the institution of law and ultimately of the supporters of big business. ££££££££££

It is essential to realise that the Earth is not protected by law against rape. The preservation laws are firmly and deliberately so. Tear down a 400 year old oak and plant an acorn.

If Flass Vale is destroyed the people will know it is wrong. Will they say what is wrong? Will they say the law is wrong and that we should have gone outside the law to preserve Flass Vale. Flass Vale is only a part of the earth, but the earth is incomplete without it.

Love the Earth. You are She.
Chris and Rich.

Campaigning by more democratic means is an official 'Flass Vale Action Group' that can be contacted at 12, 14, 24, 29 Western Hill.

The Kids Aren't Alright

On the afternoon of Thursday 16th August, I was sitting having a quiet read in the sun on the balcony of my luxury 3rd. floor penthouse council flat in Bessemer Park, Spennymoor, when I heard a hell of a din coming from the direction of the Town Hall. It sounded like kids singing "We shall not be moved", so I thought I'd see what was going on.

In the car park at the back of the Town Hall there was anything from 50 to 100 kids, with a few mams and dads, all equipped with banners and good strong lungs. One of the banners read 'Baths YES, Bingo NO'. Very sensible, I thought, so I asked someone what was going on.

A little girl told me that they were protesting to the council because they wanted a swimming baths in Spennymoor. She explained that at one time there had been five cinemas in the town (but that must have been 20 years ago, I could only ever remember two) but now there was nothing but bingo halls and pubs - in fact, nothing at all for kids (there are two well equipped youth clubs, but lots of kids don't like being organised). While I was talking to her, and a Mrs. Gee who explained that the kids all had their parents support, the noise was getting louder and louder, but still no-one in the Town Hall seemed to have heard.

Eventually the kids got a bit sick of waiting and stormed the Town Hall. Most of them were stopped but a few managed to corner the Town Clerk who shakely told them that the council were to hold a Special Committee meeting the next Thursday and that the committee would consider the kids petition and allow them to attend the meeting as long as they kept their mouths shut (children should be seen but not... etc). The kids weren't very satisfied with this and nearly brought the house down by chanting "All a load of rub-

ish".

After threats of removal by the police, the kids decided to make their presence felt elsewhere and marched round the shopping centre and up the main street three times, stopping to take up a platform on the empty market stalls where they entertained the shoppers with a medley of football songs with the words changed to suit their protest. I asked lots of people what they thought of it all and most of them seemed impressed by the kids using their own initiative. One old lady said "I think it's about time the bairns took it into their own hands but they shouldn't have to."

Most of the kids were from Bessemer Park where they can't see anything but concrete (even the swings and climbing frames are embedded in it) and the park is on the other side of the main Newcastle/Bishop Auckland Road. This stretch of the road is very fast with only one badly placed crossing so most kids can't go to the park unless their parents take them.

Well, why the demonstration? Spennymoor is a large industrial town with a population of over 40,000. The main employer is Smart and Browns with over 8000 on the payroll,

A swimming baths is really needed. Anyone who wants to go to the baths has to travel either 5 miles to Bishop Auckland or 8 to Durham. A baths would be really well used. So why isn't one being built.

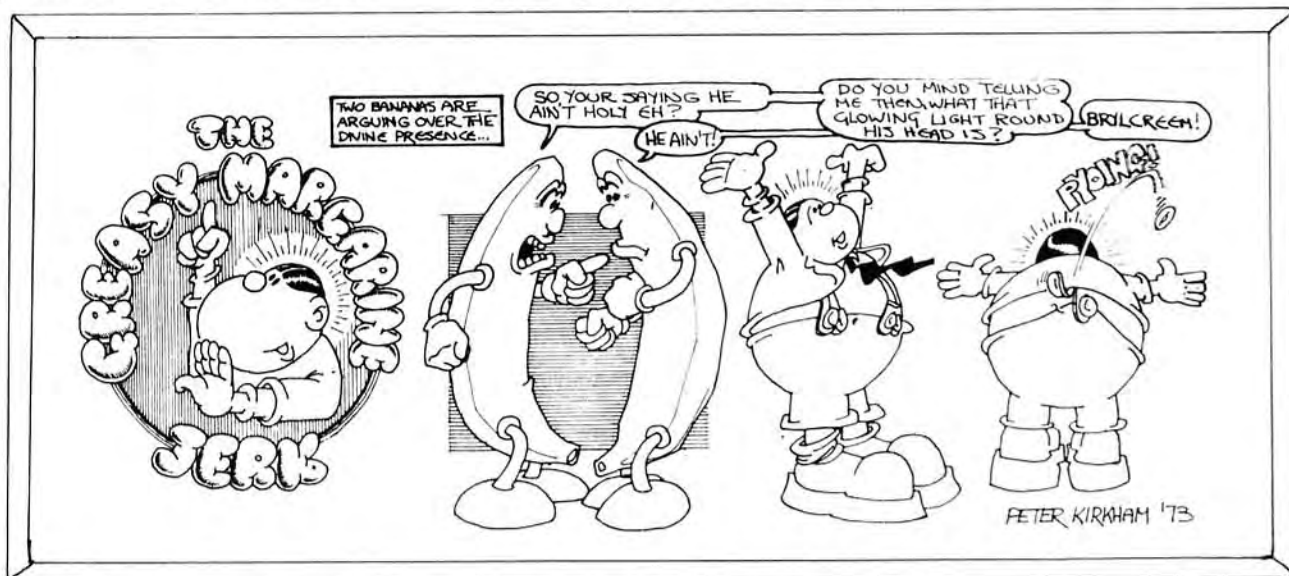
Well, a few months ago, a swimming baths was rumoured to be on the books, but what finally emerged was squash courts and some general purpose halls. Even though a swimming baths is more necessary, this complex is better than nothing. But then more rumours started to circulate about why it had been decided to build this complex instead of baths.

The local factories, especially

Smart and Browns, try to cultivate a paternalistic attitude towards their work-forces. They encourage all kinds of (non-political) clubs, especially of the sports variety. Naturally, the firms don't want to spend too much money on such activities. They don't have to. By being major rate payers, rumour has it (but only because of libel laws) they can bring pressure to bear on the council. For example. About 10 years ago the council decided to build 3 football pitches a couple of minutes walk away from the town centre. Smart and Browns gave a £5000 "donation" towards the development on condition that they would have first option on the use of one of these pitches. The football field has a permanent groundsman who is paid about £30 a week, and the council maintain it (grass-cutting, goals and nets, pavilion, marking out etc.). Smart and Brown pays about £10 a season for these services. So for a £5000 downpayment 10 years ago and £10 a season, Smart and Brown has 1½ acres of fully maintained land with facilities near the town centre. The rest of the town has to make do with 2 pitches for the popular Saturday and Sunday leagues etc.

So, rumour has it (yet again) that a possible reason why the squash courts etc. complex is being built instead of a swimming baths is because Smart and Brown wanted it that way. Most people think that once the complex is built, they won't be able to get into it, due to it being almost always fully booked by Smart and Brown. Thus the ill feeling against it and the anger at the decision not to build baths, especially from the kids who know what chances they'd have to use the squash courts and the halls.

We haven't found out anything to substantiate these rumours, but all rumours have some truth in them and some rumours alot of truth.



Straight from the parrot's mouth...



Following the article in the last issue of Muther Grumble about the U.K. Club in Loret del Mar, Spain, and the dealings of a certain Darlington Councillor, Mark Nayman, we have a few more discoveries to reveal.

It was recently reported that Treasury officials have been called in to investigate an alleged illegal currency deal.

This followed a statement by Mr. Eddie Rush (the club Manager and one time partner in Bondgate Insurance, Cllr. Nayman's company) that he "and another investor took the money out of the country (G. Britain) knowing it was illegal, on behalf of the other investors, to avoid tax."

Bearing in mind Cllr. Nayman's previous statement that "I am not a partner in the club, in fact I have no financial interest in it whatsoever", and that he "just happened to be on holiday when I heard about the trouble (financial) and called in at the club to help smooth things over", we can read on.

Among the people alleged by Mr. Rush to be investors in the club are Councillor John Biagioni (Liberal, Darlington Council), Councillor Mark Nayman (Labour, Darlington Council), Mrs. Margaret Nayman (Cllr. Nayman's wife), Mr. Hyman Nayman (Cllr. Nayman's brother), Mrs. Rita Stoggell (Cllr. Nayman's sister).

One of the reasons given by Mr. Rush for the failure of the club was that it opened at Easter and nobody told the investors that there were no British tourists in Spain that early in the year.

A new hostel in Newcastle is planned to open in about 3 years. It will have ten beds for drug addicts and eighteen for alcoholics. The area it will cater for includes the whole of County Durham and Newcastle.

Considering that at the present time, in just 2 towns, there are at least 30 registered addicts, i.e. 11 in N/cle and another 20 in South Shields (which has the largest ratio of addicts per population outside London) plus the fact that 18 x 10 would be a little nearer the amount of alcoholics, this gesture at easing the problem is like the proverbial pee in the ocean.

If you know who is responsible for such planning in the region please give them a shake as they must be asleep!

'If anything goes wrong blame the workers', seems to be the most recent battle-cry of industry. Ford and Chrysler are blaming the poor quality of their vehicles on the production line workers (though no mention is made of poor materials, plant machinery and the boredom and frustration the work force has to suffer). Just after the Bank holiday, Watsons Carriers, of Spennymoor, immediately set the Police onto an employee when 12 parcels of drugs went missing.

Watsons Carriers are the biggest delivery service in the N. East and employ about 150 men. The firm has a huge warehouse piled high with all kinds of goods and is obviously a tempting target for those seeking to supplement their income by illegal means. Also, with the warehouse being so big, it is easy to misplace a few parcels. Yet when the 12 parcels didn't turn up at the chemist they were destined for, the management immediately presumed that the delivery driver had stolen them.

So the Police were called in. They questioned the driver, Gordon Ball, and then searched his house, ordering him and his mother to stay in the downstairs room even though they had a right to witness the search. Nothing was found.

The next day the 12 parcels were found in Watsons warehouse. They had not been in the right place and had been overlooked when Gordon's van was loaded.

However, both the Police and Watsons management refused to apologise to Gordon, after all he is only a worker, and it's bad for industrial and Police/public relations if the managers and the police chiefs admit to being wrong. So the drivers, loaders and mechanics walked out and threatened to do so for one day in every week until an apology was forthcoming.

But, in typical union style, the local shop stewards stepped in and claimed to have 'smoothed things over' i.e. got the men back to work without an apology. Still, there's hope that the men won't listen to their leaders.

Darlington Claimants Union are now nicely settled in at 5 Chancery lane. They are in possession of a duplicator which is available to good causes for a small contribution to their funds.

It is rumoured that a certain gentleman recently returned from the East where he discovered a tasty brand of tea. Being a cuppa connoisseur he was showing off his prize brew to a friend over a pint at his local one evening when two long haired gentlemen stepped forth from the crowd and escorted him to the nearest Police Station.

Our hero tried to explain the merits of the particular brew to the two policemen who said that they had heard the tale before and would seek an expert opinion. Meanwhile they lodged him for the rest of the night.

The following morning our hero was released with apologies after having to suffer the lowly brew that is renowned in such establishments.

Recently, Newcastle Socialist Womens' Action Group advertised a meeting they were holding in the Bridge Hotel. Most of the posters they stuck up, inadvertently found themselves covering C&A posters advising people to buy their clothes there - thus lining the coffers of one of the most fascist firms to survive the second world war.

During the eventual meeting, a little man from the store delivered a message claiming about £25 compensation for damage to C&A's posters. People at the Bridge weren't amused and now C&A employees are advised not to quench their thirst there. Naturally S.W. A.G. are not feeling inclined to part with their money.

A week or so after South Shields Trades Union Council had distributed an anti armed forces recruitment pamphlet to school leavers and the young unemployed (the pamphlet was reproduced in the last MG), the Navy held a recruitment campaign in the town. When questioned by a local newspaper reporter about whether or not he knew of the campaign, one officer said of course he did, but it was about not joining the army, and he agreed with that - the navy was different - shiver me polarises!

M.G. has some copies of the anti-recruitment leaflet so if ya want one please contact us.

Parrot Post



HOME OFFICE

89 Eccleston Square, LONDON S.W.1
Telephone: 01-828 9848 ext 213

Our reference: PDG/72 105/27/71
Your reference:

26 July 1973

Further to your letter of 5 February 1973 I can now give you the following information about the number of deaths in prison service custody during 1972 :-

<u>MALE</u>	Prisoners	49	(10)
	Borstal trainees	2	(2)
	Detention Centre inmates	2	(2)
<u>TOTAL</u>		<u>53</u>	<u>(14)</u>

The figures in brackets denote the numbers of persons aged under 30 included in the total. There were no deaths of females in 1972.

Yours faithfully,

(Ian A. Stuart)

Uhhmm! So, what we want to know now is this. If people in prison aren't dying of old age, what are they dying of????

Dear Muther Grumble,

congratulations on your article 'Experiencing Childbirth', with its lively account of the arrival of Joby Zipp, but we feel we must correct the impression unwittingly given in the first section, that the aim of the National Childbirth Trust training is to give "an ideal, drugs free birth". The stated aim of the NCT is "to help you give birth to your baby happily and free from fear".

We are well aware that many women, through age, physical make-up, personal pain threshold, etc., will almost certainly need the help of drugs, and, as you say, their use is covered in the ante-natal sessions.

So, while we'd love to hear from anyone wanting to know more about our aims and methods, please don't think we guarantee a simple, uncomplicated, speedy delivery!

D.B. Clarke - Chairman
J. Lingham - Teacher
(Durham and Lanchester NCT Group)

Dear Sir,

It has come to my notice that certain malevolent persons unknown have taken to the childish practice of putting business reply, postage paid cards (advertising life insurance or clothing agent/dealerships with free catalogue) into the nearest post box. Often with bogus names and addresses written in, thus causing considerable trouble and expense to the big business concerns who have more valuable work to do (such as erecting office blocks, smelting lead, producing D.D.T. etc.).

I appeal to your readers through this letter not to indulge in such inefficient practices and if possible to ask their friends not to do likewise.

Yours sincerely,
Lt. Col. Phuckam-Upp (Retd).



As grumbling is my favourite occupation, I would now like to make a public grumble about the internal combustion engine, which seems to me to be a bloody nuisance.

Everybody agrees that the effects are bad, i.e. traffic jams, air pollution, road accidents, waste of land on car parks and motorways, juggernaut lorries thundering about getting on everybody's nerves..... and so on.

To me the solution to all these problems (including petrol shortage, I forgot that) is quite simply to abolish all cars and lorries. Easy, isn't it? The railway system could be vastly extended both between towns and within them, with free public transport inside towns. Buses should be abolished but perhaps we could bring back those nice old trolley buses which were clean and quiet, not belching fumes like our present monsters do.

Everybody could buy a bike and also perhaps make the startling discovery that they possess feet; thus helping to solve problems like fatness and stomach ulcers and general decrepitness. People who were really unable to get about under their own steam could have little electric bicycles or invalid carriages. Everybody could try to get jobs and friends near home so as not to waste our energy resources and their own valuable time in all the silly travelling about that goes on at present, with businessmen commuting from Brighton to London every day, and all that shit. It seems to me that just a little grain more sense on the part of everybody concerned, and all would be sweetness and light. Yours till the cows come home. Karin James

Conservation?

I totally agree with the need for conservation of nature, but from the example of Cow Green I reckon we can probably do without conservationists, (the professional kind) As lots of you probably know, there used to be a valley in Teesdale you could walk down for a couple of miles and come to a beautiful waterfall called Cauldron Snout. Then they made a reservoir in the valley, which was just passable 'cos the water looks like a natural lake apart from the dam, but... When the reservoir was built the conservationists went hysterical because on the moors round the valley are lots of rare glacial plants that aren't found anywhere (except on a bank at Langdon Beck which the County Council bulldozed away when they widened the road) so, to stop the common herd from trundling all over their precious plants they've built a TARMAC ROAD from the NEW CAR PARK and TOILET BLOCK down to the waterfall.

To preserve these plants (which, by the way, are so difficult to find that you have to be an expert to do it) they've ruined a really nice walk along the valley; and by building toilets and a car park, they've attracted hordes of tourists who are more likely to disrupt the ecology of the valley with cars and picnics than are the nature enthusiasts and keen walkers who used to be the main visitors to the valley and to Cauldron Snout.



Don't spill it, give it

I wonder how many people are able to become blood donors, do not and are able to say WHY they do not?

With a certain percentage of the population the answer would boil down to one word. FEAR. Naturally this is not something which anyone need be ashamed of. It is understandable how a person can imagine that by giving some of their blood away they will feel the worse off for it. However, speaking as a blood donor, I know how

quickly this fear sails away from you. In fact, the whole procedure is so painless and comfortable that afterwards I feel almost guilty about being so proud of my spent half hour. This thirty minutes covers the time for the transfusion itself, a ten minute lie-down after and your tea/coffee and biscuits. Which, if you think about it for just thirty seconds isn't really long when you think about all the good that you can do by giving blood.

Aside from this certain percentage I think the remainder of people who are not blood donors (although some people do not give blood on religious grounds) are just being lazy about it. They cannot be bothered to make a simple enquiry. To be so lacking in such an easy piece of self discipline is really very shameful. And, the people who fit into this group must surely realise that this is so. They must because they know of the little children who are badly burned and need the blood to assist in skin grafts. There are also endless other accidents that can happen. Not only to children but to adults as well. Then there are the numerous operations carried out all the time. Blood is needed constantly.

Again, there is no pain attached to being a blood donor. Your blood will not be taken if you are not fit enough. On attending the session there is a very well trained staff who keep very careful check on everything that is happening. The doctor in charge sees that you are healthy enough for your blood to be taken.

Blood donor sessions are held in clinics and other buildings in all the towns and many of the villages throughout the country, so you never have far to travel. So if you would like to help just get in touch.

Remember it's so painless that it's almost like a holiday to be treated in such a pleasant and comfortable manner. And, if you make enquiries and then change your mind you cannot be forced to give your blood. All blood donors are entirely voluntary, giving their blood because of their willingness to help their fellow man. It really is such an easy way to give life.

John.

The address of the nearest centre for enquiries is:-

Regional Transfusion Centre,
Westgate Road,
Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE4 6QB

The Keilder Saga

Anyone who reads the local press will be aware that the North East is so short of water we will have to inundate vast acreages of Northumberland and or Cumberland to ensure that we can all continue to drink and wash ourselves after the year 1975.

Furthermore the government has grandiose industrial plans for the region including the famed steel complex at Redcar, which will further increase future demands for water. It is proposed, therefore, to stave off the ultimate cataclysm for a few years by flooding the Keilder valley in Northumberland, thus creating the largest man-made lake in Western Europe - tis rumoured. Water will then be carried from the lake to the industrial areas of the Tyne, Wear and Tees in a complex system of pipelines - no doubt the most complex in Western Europe (who else would attempt anything so ludicrous?)

But Mr. Geoffrey Ripon, Minister for the environment and M.P. for the constituency in which Keilder lies (Hexham)

refused to allow the scheme to go ahead, for reasons he has never discussed in great depth. His decision was met with howls from the scheme's promoters that Mr. Ripon should not allow his duties as an M.P. to interfere with the interests of the nation, which should be his chief responsibility as minister for the environment - an argument which is proof to anyone who is sufficiently awake that our constitution needs changing. The result of this outcry was the opening of another enquiry into the affair.

At this enquiry the scheme's bitterest opponents will also get another chance to speak. They consist of Keilder farmers who will lose their farms and, as farms very rarely come on the market, never be able to replace them, and environmentalists both from the area and from outside it who always make the point that our natural beauty spots are being whittled away until, very soon there will be nothing left. The environment lobby, of course, will be asked to look to their priorities (someone else's priorities) and the farmers

will be told that minorities in a democracy must consider the well-being of the majority and be prepared to take the rough with the smooth. As we know, anyone outside the nation's most vicious and clamorous minority - the rich industrialists is generally obliged to take the rough.

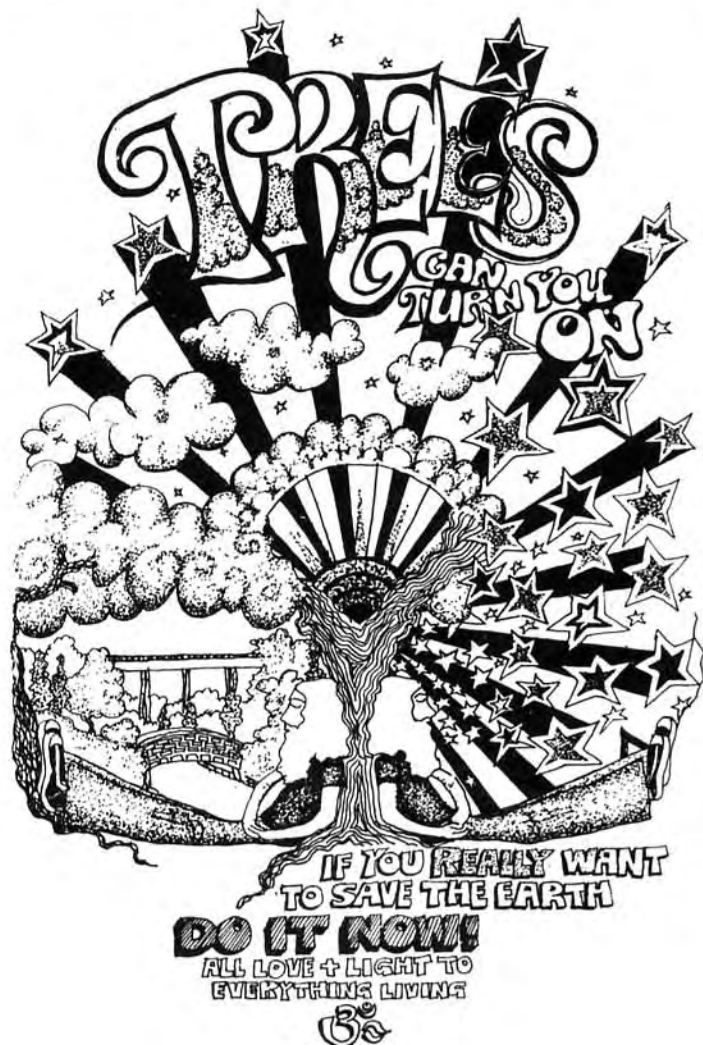
Listening to the Keilder scheme's apologists one would think that the North East's whole future depended on it. For instance the Redcar steelworks, which is going to be such a boost to the economy of Teesside, will need the water. But the Redcar steelworks will close before the end of the century and what will Teesside do then?

The increased water supply made available by the Keilder reservoir will encourage, they say, further industrial development in the job-hungry regions of Wearside and Tyneside. But if you listen to another aspect of their argument, this water will already have been used to meet the demand of people and industries already in these areas. If all this industrial development is to come to pass how much more land will have to be flooded to maintain a large enough water supply? Since rural Northumberland makes very little contribution to our G.N.P. perhaps it could be completely submerged?

As another illustration of the fact that our future is in the hands of incompetents it is worth noting that the Forestry Commission have already planted a large number of trees in the Keilder valley. This is part of a valiant nationwide attempt to compete with Finland in the wood pulping business or, failing that, to keep the country in match wood for a week in the event of total war. If the valley is flooded these trees will, presumably fulfil neither purpose.

It can be said in the scheme's favour that the majority of the inhabitants of Keilder have voted for it. Do they know what they are in for? The carrot dangled before them is that of more jobs, which means turning the reservoir into a tourist trap (which could be done better without the damp surely) and introducing light industry, which will discourage tourists.

Apparently the region is short of water even for present demands and it seems we do need
(cont. opposite)



If you liked Hitler, you'll love Nixon



'How about that, Spiro, ... the people loved ...'



Paranoia

RICHARD NIXON'S LIFE

- 1913 — born, California.
- 1918 — age five, obsessed with cleanliness and offended by smells.
- 1926 — puberty, his mother takes him to Arizona away from his father.
- 1927 — barker for wheel of chance at Poker and Dice Palace, Prescott, Arizona.
- 1933 — law school at Duke University
 - keep football player.
- 1939 — tries to join the FBI, turned down.
 - goes into law practice into home town, Whittier, California.
- 1940 — becomes Whittier Police Prosecutor.
 - marries Pat.
 - goes to Cuba "to explore the possibilities", meets Bebe Rebozo.
- 1941 — employed by the Office of Price Administration rationing tyres.
- 1942 — joins the US Navy.
 - runs "Nixon's Snack Shack".
- 1945 — goes back to law practice in Whittier.
 - Citra Frost.
- 1946 — runs for Congress, backed by local mobster Mickey Cohen; his campaign manager is top Mob lawyer Murray Chotiner, paid for by big business via the Bank of America.
- 1952 — backed at the Republican Convention by Eastern financial groups. Nominated for Vice President by Tom Dewey.
 - caught running Republican slush fund; denies it all on national tv with dog in lap, Richard weeps.
 - moves to Florida.
- 1956 — Eisenhower wants to drop him as Vice Presidential candidate, but Nixon refuses to step down.
- 1960 — helps to plan invasion of Cuba.
 - loses election to Kennedy, psychiatric treatment.
- 1962 — thrashed by Pat Brown in election for Governor of California, screams at reporters, has psychiatric treatment again.
- 1963 — Donald Kendall, chairman of Pepsico, gets Nixon a job with top law firm .dgc, Rose, Guthrie and Alexander.
 - visits Paradise Island, Bahamas, as guest of Huntington Hartford.
 - invests in Fishers Island Incorporated with Bebe Rebozo.
- 1963 to 1968- travels world representing Pepsico.
- 1967 — buys his Key Biscayne, Florida, home from Donald Berg. Involved Florida Development Co.
- 1968 — January, guest celebrity at gala opening of Mob casino on Paradise Island. (Owned by Mary Carter Paint Co.)
 - backed for president by west coast mobster John Alessio.
 - August, gets use of Mary Carter yacht during Republican Convention.
 - becomes President of the United States.
- 1969 — sells Fishers Island Inc. stock at 100% profit —Nixon's only successful business deal.
 - 1970 — March, tries to protect Alessio from prosecution. Tries again in April, but J. Edgar Hoover is gunning for Alessio.
 - May, invades Cambodia.
 - August, pinches part of Marine Base at Camp Pendleton for real estate development; allowed to join the exclusive San Onofre Surf Club.
 - 1971 — May, bribed by ITT to stop anti-trust prosecutions.
 - June, made a special FBI agent by Hoover.
 - starts recruiting White House "plumbers" and Creep agents.
 - August, declares trade war on the rest of the world.
 - December 23, pardons Teamster boss Jimmy Hoffa.
 - 1972 — February, admitted to China for interview with Chinese leaders.
 - April, summit in Moscow, brings back Pepsi franchise.
 - May, appoints his old friend L. Patrick Gray to head FBI when Hoover dies.
 - May, initial Watergate buggings; Daniel Ellsberg beaten up by Nixon's "dirty tricks" men.
 - June, Nixon's men caught in Watergate.
 - July, bribes Teamsters Union to endorse him for President.
 - November, elections. Rejected by 2/3 of the American electorate, but claims "landslide Victory".
 - 1973 — January, agrees to stop bombing Indochina and to withdraw US troops from Vietnam. Bombs Cambodia and large areas of Vietnam and Laos anyway.
 - May, accepts "responsibility but not blame" for Watergate. Purges White House of all major staff, to save his own skin.
 - June, ex-White House aides in the Erlichman group give evidence implicating opposing faction led by former Attorney-General Mitchell. Nixon implicated by John Dean.

(from P.B)

more reservoirs, but is it absolutely necessary to fill one valley in Northumberland and pump the water fantastic distances. We do appreciate that to have the biggest and bestest something in western Europe would be a boost to our national ego, but there are limits.

The arguments surrounding the Keilder project must make it obvious, to anyone who still needs persuading, that the fate of the North East is in the hands of incompetents who do not appreciate the region's needs and who expect it to live from hand to mouth. Who really stands to gain from building the reservoir? Why did Geoffrey Ripon refuse to grant permission? Could it be that he and his callous and insensitive colleagues in the government are being sensible for once? Muther Grumble would love to hear from her readers any information that might throw light on this matter.

Gods and U.F.O's ..

Downstairs the legendary City Hall was filled wall to wall, a surprise as I expected the place to be empty. On stage, a 20 ft. high screen showed slides of ancient and mysterious objects. The audience was the most mixed of gatherings, pure straights of all ages and inclinations, school-boys and parents, students and apprentices, doctors and dons, heads, hippies and housewives, were all waiting with a tremor of uncertainty, for a lecture by Mr. Eric von Daniken. For those unversed in the works and ways of the mystery grande, Mr. Daniken is the author of 'Chariot of the Gods', 'Return to the Stars', and his latest book 'The Gold of the Gods'; books which attempt to prove that the beings our ancestors believed to be Gods were in fact only beings from another planet or whatever, and uses books, religious tracts, prehistoric remains, art objects and things that defy explanation to support his hypothesis.

Using slides to illustrate his points - huge figures on the plain of Nazca visible only from the air (as is our own Uffington White Horse), stoneworkings, rock shaping and cut as easily as if it were butter - he gave a fascinating lecture although until near the end he said nothing new to anyone who has any knowledge of the subject or indeed anyone who has read his first book. Then towards the end, he told us of a guy down Ecuador way who has found caves leading into a mountain which connect up with miles of caves within the mountain; these caves are manufactured, walls as smooth as silk, and filled with ancient objects. There are carved stones

and pebbles littering the caves, gold and silver plate in quantity, a library full to the ceiling with metal paged books, on the pages unknown hieroglyphics (what tales to tell I wonder) in one place the solid rock carved into four storeys. All this inside a mountain.

Mr. Daniken takes all this to mean that we were once visited by beings from another planet, galaxy or where-ever, from the weight of evidence pointing to a race in advance of even our own civilization (grimace). And that our benighted antecedents mistakenly believed these wonderful men in their flying machines when they said they were messengers from God. After a short break he came back to take questions from the audience. In the break I realized that he has not changed his hypothesis or extended it since Chariots of the Gods, surprising because anyone who has delved into the subject to any degree at all realizes the story does not finish ten thousand years ago. If anything it had only just begun. The question period brought out a couple of interesting facts. Mr. Daniken said that he believed in God but that the people/entities who gave Man the knowledge of God HAD NOTHING WHATEVER TO DO WITH GOD. That the strange beings that "ride the pearls in the sky", who presented themselves to our remote ancestors claiming to be Angels of the Lord were in fact only Space travellers, I suppose like the Americans (wry smile). The question period came with the questioners showing themselves to be a bit more evolved in their own theories than Mr. Daniken himself. Someone asked what he thought of

Churchward's, "The Lost Continent of Mu" (this book written in the 1890's gives, I believe, conclusive proof of the continent Mu which existed in the Pacific Ocean hundreds of thousands of years ago. The book also tells of the American archaeologist Niven who discovered underground cities similar to the place in the mountain) the questioner asked whether it was possible that what Daniken spoke of were only remains of a past civilisation on earth. To which Mr. Daniken replied, he had not gone into the subject so didn't know. Surprising if I may say so, when in such a field every possibility must be exhausted. Mr. Daniken then introduced Raymond Drake (author of Gods and Spacemen in the Ancient East) from the floor. Mr. Drake came out with the gem that he didn't believe Jesus Christ had really lived. A statement with which Mr. Daniken agreed, the mind absolutely boggles. Earlier Mr. von Daniken had gone to great pains (he even consulted an A.S.A. man) to explain that what Ezekiel described 8000 years before was in fact a space craft. Both he and Mr. Drake accepted as fact writings from remote history yet viewed the modern writings of the New Testament as untrue!

Another interesting fact which came to light was that Mr. Daniken had never seen a ufo but believed that what the ancients saw as signs from God and ufo's are one and the same thing. I agree. If Mr. Daniken had studied ufo's or read very many books about them he would realise there is more to flying discs than meets the eye (slight smile) or his hypothesis. For even now thousands upon thousands of years later these magical visions are still being seen in abundance all over the earth. If he had cast his eyes skywards more often he might have seen something more than interplanetary visitors. How often do you look into the sky? These strange crafts, whose occupants in past times proclaimed themselves to be angels of God are still all around us. Mr. Daniken, if ufo's have been around for ten thousand years why haven't they contacted us? If they were Universal Star Trek-kers the first thing they would do would be to communicate with us, like Capt. Kirk yunaa. Why in ten thousand do they communicate as a spiritual and moral guide when we humans have so much more to talk about?

The interesting think about ufo's is that they are not material objects in the sense our Moon rockets are. I agree that our moon rockets are a first attempt at space travel (very primitive) and certainly we



The Plain of Nazca.

..seek the unknown.

are going to have to discover some revolutionary form of transport if we ever hope to get beyond our own planetary system; but will we ever make ufo's? i.e. Things that can appear and disappear at will, and most disconcertingly appear as gas, mist or apparently as real, shining, silver metal, flaming fire-balls, twinkling stars, pillars of fire or cloud (believe it or not, the latter variety I myself have seen over South Shields), and things that appear on Photographs when not seen by the photographer or when seen by the photographer appear on the photo as pyramids, crosses, columns under the sea, or worst of all credibility wise, don't appear on the photo, or other mystical signs and can vary in size from six inch white discs to a quarter of a mile long cylinders.

Ufo's are accepted as fact by every government in the world but ask questions and you talk to a brick wall. Ufo's tracked one of Gemini moon shots and were seen by the astronauts and ground control. A Russian moonshot was aborted when a cosmonaut freaked out after seeing something near his ship, what he saw was never disclosed. Why official silence? If it was just space travellers why not tell us?

While in Warminster recently I asked Arthur Shuttlewood what he believed saucers to be and after some remarkable stories, he said "to put it in four words, they are of God". (see footnote)

I have been fortunate since the age of ten, in seeing ufo's. Through diligent (four years ago I was a complete and dedicated atheist who believed ufo's were space travellers) research, and, (heaviest of all), signs in the sky, I reached the same conclusion. Watch the skies.

Of course, in this Rio-Tinto Zinc/I.T.T. world of ours mysticism is not allowed to have any credibility so those of you about to throw this down, either fight your conditioning and read on or realise you are conditioned. We can't be allowed to see clearly that which doesn't fit our material product orientated society. Which might lead us to know that the goals we are taught to accept and live for are valueless. That things happen far beyond the pathetically small scope of society's owners is too much for them to accept, subsequently we are not allowed to treat too seriously things other-worldly. We are all the stars of our own movies but to realise and accept that there exists a director of all our movies is a task, a task we must attempt to meet in whatever way we can.



The object in the centre of the Photo was not seen by the photographer and is unexplained.

When reading mags I've often thought that writers used the discussion of somebodys ideas as an excuse for their own intellectual gambolling and now I stand guilty but I believe Mr. Daniken to be off base about something of absolute importance to us all. Ufo's are not inter-planetary travellers but visitors/visions from another dimension. A dimension beyond ours but inextricably involved with us.

Those of you fortunate enough to have seen a ufo may realise you are being shown something which makes our material way of life pale into insignificance (are ghosts for the same reason?). Those of you who have not seen a saucer, watch the skies and remember these lines from the ancient Vedas

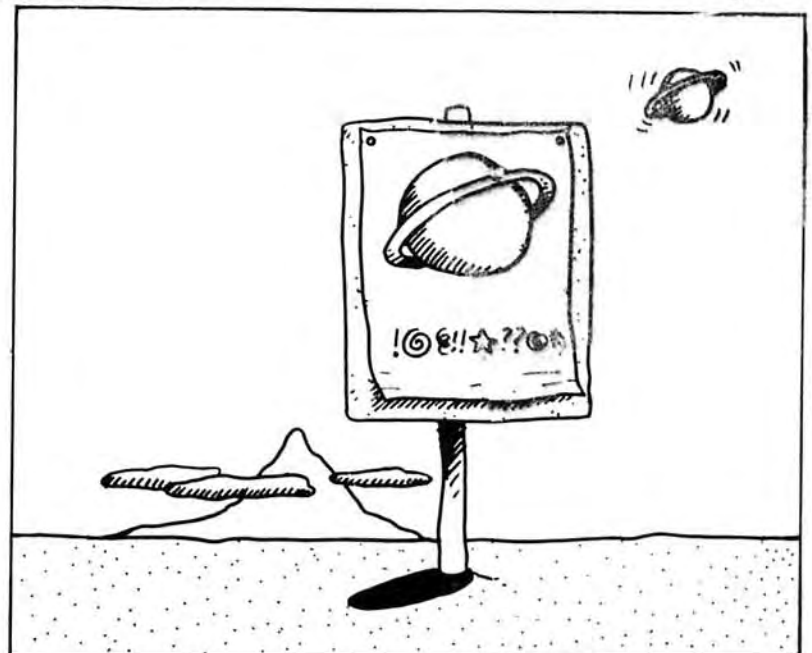
"God appears close to those who wish to know Him,
Yet far from those who do not wish to have a knowledge of Him, God is the unknown.
Seek the unknown."

(Warminster is a small Wiltshire town that since late '65 has been the centre of thousands of ufo sightings. The photo shown was taken at Cradle Hill (and the Ufo was not seen when I took it) the first week in July this year. I saw several ufo's in the week I was there but the best one a friend and I saw did not appear on an otherwise perfect shot.

Mr. Shuttlewood is editor of the local Warminster Journal. He has been at the centre of the phenomenon since 1965. He has written three books on the happenings. Try The Warminster Mystery as a starter.

The Warminster UFO Newsletter, if you want to know about recent happenings, can be got from Preston House, East Street, Warminster, Wiltshire.)

Bob.



GRAPPEVINE

WHAT'S ON THIS MONTH

Films

BLYTH

WALLAW CINEMA, Union St.
Sept. 2nd (for 7 days)
 THE WORLDS GREATEST ATHLETE (U) with Tim Conway and Jan-Michael Vincent & DIAMONDS ON WHEELS (U) with Patrick Allen and George Sewell
Sept. 10th (for 6 days)
 THE WILD BUNCH (X) with Ernest Borgnine and William Holden & HUNTED (X) with Edward Woodward
Sept. 16th (for 7 days)
 BOXCAR BERTHA (X) with Barbara Hershey & HUNTED (X) with Jim Brown and Stella Stevens
Sept. 23rd (for 7 days)
 THAT'LL BE THE DAY (AA) with David Essex and Ringo Starr
Sept. 30th (for 7 days)
 WHEN EIGHT BELLS TOLL (A) & PUPPET ON A CHAIN (AA) with Barbara Parkins and Alexander Knox

TATLER CINEMA

Reacons-Field Street
 (open to the public)
Sept. 6th (for 3 days)
 THE GRADUATE (AA) with Dustin Hoffman & SABATA (AA) with Lee Van Cleef
Sept. 13th (for 3 days)
 DISCIPLINE OF DEATH (X) with Mike Raven & DEVILS NIGHTMARE (X) with Erika Blanc and Jean Servais
Sept. 20th (for 3 days)
 DRACULA A.D. (X) with Christopher Lee and Peter Cushing & TROG A.A. with Joan Crawford
Sept. 27th (for 3 days)
 PRECINCT 45 - LOS ANGELES POLICE (AA) with George C. Scott & FIVE EASY PIECES (AA) with Jack Nicholson
Oct. 4th (for 3 days)
 CLINTIC XCLUSIVE (X) with Georgina Ward and Alex Davion & THE GIRL MOST LIKELY TO (X) with Barbara Caron

DURHAM

CLASSIC CINEMA

North Road
Sept. 2nd (for 7 days)
 WHEN EIGHT BELLS TOLL (A)

with Anthony Hopkins and Robert Morley & PUPPET ON A CHAIN (AA) with Barbara Knox

Sept. 9th (for 7 days)
 I AM A NYMPHOMANIAC (X) & NOT TONIGHT DARLING (X)
Sept. 16th (for 4 days)
 BOXCAR BERTHA (X) with David Carradin & SLAUGHTER (X)

Sept. 20th (for 3 days)
 HOUSE IN NIGHTMARE PARK (X) & THE BIG AND THE BAD (X)

Sept. 23rd (for 7 days)
 WHERE EAGLES DARE (A) with Clint Eastwood and Richard Burton
Sept. 30th (for 7 days)
 THEATRE OF BLOOD (X) with Vincent Price & HAMMER (X)

Oct. 7th
 LIVE AND LET DIE (A) with Roger Moore

NEWCASTLE

APOLLO CINEMA

Shields Rd. Byker
 CINEMA 1 (all for 7 days)
Sept. 2nd - SOLDIER BLUE (X) & CARNAL KNOWLEDGE (X)
Sept. 9th - STRAW DOGS (X) & EL CONDOR
Sept. 16th - LADY CAROLINE LAMB & OUT OF THE WILDERNESS
Sept. 23rd - KING BOXER & SUPERFLY
Sept. 30th - STEPTOE AND SON RIDE AGAIN & ALONG THE WAY

CINEMA 2 (all for 7 days)

Sept. 2nd - THE THIEF WHO CAME TO DINNER & TRAIN ROBBERS
Sept. 9th - THE CREEPING FLESH & BLOOD BRIDES
Sept. 16th - GET CARTER & VILLAIN
Sept. 23rd - THE LEGEND OF FRENCHIE KING & NOT NOW DARLING
Sept. 30th - SWEDISH FLYGIRLS & ON THE SIDE

CINEMA 3 (all for 7 days)

Sept. 2nd - EASY RIDER & VIRGIN SOLDIERS
Sept. 9th - NO SEX PLEASE WE'RE BRITISH & CARTOON
Sept. 16th - BLUE MOVIE & COLLECTIVE MARRIAGE
Sept. 23rd - THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING SEXY & MORAL LOVE

Sept. 30th - BATTLE OF BRITAIN & QUIET COUNTRY

TATLER CINEMA

Sept. 2nd - SPREAD EAGLES & SIGN OF SATAN.
Sept. 9th - OBSCENITY CASE & MIND BLOWERS

Sept 16th - DOCTORS FROM OH COPENHAGEN & FLESH GAME
Sept 23rd - COUNTRY CUZZINS & ONE MILLION AC/DC
Sept 30th - RAQUEL'S MOTEL & SLAVES OF THE SYNDICATE

ODEON CINEMA

Till end of Sept. - LIVE & LET DIE
Sept 30th - DIANA ROSS (LIVE SHOW)

QUEENS CINEMA

Sept 2nd - TOUCH OF CLASS
Sept 9th - SLEUTH

PAVILLION

Sept 2nd - CANTERBURY TALES (X)
Sept 9th - WATTSAX & TO FIND A MAN (X)
Sept 16th - BATTLE OF BRITAIN (U)

STOLL

Sept 2nd - MAID IN SWEDEN & GUESS WHAT WE LEARNED AT SCHOOL TODAY
Sept 9th - HOT BED OF SEX & EROTOG LOVE GAMES
Sept 16th - EXILE ME & NAUGHTY NUN
Sept 23rd - S FOR SEX & DIARY OF A HALF VIRGIN
Sept 30th - DO YOU WISH TO REMAIN A VIRGIN FOREVER & THE QUEER, THE EROTIC

TYNESIDE FILM THEATRE

Pilgrim Street
 CINEMA 1 (open to the public)
Sept. 3rd (for 6 days)
 BLOOD AND SAND (U) with Rudolf Valentino
Sept. 10th (for 6 days)
 TCHATKOVSKY (U)
Sept. 17th (for 6 days)
 THE GROUNDSTAR CONSPIRACY (AA) & THE FORBIN PROJECT (A)
Sept. 24th (for 6 days)
 THE RED TENT (U) with Sean Connery and Peter Finch

Oct. 1st (for 6 days)
 J. W. COOP (AA) & WATERMELON MAN

Oct. 8th (for 6 days)
 JUST BEFORE NIGHTFALL (X) & LOVING
Oct. 15th (for 6 days)
 FELLINI'S ROMA (X)

CINEMA 2 (associates only)

Sept. 2nd (for 4 days)
 THE JACKEL OF NAHYEL-TORO & CRY OF THE PEOPLE
Sept. 6th (for 3 days)
 THE CHRONICLE OF ANNA MAGDALENE BACH & NOT RECONCILED
Sept. 9th (for 4 days)
 THE SUDDEN FORTUNE OF THE POOR PEOPLE OF KOM-BACH & A PAGE OF MADNESS
Sept. 13th (for 3 days)
 LE MANDAT
Sept. 17th (for 6 days)
 DEAR IRENE
Sept. 23rd (for 4 days)
 VENT D'EST
Sept. 27th (for 3 days)
 WEEKEND
Sept. 30th (for 4 days)
 ONE P. M.
Oct. 4th (for 3 days)
 Warhol's LONESOME COWBOYS & BUT THE PEOPLE ARE BEAUTIFUL
Oct. 8th (for 3 days)
 Warhol's FLESH
Oct. 11th (for 3 days)
 Warhol's BIKE BOY & BLUE MOVIE
Oct. 15th (for 6 days)
 BLANCHE

NORTH SHIELDS

CLASSIC CINEMA

Russell Street
Sept. 2nd (for 7 days)
 LOST HORIZON with Sally Kellerman and Peter Finch & THE HUNGARIANS (U)
Sept. 16th (for 7 days)
 SOLDIER BLUE with Candice Bergen (X) & CARNAL KNOWLEDGE
Sept. 23rd (4 days)
 BONNIE & CLYDE (X) with Warren Beatty & Faye Dunaway & NATIONAL HEALTH (AA) with Lyne Redgrave and Colin Blakely
Sept. 27th (3 days)
 SHAMUS (X) with Burt Reynolds & Dyan Cannon & BLACK GUNN (X)

30th Sept. (7 days)
BATTLE FOR THE PLANET
OF THE APES (A) &
THE NEPTUNE FACTOR (U)

ALBION CINEMA

Sept 3rd for 6 days -
DIRTY HARRY (X) & KLUTE
(X)

SEPT 10th - for 6 days
COLD SWEAT (AA) &
SWORDSMAN (X)

Sept 17th for 6 days
LEGEND OF FRENCHIE KING
& NOT NOW DARLING

Sept 24th - NOT KNOWN

SOUTH SHIELDS

A.B.C. CINEMA

Sept 2nd - DIRTY HARRY
(CLINT EASTWOOD) & KLUTE

Sept 9th - COLD SWEAT
(BRANSON) (AA) & THE NEW
ONE-ARMED SWORDSMAN (X)

Sept 16th - THE LEGEND OF
FRENCHIE KING & NOT NOW
DARLING

Sept 23rd - HOT & BLUE
(X) & HUNGRY FOR SEX (X)
Sept 30th - THE WILD BUNCH
(X) & HUNTED (X)

SUNDERLAND

A.B.C. CINEMA

Sept 2nd - DAY OF THE
JACKAL

Sept 9th - SOYLENT GREEN &
THEY ONLY TELL THEIR
MASTERS

Sept 16th - THE LEGEND OF
FRENCHIE KING & NOT NOW
DARLING

Sept 23rd - BADGE 373 &
COOGAN'S BLUFF

Sept 30th - HIGH PLAINS
TWISTER & TRICK BABY

WEST MONKSEATON

CLASSIC CINEMA

Sept 2nd - TEN
COMMANDMENTS

Sept 9th - RYANS DAUGHTER
(AA)

Sept 16th - GRADUATE &
PLAY DIRTY

Sept 23rd - MAYERLING &
CARTOON

Sept 30th - SOLDIER BLUE
(X) & CARNAL KNOWLEDGE (X)

WHITLEY BAY

CLASSIC CINEMA

Park Road

Sept. 2nd (for 7 days)
BOXCAR BERTHA (X) with
Barbara Hershey & SLAUGH-
TER (X)

Sept. 9th (for 7 days)
LOVE UNDER SEVENTEEN (X)
& AS YOU LIKE IT (X)

Sept. 16th (for 7 days)
THE LIFE AND TIMES OF
JUDGE ROY BEAN (A) with
Paul Newman and Ava Gar-
dner & THE WRECKING CREW
(A) with Dean Martin

Sept. 23rd (for 7 days)
THE LEGEND OF FRENCHIE
KING (A) with Brigitte
Bardot & NOT NOW DARLING
(AA) with Leslie Phillips

Sept. 30th (for 4 days)
SHAMUS (X) & BLACK GUNN
(X) with Jim Brown
Oct. 4th (for 3 days)
BULLITT (AA) with Steve
McQueen and Robert Vau-
ghn & THE NATIONAL HEA-
LTH (AA)

STOCKTON

THE DOVECOT

Sept. 7th
THE GRADUATE (X)

Sept. 14th
IN THE HEAT OF THE
NIGHT(A)

Sept. 21st
THE GO-BETWEEN (AA)

Sept 28th
UN HOMME ET UNE
FEMME (X)

Oct. 5th
W.R. MYSTERIES OF
THE ORGANISM

Oct. 12th
THE BIRTHDAY PARTY

Oct. 19th
THE PIED PIPER
Donovan.

Rock

NEWCASTLE

CITY HALL

Sept. 4th - JOHNNY CASH

Sept. 7th - FAMILY

Sept. 13th - ROLLING ST-
ONES

Sept. 22nd - SPINNERS

Sept. 24th - STATUS QUO

Sept. 26th - ARGENT

Sept. 30th - LOU REED

Oct. 11th - INCREDIBLE
STRING BAND

Oct. 12th - HIGH LEVEL
RANTERS

MAYFAIR

Sept. 7th - COMMANDER
CODY & THE LOST PLANET
AIRMEN

Sept. 14th - EDGAR BROUG-
HTON BAND

Sept. 28th - WIZZARD

Oct. 5th - TEN YEARS

AFTER

Oct. 12th - ELECTRIC LIGHT
ORCHESTRA

Oct. 19th - GROUNDHOCS

DARLINGTON

CIVIC THEATRE

Oct. 14th -
Incredible String Band

Jazz

Sundays

DURHAM - Red Hills Hotel
Savoy Jazzmen

NEWCASTLE - University
Theatre. Newcastle Big
Band (Lunchtime)

SEDFIELD - Hardwick
Hall Hotel

Mondays

DUNSTON - Crowley Hotel
Mighty Joe Young

NEWCASTLE - Newton Park
Hotel, Benton Rd, Panama
Jazzmen (10p)

Tuesdays

GOSFORTH - Piccolo
Restaurant, River City
Jazzmen

Wednesdays

NEWCASTLE - Balobras,
Cloth Market, Saratoga
Jazzmen (Free)

WHITLEY BAY - Granby
Hotel, Old St. Louis
Jazzmen

Thursdays

GOSFORTH - Gosforth
Hotel, Splinter Group
(Mainstream)

HARTLEPOOL - Nursery Inn
Alex Hand Band

NEW YORK - Wheatsheaf,
Jam Session

PONTELAND - Diamond Inn
Vieux Carre Jazzmen

RYTON - The Runhead,
Don Eddie & Friends

Fridays

GATESHEAD - The Azure
Blue, Eastbourne Ave,

Vieux Carre Jazzmen

WHITLEY BAY - Granby
Hotel Original Vintage
Jazzmen

Folk

Mondays

CULLERCOATS - Bay Hotel
7.30pm

DURHAM - Bridge Hotel
Singaround - free

GATESHEAD - Honeysuckle
Coatsworth Road 7.30

Blues

GOSFORTH - Gosforth Hotel
(Contemp.)

HEWORTH - Swan Hotel 8pm

HEXHAM - Royal Hotel 8pm

S. GOSFORTH - Millstone
FC Heddricks Mill Rd.

STOCKTON - Sun Inn

RYTON VILLAGE - Ye Old
Cross. 8pm (Trad)

WHITBURN - Bay Hotel

WINLATON - Vulcan's Rusty
Club 8pm

Tuesdays

BILLINGHAM - Black Horse
Hotel

CRAMLINGTON - Blagden
Arms 8pm

CRAWCROCK - Rising Sun
Inn 7pm

DARLINGTON - Britannia
Hotel

DURHAM - Marquis of Granby

NEWCASTLE - New Barnell
off Barrack Rd, 8pm Trad

PONTELAND - Blackbird Inn
8pm

SEAHAM - Dun Cow Inn

NORTHALLERTON Rugby Club

RIPON - The Studley Revue

WEDNESDAYS

BIRTLEY - Three Tuns Inn

DARLINGTON - White Horse
Hotel

ESTON - Cleveland Bay
Hotel

GOSFORTH - County Hotel
(Trad)

GREAT LUMLEY - Warriors
Arms 8pm. Contemporary
folk. (Every other week)

NEWCASTLE - Change Is
Bath Lane, Contemp/Rock

MITFORD nr Morpeth. The
Plough 8.30pm

NEWTON AYCLIFFE - Gretna
Green Wedding Inn

STAINDROP - King's Arms

SUNDERLAND - The Glebe
Folk/Blues

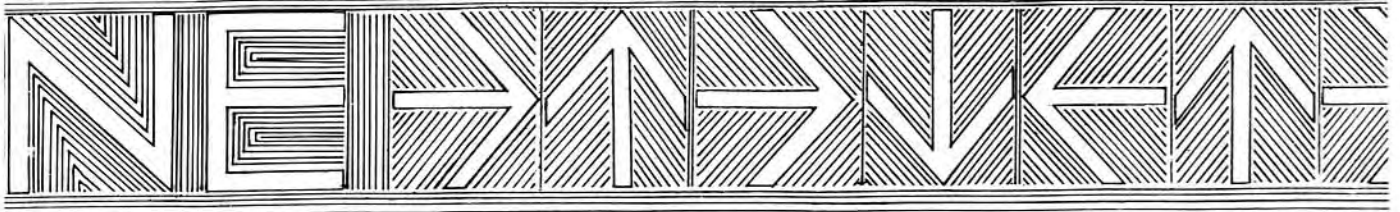
WHITBY - Plough Hotel,
Baxtergate

THURSDAYS

DURHAM - Salutation
Hotel, City Folk Club
Franwellgate Moor

NEWCASTLE - Bridge Hotel
Castle Square (Trad)





SUNDERLAND - Supporters Club (Folk & C&W)

Fridays

ASHINGTON - Lampglass Cellar Club 7.30pm
NEWCASTLE - Baltic Hotel Quayside (Trad)
RICHMOND - Castle Tavern
SOUTH SHIELDS - Station Hotel Folk/Blues
SUNDERLAND - Londonderry Hotel
TRIMDON VILLAGE - Red Lion Inn
DUNSTON - Crowley Hotel Market Lane
PELAW - Cricketers Arms
SUNDERLAND - George & The Dragon
WESTERHOPE - Welfare FC

Saturdays

DARLINGTON - Golden Cock Hotel
MIDDLESBROUGH - Albert Social Club
NEWCASTLE - Barley Mow, City Rd. (Trad)
SUNDERLAND - Laburnum Cottage

Sundays

GOSFORTH - Gosforth Hotel 8pm Trad
SEAHAM - The Castlereagh
HARTLEPOOL - Nursery Inn
N. SHIELDS - Cannon Inn Coast Rd. 7.30pm
S. SHIELDS - Marsden Inn
SWAINBY - Blacksmiths Arms
MIDDLETON ST. GEORGE - Student Union 8pm

Classical

Sept. 5th - Northern Sinfonia Orch. with Andre Previn at Newcastle City Hall. (7.45pm)
Sept. 7th - Northern Sinfonia Orch. with Andre Previn at Middlesbrough Town Hall. (8.00pm)
Sept. 8th - St. Cuthberts Church, Darlington 7pm, Organ Recital. (free)
Sept. 9th - Wallaw Cinema, Blyth 7pm. Blyth Amateur Operatic Society. (50p, 60p)
Sept. 12th - Shipley Art Gallery, Gateshead 7.30pm Rosetti Wind Quartet. (20p)
Sept. 15th - St. Thomas Aquinas's Church, Darlington. Organ playing/choir training seminar with David Lumsden 2pm. (free)

Sept. 23rd - Civic Theatre, Darlington 8pm. The Lemare Orchestra. (50p - £1.25)

Sept. 26th - Durham Cathedral 8.15. Organ recital by Simon Lindley. (30p)
Sept. 29th - North Shields, Memorial Methodist Church 7.15pm. Music by Handel, Bach, Beethoven, Schubert. (35p)
Oct. 13th - Great Hall of Durham Castle 8pm. A recital of classical guitar duos and solos by Forbes Henderson and Richard Wright.
Oct. 14th - Trevelyan Dining Room, Durham 8.15pm. An evening of classical Indian music with Bagwandi Mistry and Family. (25p)



Theatre

Little Theatre Gateshead
Sept. 3 - 8
Little Theatre Gateshead
Sept. 3 - 8th
The Heiress. (30p)

University Theatre N/cle
Sept. 4 - 22nd
Thark by Ben Travers
Sept. 27 - Oct. 20th
Caucasian Chalk Circle
by Bertolt Brecht

Civic Theatre Darlington
Sept. 6 - 8th
The 1825 Show
Sept. 11 - 15th & 18 - 22nd
22nd
Sleuth with Derren Nesbitt. (35p, 50p, 70p)
Sept. 16th
The Randy Boone Show (50p, 60p, 70p)
Sept. 24 - 29th
The Man Most Likely To... with Bill Simpson and Dermot Walsh. (35p, 50p, 70p)

Peoples Theatre N/cle
Sept. 18 - 22nd
Who's Afraid Of Virginia Woolf. (45p)

Little Theatre Middlesbrough
Sept. 19 - 22nd
Bartholomew Fair. (35p)

Arts Centre Wallsend
Sept. 18 - 19th
The Pongo Plays. (20p)

Exhibs.

NEWCASTLE

Northern Arts Gallery (New Bridge Street)
Until Sept. 23rd
American University Student Print Invitational
Calouste Gulbenkian Gallery
Sept. 17 - 28th
Environmental Sculpture by Phyllida Barlow

Laing Art Gallery
Sept. 19 - Nov. 4th
Cezanne, watercolour and pencil drawings

JARROW

Bede Gallery
Until Sept. 13th
The American Landscape photos by Karin Melvin & The Psychic Eye drawings from the collection of Edith Potts

SUNDERLAND

Museum and Art Gallery
Sept. 1 - 30th
Extra-mural Group Festival

Arts Centre
Sept. 14 - Oct. 7th
Aerial Structures

DURHAM

D.L.I. Museum
Sept. 8 - 30th
Paintings, drawings and sculpture by Durham Artists

DARLINGTON

Art Gallery
Sept. 1 - 29th
Artist of the month, R.B. Adams (Darlington)
Sept. 3 - 22nd
Works by R. Davies, J.M. Davies, M. Horne, D. Horne
Sept. 27 - Oct. 27th
Paintings and crafts by Darlington Society of Arts

GATESHEAD

Shipley Art Gallery
Until Sept. 30th
Art Nouveau Pewter
Sept. 7 - 30th
Paintings by Margaret Dadswell and Jean Tait

HARTLEPOOL

Gray Art Gallery
Until Sept. 16th
The Negro As A Slave In America
Until Sept. 30th
Dolls In The 19th Century
Sept. 1 - 30th
Paintings by Stephen Crowther

MIDDLESBROUGH

Art Gallery
Until Sept. 29th
British International Drawing Biennale

Univ. of Leeds Adult Education Centre
Sept. 17 - 28th
Print Techniques

Various

DURHAM

Aykley Heads, Sept. 8th
Bring the family to see your local Police Force in action. Displays by Mounted Branch Police Dogs Cadets Driving Instructors 10.30am - 6.30pm
Admission free

STOCKTON

DOVECOT ARTS CENTRE
Poetry Reading by Norman Nicholson 8 p.m., 30p, 35p
(Sept. 14th)

LIBRARY LECTURE THEATRE

Poetry Reading by Rita Brisk, 7.30p.m.
Sept. 27th

WALLSEND

ARTS CENTRE 7.30p.m.
28th Sept. Mime, Pierrot in Pantomime, 30p

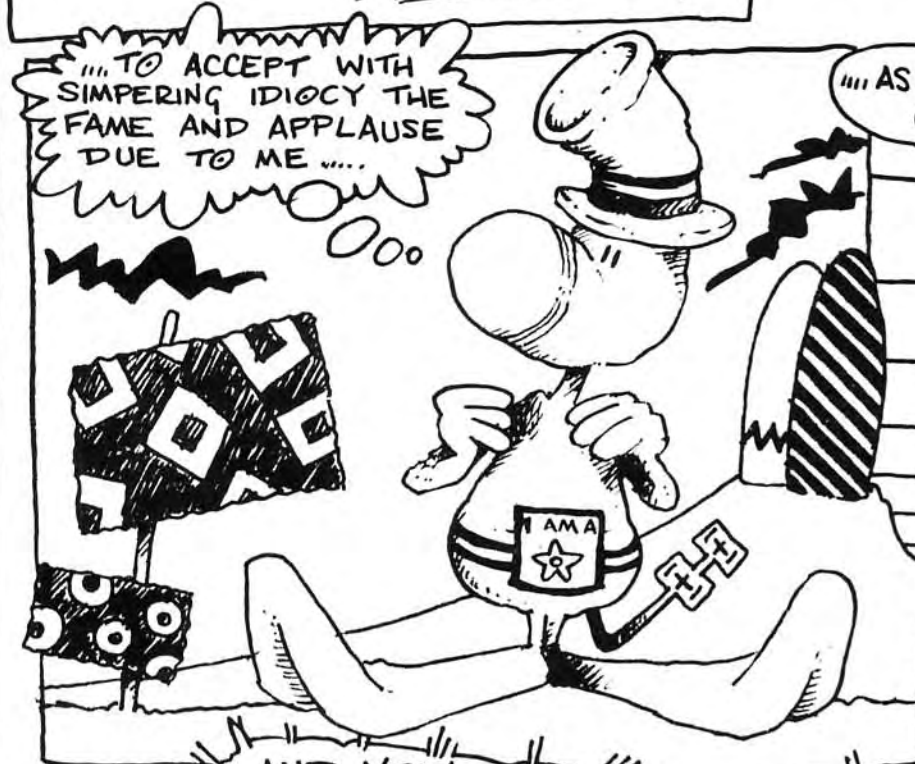
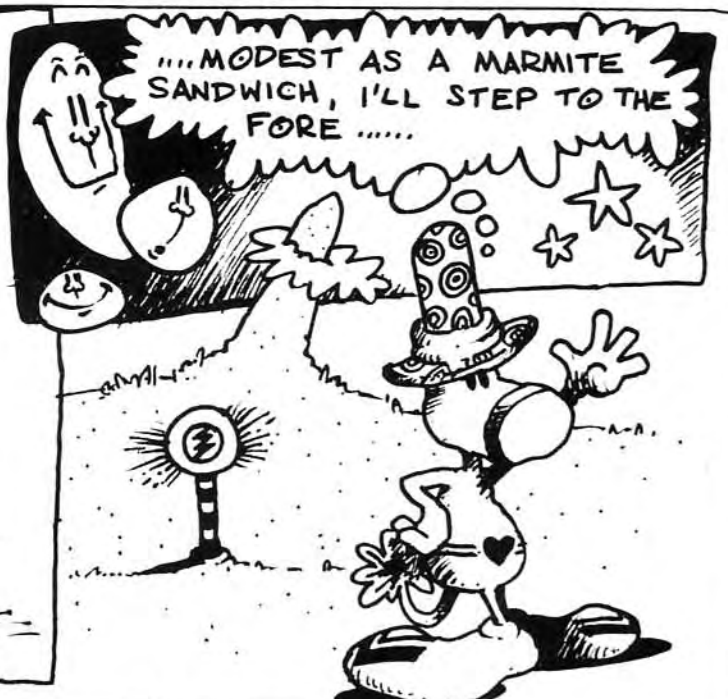
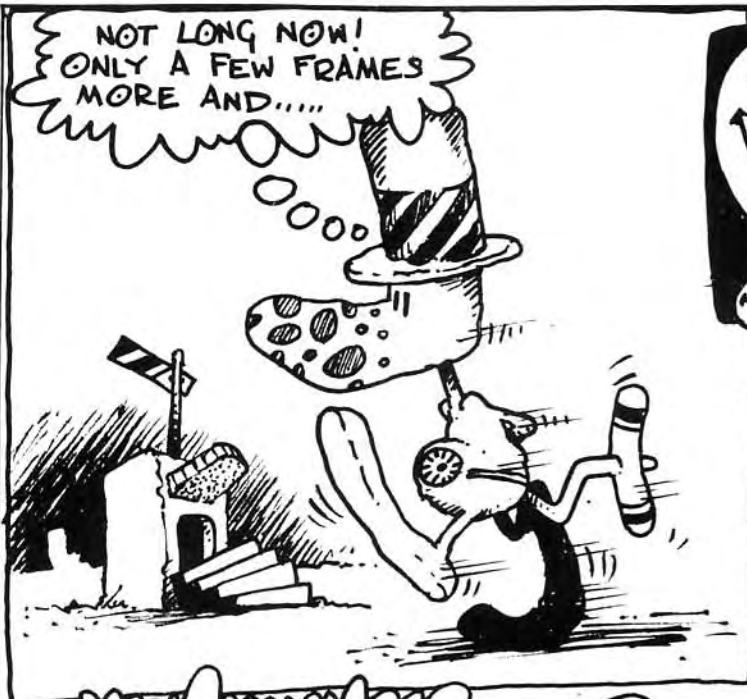
REDCAR

28th Sept. COATHAM MEMORIAL HALL. 7.30 p.m.
Teesside Constabulary Band.

SUNDERLAND

ART GALLERY 7.15p.m.
28th Sept. Miss Enlol Wu, piano, 50p, 30p.





AND NOW
**LARGE COW
COMIX** (BY
HUNT EMERSON) PRESENTS—
**TIMMY THE
TALKING
CHEESE!**



MCCARTNEY



When the Beatles broke up the villain of the piece was one Paul McCartney - the music press was full of articles denouncing him as the man responsible for breaking up the "greatest band in the world" and a flood of letters from Lennon were printed in which he denounced McCartney, plus of course the references in "How do you sleep" from the L.P. "Imagine."

Since that time the four Beatles have moved on to produce their various solo albums with varying success - Harrison's initial albums "All Things Must Pass" was a very fine set, but since then he has done little to substantiate this success, his new album is a little more than a carbon copy of "All Things." Ringo has gone his happy way in films plus a few self indulgent but not very successful albums and Lennon, apart from "Imagine", has done little of any great value and would appear to be suspended in limbo in the States surrounded by the "In Crowd" who produce microphones whenever their guru so much as grunts.

I am not forgetting the concerts that the above have been involved in (Bangladesh, Toronto, etc.) but to an extent were just the charismatic influences exerted by the former Beatles which drew people to them - The Best of 'Bangladesh' for example was Dylan and the group that was formed for the occasion (Clapton et al).

I met the evil McCartney in Newcastle recently when he was playing the gig that had to be postponed during the recent tour. He was tanned, relaxed and obviously very much at ease with himself and the world in general. (Compare that to Lennon!).

There was little of the tension that surrounded Beatle gigs, apart from the fans leaning through the dressing room window, dropping in cameras, autograph books and flowers, and Paul and Linda answered questions in an easy style.

I first asked Paul about the T.V. film shown recently which was almost universally slated by the critics and he said it was a start but it was only a beginning and they wanted to do more film-ing and improve on this rather shaky start. "I'd like to make a western with a few freinds, like Dustin Hoffman, set it in Montana, 'cos its a great place to film and we (the band) would be sitting



in the square under somoreros playing and then ride out of town? - thats all really - I don't want to do much acting - just riding in and out of town!

I enjoyed making 'Hard Days Night' because it was a very free film but I didn't enjoy 'Help' so much 'cos we were more confined to the script but I want to make more T.V. films 'cos its the media of the people and we can get to the maximum number of people."

M.G. "Do you enjoy playing in public?"

Paul: "Yeah - its great. I get real fits of nerves in the dressing room before we go on stage, and think "What the hell am I doing here" but the moment I see the audience I feel O.K. - I enjoyed playing in public with the Beatles and now I'm doing it again I'm really happy - its almost like being famous again playing in these big halls, Odeons and things."

M.G. "What sort of Halls are you going to play in, in the future?"

Paul: "I like playing where we can be near the audience - tonight is a good size but we'll play anywhere for anybody if we feel that its right. All we need is 4 hours notice and we'd play a benefit or a church hall - anything! But we'd have to feel right about doing it - we don't want to be part of the machine - I've been through all that before."

M.G. "It was reported that you wanted to do that with the Beatles - turn up unannounced at a hall and play - like you did on your first university tour with 'Wings.'"

Paul: Yeah, but it never got off the ground 'cos Lennon wanted to play the big halls - could this be the reason the Beatles broke up folks?!!!"

M.G. "Linda, you've come in for some bad press, haven't you?"

Linda: "Yes, but it doesn't worry me - one reporter said I could only play the organ with one hand but as I was playing a Moog at the time it didn't upset me too much - that sort of uninformed comment is just too silly."

M.G. "How do you feel the band is going?"

Paul: "Well it took a bit of playing together but the time we



Ginsberg

In

Newcastle

On Tuesday August 7th, Allen Ginsberg appeared at the Miners' Institute, Newcastle, an event arranged by the Morden Tower poetry people. We had looked forward to seeing this legendary figure whom the Newcastle Journal called 'The Master of the Universe', and were not disappointed. Allen's happiness and good humour are infectious.

The evening began with the chanting of mantras. A frequent visitor to the East, Ginsberg has absorbed many influences, especially from Hindu and Buddhist cultures.

Allen then sang from Blake's 'Songs of Innocence', which he has recently put to music, accompanying himself on harmonium. Although he possesses only an average voice, Ginsberg put much effort into his singing and playing, making his renditions most effective.

A few more chants and some playing on finger cymbals and prayer bells were followed by the reading of poetry. The themes were those expected from Ginsberg - American political oppression, gay sex and dope. Also there were more personal poems about dead friends, chiefly Kerouac and Casady. Allen read well with perfect timing bringing out fully the humour and seriousness of his work.

Finally there was more singing, this time of newly written songs. Again Ginsberg sang his heart out and again he danced and jogged about totally absorbed in the music and words.

The evening was made memorable by Ginsberg's joy and zest for life. He was continually inviting late-comers standing at the back to join him at the front and always concerned about his audiences' welfare. His good vibes made it seem like an intimate evening with an old friend.

Dave.



Soldier Blues

Georgy Porgy Pudding and Pie
kiss your love and make it die
all the soldiers gonna play
shooting people out the way

not
much fun
on the dole

16 years old
and not even
enough money
for
durex

then I saw
this POSTER

beer and games
and nickerless dames
what more
could soldiers get
paid for

(smiling faces
smiling purses
and though
I searched

I couldn't find
any smiling
hearses)

Inside
a discotheque face
with
heavy band hat

put lips
in my
ear

and said
I was needed to save this green land
and that there was

nothing
to
fear

as truth lay dead
in a
mushroom cloud
of beer

so you pick up your gun
for killing is fun
and the flames in your soul
hide the sighs.

mike mogie

all I care about - its got to be
a voluntary thing."

M.G: "What of the future?"

Paul: "We're just going to keep
on what we're doing - another
album - some more filming - but
all the time its got to be what
we want to do."

M.G: "If John wanted to make an
album with the three other Beatles
would you play?"

Paul: "Sure, if I turned up!
But not as the Beatles - that's
finished - but if I felt it was

right - yeah, I'd play."

Paul McCartney is obviously
very happy with things - he has
learnt from the Beatles the
dangerous aspects of the music
industry and is cautiously prog-
ressing along his own chosen
route. One could accuse him of
a negative attitude to a lot of
things - no "Attica State" for him
but who knows what next year
will bring?

INTERVIEW AND ALL PHOTOS: RIK WALTON



played at the Hard Rock in London
was the time when it really
clicked and we haven't looked back."

M.G: "What's your policy on
members of the band doing solo
albums?"

Paul: "It's alright by me - if they
want to play with the band that's

Jack The Lad

When Lindisfarne split Si Cowe, Ray Laidlaw and Rod Clements got Bill (Mitch) Mitchell, who was formerly in the N.E. folk group 'The Callies', to return from Canada and they formed a new band called 'Jack the Lad'. Here we talk to Si and Mitch about the past and plans for the future.

M.G: I presume you read that interview with Alan in Muther Grumble?

Si: I read it.

M.G: What did you think about it?

Si: It's quite typical...It was Alan having a heart to heart with himself. I presume.

M.G: There were various criticisms he seemed to put mainly at you, like having too many guitars on stage.

Si: Well, that's just his opinion. My opinion is that there is a front and a back to everything. Every front has a back door and whatever people put into life they get out of it. So I don't fancy being in Alan's shoes at the moment.

M.G: What are your relations with Alan like now?

Si: I've seen him once since we split - at a business meeting where we hassled over who got what.

M.G: It's getting like that?

Si: Always has been.

M.G: From the very beginning? Or is this something that came after you'd been together for so long?

Si: No, it wasn't like that at the beginning. It was more honest in the beginning but deteriorated into backbiting - permanent backbiting - about all the policies of the group. It was factions within the factions.

M.G: What you're doing as 'Jack The Lad' is very similar to 'Dingly Dell', more than any of the other Lindisfarne stuff.

Si: Well, we're trying to be more like what we wanted Lindisfarne to be in the first place. At the time of the first album 'Nicely out of Tune'. After the first album we three ex-Lindisfarners think that the music became wee-wee music. And we dealt with a piss-off playing music to football crowds and we tried to bend back, well, we did bend back to what our original concept of Lindisfarne was going to be.

M.G: How commercial do you think that is. Are you concerned with the commercial side of it?

Si: Only when it gets too commercial.

M.G: Because some rock music seems



Mitch and Si (right). Photo - Rik Walton.

to be going towards football crowds. Like Slade.

Si: I can't stand groups like that. I don't think we want to play to football crowd type audiences again. We never enjoyed it. Only the sort of huge ego buzz that you obviously get and you can't do anything about it 'cos it's happening to you. But it's not a very lasting pleasure, the kind you get from that.

M.G: But there are pressures upon you, say from your recording company or your management company, to become more commercial because that is where they get their money from?

Si: No, there are no obvious pressures from the recording company. They try to influence what we record but they can't influence what we write or how we perform. They just have to put up with that. That's where we're at.

M.G: Who's doing most of the writing now?

Si: At the moment it's about equal between me, Mitch and Rod.

M.G. Which is presumably a better balance than in Lindisfarne where it seemed that while all of you were writing only Alan's songs got sung?

Si: Umm! I'm trying to think how I can put Alan on a pedestal. At the bottom of the sea. No comment. (Laughs)

M.G: Most press reports always said that Lindisfarne were a democratic group as far as everybody deciding on what was recorded. But it didn't seem to work out like that in practice, obviously, because you split.

Si: Yeah, I think it must have started off better, I'm sure it started off better, but it became more and more of a drag after a while, just playing at all. Nobody seemed to be putting the effort in-

to it. Different people every night who weren't trying or pulling their weight. It was obvious that the spirit had gone and we were caught up in a big monster that was Lindisfarne.

M.G: Anyway, enough of the past. When are you recording with the new band?

Si: First two weeks of October. Charisma refuse to put any albums out, probably quite rightly, until February, to avoid the Christmas thing that happened with 'Nicely out of Tune' that got completely lost - it came out the same day as 'All Things Must Pass', and just disappeared. In fact we were recording at the same time in the same studio. He was upstairs and we were down.

M.G: All original songs on the album or oldies too?

Si: All original.

M.G: What's your policy on oldies.

Si: We only play one old Lindisfarne number, we play a couple to fill us in until we can get this time off for rehearsing more stuff. Joe Browns' "Picture of You" and "I saw her standing there", a good two to do I think, for the meantime I wouldn't like to do them for much longer.

M.G: After the L.P. are you going on tour to bigger halls with another band?

Si: Yeah, but we don't ever want to limit ourselves to just doing tours, city halls, etc. 'cos that's probably what fucked Lindisfarne up, too much of the high life, we didn't get back to the roots and the little clubs which we're doing now, we're playing all the little clubs, it's great. We want to be able to play to any sort of audiences, weddings, barbeques,

funerals.

M.G: What's the balance going to be, say in six months time are you going to be doing mainly sort of jiggy numbers or more rock numbers or are you going to sort of balance them out?

Si: That's what the big drag about this album business is because it's recorded beginning of October, comes out in February, we might be doing something totally different then, we don't know. We're still finding our roots now, we've got a 'Jack the Lad' sound though, but we don't know which way it's going to develop. I hope it'll just come tighter together as a definite 'Jack the Lad' sound.

M.G: How about you personally, seeing you last Friday was the first time I've ever seen you stand up on stage and actually move around?

Si: Oh, I love it!

M.G: I can imagine that in six months time you and Mitch will really be getting something together in terms of an act. Is that difficult for you?

Si: No, I couldn't face standing up at all when I tried after sitting down with Lindisfarne. I was sort of falling all over the place and my guitar was falling out of my hands, I didn't know how to do it. I brought a strap, practised for an hour and it worked. Quite enjoyed it, now I enjoy it all the time. It's great to be able to move around the stage, sitting in front of someones cabinet or a drum, talk to people, dance or whatever. But it became the time for me to stand up anyway and God said "stand up Si", so I did, I would have done if I'd been with Lindisfarne or whoever.

M.G: What's it like having Mitch back in the fold because you've been connected with him in vague ways for a long time now?

Si: Well, actually he was in the band before I was, he sang on, well about a dozen gigs, I think. He fits in amazingly well, I didn't know what he was gonna be like, in fact none of us did at first, he's pretty hot shit, yeah!

M.G: Tell me about your diet and your guitar.

Si: I lost 10 lbs. because I started a macrobiotic diet starting with a 10 day rice diet. I lost my guitar because we were a bit stupid who we let in the dressing room at Sunderland and I think there were some kids there who nobody knew who they were, very suspicious.

M.G: Have you got the serial number of that guitar?

Si: RICKENBACHER 12 STRING SUPER WUPER DELUXE SERIAL NUMBER LA (053)

M.G: Are you enjoying yourself?

Mitch: Yes, it's like the best time I've ever had in my life. It's amazing, it's just doing exactly what I wanted to do for so long with the right people - thats' what its all about.

M.G: You gave up the Callies to go to Canada, why? They seemed to be a good group who could have got it.

Mitch: Well, what happened was the original Callies that recorded the album split as soon as the album was released because the two guys didn't want to go any further with it. I couldn't see anything really happening so I split, maybe it was a wrong thing to do at that time.

M.G: Tell us what happened.

Mitch: Well, what happened was I came home for a month at Christmas and went to a party young Ray got mortal and told me the secret of the Lindisfarne split and that if they split then there was a possibility that they would ask me to join so I went back knowing that I had that little secret for about 8 weeks or so - bursting with it and then eventually Ray came over after Japan and said that the band were more or less going to stay together which sent me into a fit of 3 weeks solid boozing and then suddenly I just got a phone call one morning about 4 o'clock. It was him on the phone saying 'Do you want to join the band' so I packed me bags and this is it - its really like a fairy story, it's really good, really great.

M.G: You must have had a lot of thoughts, I suppose, coming over here - what were they, what do you think you could have contributed to the band?

Mitch: Well, this is something that puzzled me why they asked me to join 'cos I'd more or less wasted 3 years singing Irish rowdy songs and I was a bit worried in case I couldn't sing again, quite honestly it's been about 3 or 4 months before I started to get any sort of confidence about it. I think its starting to come back now so hopefully it'll go on like that. Guitar wise I'm just a normal rhythm-guitar player, nothing extra.....

M.G: What's the reception been like with the band, I mean you've played very few gigs?

Mitch: It's been pretty good on the whole. We've had a couple of bummers, y'know everybody does but on the whole it's been surprisingly good.

M.G: Was there a lot of yelling for old Lindisfarne numbers?

Mitch: Not a lot. There was one or two, no, not a lot really, I think, you know, that the few

bits of press that we've had, have more or less said that we're not Lindisfarne, so don't aim to be Lindisfarne, so naturally we're not doing Lindisfarne songs, I mean whoevers read it had taken notice of it, hopefully they are accepting the band for what it is now and like forget as much as they can about Lindisfarne, naturally the name will drag a few more people along, which we're grateful for at the first because, I mean, Jack the Lad are just being Jack the Lad without the Lindisfarne background.

M.G: I was talking to Si before and he seems very cautious about the group not goung the way Lindisfarne did, selling out in a way to the pressures of the crowds and you seem the same way, even though you're just a very new member of the band, but of course you've seen this from the other side?

Mitch: It's nice to get a lot of people but when it comes to the state when you can't play anywhere else but a minimum 2,000 seater auditorium its bad for the bands moral, if nothing else, you know, 'cos you never get any acontact with anybody anymore, its the superstar bit!

M.G: Ringed by security guards?

Mitch: I just don't want to know about it. Hopefully we will get towards that way but if we can retain the urge to play the small places and if we get the big money from the big places and keep on playing the clubs that would be great; that would be ideal, if we could do that - I'm sure we can because the 3 of them have got their heads screwed on now.

M.G: I hope you do that because we had a benefit arranged and like Lindisfarne said they'd play it but the pressure was put on them from the recording company saying you're playing the White City for £2,500 why the hell are you going to Newcastle to do a benefit?

Mitch: Well, we had the same actually with one, there was a thing organised to save Saltwell Park, Gateshead, that we wanted to play and the original date was tomorrow and we agreed to do it and then suddenly the Mayfair turned round and said you can't do it you can't play within 10 miles of here within the following day or the day before, it might have been because 't was for nothing 'cos if we'd played there for nothing tomorrow who the hell was gonna come here tonight and pay for, however much it is and we were a bit worried about that so we couldn't do it but hopefully we're gonna change the date and get it on and you know its gonna be great its actually in Saltwell Park to actually try and stop them put a motorway through it, and build flats on it.

The Tyneside Film Theatre

The manager, Charlie Picken, talking about the Theatre, its programmes and its aims.

When the Tyneside Film Theatre opened in March '68 it seemed that an alternative cinema had finally arrived in Newcastle. Now, after five years and two managers, it appears to have out-grown its birth pains and come to terms with the financial world while still showing certain films that would not be shown anywhere else because they are either not 'commercial' or because they have not been given a certificate for public viewing.

The present programme ranges from the amazing Marx Brothers, Miss West and Mr. Fields to the terrifying 'Long Live Death' and the audience beating 'Dyn Amo' with lots of nice and interesting things in between.

Charlie Picken is the Manager. He came to the cinema two years ago and is attempting to open a path between money (it costs £60,000 a year to run) and his obvious desire to show good films.

It is a place that should be visited by anyone who has even a passing interest in film. It is opposite the Odeon on Pilgrim Street. The price of admission is lower than all other movies in town. Cinema One is open to the 'public' while Cinema Two is the 'Associates.' It costs only 50p a year to be an Associate and this means that you get an illustrated programme every three months and that you can use Cinema Two and take a guest.

"I get very annoyed by people who judge films by specific instances. Anything can go into a film providing, overall what the film is trying to do justifies its content. 'Soldier Blue' was sold on its violence, I would say that the plot of that film did not justify the violence - it was violence for its own sake, which I'm against. You must judge the film overall. That is important. This is the whole point of the British Board of Film Censors. It has always been founded on a sensible basis, unlike the

American one with its ten commandments of what Thou-Shall or Shall-Not do. I think that our's is one of the best there is. They try to keep up to date with current tastes and acceptability which is the only way to run a just method of censorship. To try and run one like America and say you can't show adultery or child nudity is nonsense since some of these things are essential to what the director is trying to put over in his film.

The unfortunate thing that's happened with the pressure groups that have been brought to bare on films like 'Straw Dogs' and 'Last Tango' is that the local committee are possibly going to ask for notification on any controversial films so that they can decide whether or not to view them before a showing. What we hope, is that because of the nature of Film Theatres, and that films aren't shown for commercial reasons, they are shown because they are important films - we might get a blanket coverage in the same way a film festival does. It is aimed against the porn clubs, but the way the act is worded at the moment, it could effect Film Theatres, Film Societies, who's objects aren't similar to porn clubs.

I will not sell a film on sensation or violence. 'Long Live Death' I could have sold as the most violent film you could ever see, but I'll not sell it that way because the Tyneside Film Theatre is not commercial in that way. It is there to show 'Long Live Death' to the people who want to see 'Long Live Death' - not the people who want a night's sensation. One of the reasons I have changed the name from 'Members' to 'Associates' is that 'Members' was starting to mean dirty movies.

Last September the programming policy for Cinema Two changed. For once it had a set pattern. In a three month period you could see some first run films. Some recognisable film classics, two general specialised seasons and some obscure stuff. I've tried to repeat this three month balance programme so that we have something for everybody. Previously to this things were just programmed any old how, but last September I did take a conscious step in

programming the theatre to this pattern and it's beginning to pay off. Obviously you don't over-night miracles, but you've got to keep trying and this is one that seems to be working.

Obviously my personal likes have to come into it but I have to keep it to the barest minimum because I have to respect that I'm catering for the public so I can't enforce my personal tastes on them. It would be suicide to try and do that.

Any reaction I get from the audience is more on the 'You shouldn't have done that. It was disgusting.' I don't really get enough feedback from the Associates, I'd like a lot more because, as I say, I'm programming the theatre to what I think they want.

Someone may come to see a film they know and stay on to see the film that's on with it. They may come to see 'Yellow Submarine' and see 'The Decameron' that's on with it. By doing so, their film going experience is broadened. This is part of our job. At my late night horror shows some of the people I used to shout 'Shut up' to have joined and are coming to see people like Berman and liking what they see and talking about them and their film going has been broadened. It is a very rewarding thing for me.

It would be nice if every single person in Newcastle, at least once a year said: 'I must go to the Tyneside Film Theatre. They've got a film I want to see.' I'd be happy then."

The above is only a brief part of quite a long talk I had with Mr. Picken but I think it illustrates that he not only knows about film, which must be quite rare for a cinema manager!, but he also cares about the things he shows and the way people involve themselves in them. So, unless you happen to be happy with what they are showing at your local Roxy, I advise you to truck down and get a headful of some of the movies they're showing nightly. There really is something for everyone!

Tony.



VAN MORRISON - HARD NOSE THE HIGHWAY (Warner Bros).

According to Morrisons press officer - which is the nearest most people get to the man - Van Morrison does not want to be a figure-head, he is quite happy to be the singer with the band. Those of you who were lucky enough to see him in the City Hall, N/cle will appreciate that fact from his deadpan performance.

In this his new album he comes across as just that. He has surrounded himself with a wealth of musicianship - segments from the Oakland Symphony Orchestra and some of the best session men around - and has produced a set that would be at home anywhere.

There are few examples of the vocal pyrotechnics to be found on say 'The Lion' on St. Dominics Preview and unlike most of his earlier stuff his voice is mixed

very much on the level of the other instruments. It's all very tightly produced - almost too tight.

The songs have become a little more bitter and world weary when compared to earlier material and they culminate in the very bitter 'The Great Deception' which is a bitter attack on the disintegration of the idealism of 1967. As he has lived in Marin County outside San Francisco since that date he is well qualified to record this decay.

The only slight disappointment in the quality of the album is 'Autumn Song' which starts well but wanders off into nothingness - by Morrisons standards!

Two of the songs are not original compositions, one 'Green' by Joe Raposo is included presumably because of it's political and ethnic undertones - Morrison incidentally sounds very Ray Charlesish on this!

'Purple Heather' is an amazing version of the Scottish folk Tune, 'Will ye go lassie go'. It sounds rather weird with an American accent but it's a good track for analysing Morrisons style as other versions abound - sung in the more traditional way.

In all a good album but personally I like the looser tongued Morrison and I await the next album when he has got this one off his chest.

Rik.

Right:- Van Morrison at N/cle City Hall.



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'FOREIGNER' - CAT STEVENS

(Island)

'ROGER MCGUINN' (CBS)

Towards the end of last year both Cat Stevens and Roger McGuinn said goodbye to highly-praised musical outfits (in Stevens' case his association with Alun Davis and producer Paul Samwell-Smith; in McGuinn's case The Byrds) and went out on their own. 'Foreigner' and 'Roger McGuinn' show the results of these splits.

'Foreigner' comes as a sad disappointment, especially after the breakthroughs - both lyrical and musical - of the 'Catch Bull At Four' album. Stevens' lyrics have always suffered from a certain naivety (although there have been exceptions - 'Father and Son' and '18th Avenue' for instance), but never to such an extent as on the new LP. As often as not his words come over as jaded clichés as well. The best/worst example on the album is 'Later' which has a fine 'Shaft' - like backing abruptly broken in the middle so that Stevens can fervently intone 'Darling, I love you' into the microphone. 'The Foreigner Suite' is more successful, but too often Stevens comes on like a babbling maniac or you come across lines like 'Love, love, love, love must've made you on a Sunday/Cos you taste to me good as God made honey taste babe' or 'I've seen many other girls before, ah, but darling/Heaven must've programmed you.' Stevens' habit of repeating words ad nauseam is also given full rein.

Cat Stevens has said that he wanted to make an honest album with 'Foreigner'. John Lennon successfully managed this with his Ono Band recording, but Stevens has not yet achieved Lennon's lyrical maturity or clarity and his effort can only be described as excruciating.

The first solo album from Roger McGuinn is excellent, however. McGuinn prefers not to go in for the usual singer/songwriter in-depth confessions, but rather presents a collection of fine songs well arranged. The only number in which McGuinn gives a clear insight into his personal feelings is the opener

'I'm so restless', in which he informs Dylan, Lennon and Jagger in turn that he understands their musical viewpoints but doesn't want to tie himself down to any of them. Somewhat ironically, harmonica on this track is played by one Bob Dylan.

Assisted on other tracks by musicians such as David Crosby, Chris Etheridge, ex-Beach Boy Bruce Johnston, Spanky McFarlane and Charles Lloyd (who gives out some superb sax playing), McGuinn not surprisingly covers a wide spectrum of popular music - rock, traditional folk, country and western and blues - most of the numbers being self-penned with Jacques Levy. It's unfair to pick out individual tracks because the overall standard is so consistently high, but for those disappointed with the much-maligned reformed Byrds album, 'My New Woman' on the McGuinn LP features the same lineup and is far superior to anything on the Asylum recording.

Whether or not the Byrds leader returns to a group format, 'Roger McGuinn' could in the future well be looked upon as a classic album.

HISTORY OF THE GRATEFUL DEAD

VOL. 1 (Bears Choice) Warner Bros.

All but one track on the album are never before released numbers from the Dead. The album was recorded back in 1970 at Bill Graham's Fillmore East. Bear's choice so called because Bear, roadie and friend of the Dead from the 'Acid Test' days selected the tracks from the recording. As usual after one of our rock and rollers passes over, so comes the rush of unreleased material and soon (you bet) an anthology.

Side one of Bear's choice starts with a Pigpen mediocre blues number "Katie Mae" at which even dedicated "Dead Heads" were heard to murmur "Ooh sheet". "Dark Hollow" follows on this acoustic side of the album and Garcia after a rather discordant start eventually finds the right key for the harmony with Bob Weir. So far not a particularly impressive start, and I'm afraid there's not much change on this side, even the Everley's "Little Susie" falls rather flat due to the weak vocals Garcia and Weir produce. A track from "Workingman's Dead", closes the side and quite honestly this finish with "Black Peter" leaves you wondering what it was about the Dead that you used to like.

Side two, the electric side is a little more pleasing as the "Dead" get into "Smokestack Lightnin'" which although tends to get off to a rather slow start soon takes off, providing an eighteen minute rendering of this classic. Otis Redding's "Hard to Handle" develops into

one of those meandering jams so typical of the "Dead."

Definitely not one of the best albums from the Dead although side two does help to redeem them from the depths of disaster.

WISHBONE ASH - ALBUM NO. 4

On stage Wishbone Ash must be one of the more exiting bands in the country - "you just push the thing as far and hard as you can" (Andy Powell in 'Sounds' last August) but if you're expecting the same kind of excitement in this album - forget it!

With the exception of "No Easy Road" and "Everybody Needs a Friend" this album is very pedestrian stuff. There is little of the piercing dual guitar work of Ted Turner and Andy Powell and as a whole the album sounds like a clockwork toy - running down at that.

At the moment Wishbone are mixing a live album - some recorded in Newcastle - which should be worth waiting for. And I leave you with another quote from Powell "If you wrote purely for albums it would be a disaster" - nuff said!

THE SMOKER YOU DRINK, THE

PLAYER YOU GET - JOE WALSH (Probe)

Here's the second and, for me, long awaited album from Joe Walsh (leader of the old "James Gang"). A new addition to the band, Rockie Grace (Keys) joins "Barnstorm" former members Viz Kenny Passarelli (Bass), Joe Vitale (Drums, Flute, Keys and Synthesiser) and, of course, Joe Walsh (Lead Guitar, Keys and Synthesiser). All members participate in producing the vocals.

Bill Szymczyk who produced the "Barnstorm" album also handles production here, and manages to manufacture some marvellous electronic effects - as is demonstrated on 'Rocky Mountain Way', with an amazing guitar solo from Walsh. 'Midnight Moodies' features a Vitale flute riff, which is taken up by Walsh's lead and snapping cymbals and pumping precise drum patterns. Passarelli's bass riff comes in changing the tempo, Walsh comes in on acoustic guitar and they're into a dynamite 'Happy Days'.

Unfortunately I'm now running outa space but side two is every bit as good as side one which produces one of the year's best rock albums.

'MARLENE' - KEVIN COYNE

(Virgin single)

This is the first single to be released on the Virgin label, (thus the review) and very nice it is too. Good acoustic guitar and a sort of Van Morrison voice are it's credits. Personally I prefer the B side 'Everybody says' Incidentally a South Shields lad, Gordon Smith, is backing on Electric guitar.

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NEWCASTLE
258 Westgate Rd, N/cle
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SOUTH SHIELDS
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CYRENIANS

NEWCASTLE, C/o The Chaplaincy, The University
DURHAM, C/o David Constantine, 51 Claypath, Durham. Tel 68192

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Durham 63737
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WHITE PANTHERS

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