

Mr. RIVINGTON SPYKE

requests the pleasure of the company of

*Town Hall Steps*

for his Birthday Bash

featuring

## THE REPORTERS

at the Gaiety, Bradshawgate, Bolton

Thursday 30th, July, 1981

Starts 8-00 p.m.

Due to this being the Rivington Spyke Birthday Bash, we were treated to numerous poems by the man himself including all the old favourites which were, as usual, well received. Straight afterwards The Reporters came on and were, to be honest, a bit disappointing and not up to their usual brilliant selves. True it was a good set but by Reporters standards it was lacking something.

Perhaps it was just poor mixing but the sound quality was not as good although the song itself was great. Then came "Inside Information" however, and this was The Reporters as we know them - good playing combined with an excellent song which was enhanced by the saxophone. From then on the songs varied from excellent to mediocre with great inconsistency. We already know that The Reporters have great musical ability but for this performance they seemed as if they were out of practice. I'm not saying it was a bad set 'though, on the contrary it was the quality of their material which pulled them through but their performance was not up to standard.

28

Let's hope this was a one off for their gigs in previous months were infallible and that's the way they ought to be.

However I still believe The Reporters are the best group in Bolton although there was one point I didn't like: they didn't play "Lady Luck"!!!



PHIL ABRAM ↑

## RAPID FIRE

BOLTON GAIETY 10 SEPT

THIS WAS THE FIRST TIME I HAD SEEN RAPID FIRE (NOTHING TO DO WITH THE HEAVY METAL GROUP, RPYD FYRE) AND FIRST IMPRESSIONS WERE OF A FAIRLY YOUNG AND INEXPERIENCED GROUP BUT WHO SHOW A LOT OF POTENTIAL.

AS SOON AS THEY HAD STARTED, THREE DANCERS HIT THE FLOOR AND FREAKED OUT TO THE FIRST SONG "REACH FOR THE SKY" WHICH BORE A STRONG RESEMBLANCE TO SQUASHED HEDGEHOG'S "ODIN'S BANE." PROBABLY JUST A COINCIDENCE. STILL, A VERY GOOD <sup>SOME</sup> ~~ONE~~ <sup>THOUGH</sup>, ONE OF THEIR BEST. OTHER MUSICAL HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDED "THE REALM OF NOWHERE," "BACK STREETS OF HELL" (BY STRIFE), "INCARNATION," "SORCERY" AND "MAN OF THE UNIVERSE." THROUGHOUT THE SET, THE BASS, RHYTHM GUITAR AND DRUMMING WERE CONSISTENTLY GOOD ALTHOUGH THERE WERE WEAK POINTS, NAMELY THE VOCALS AND THE LEAD GUITAR: THE FRONTMAN'S VOICE HAD A HABIT OF WAVING ON THE LONGER NOTES AND ALTHOUGH THE GUITARIST SHOWED OCCASIONAL BRILLIANCE, MOST OF HIS SOLOS WERE A LITTLE TEDIOUS. BUT THE FACT REMAINS THAT RAPID FIRE HAVE A GREAT DEAL OF POTENTIAL AND ARE DEFINITELY ONE TO LOOK OUT FOR IN THE FUTURE.

29