

Speedy

at The Bluebell, Bolton Rd, Bury.

After half freezing to death getting to The Bluebell in Bury to watch a gig on a cold Friday night in February, I got a drink from the bar and settled down to watch and listen to Burgundy.

It started off very ordinary, but the blandness was deceptive. Half the problem was the Bluebell's maff sound, a nightmare for a sound engineer (as was evident throughout the entire gig), and ultimately messier than a hippy squat five minutes after an SPG raid. The other half of the problem was Burgundy, with not enough experience to be unaffected by the acoustics.

The first set was a bit loose, but what do you expect with the Bluebell's sound as it was.

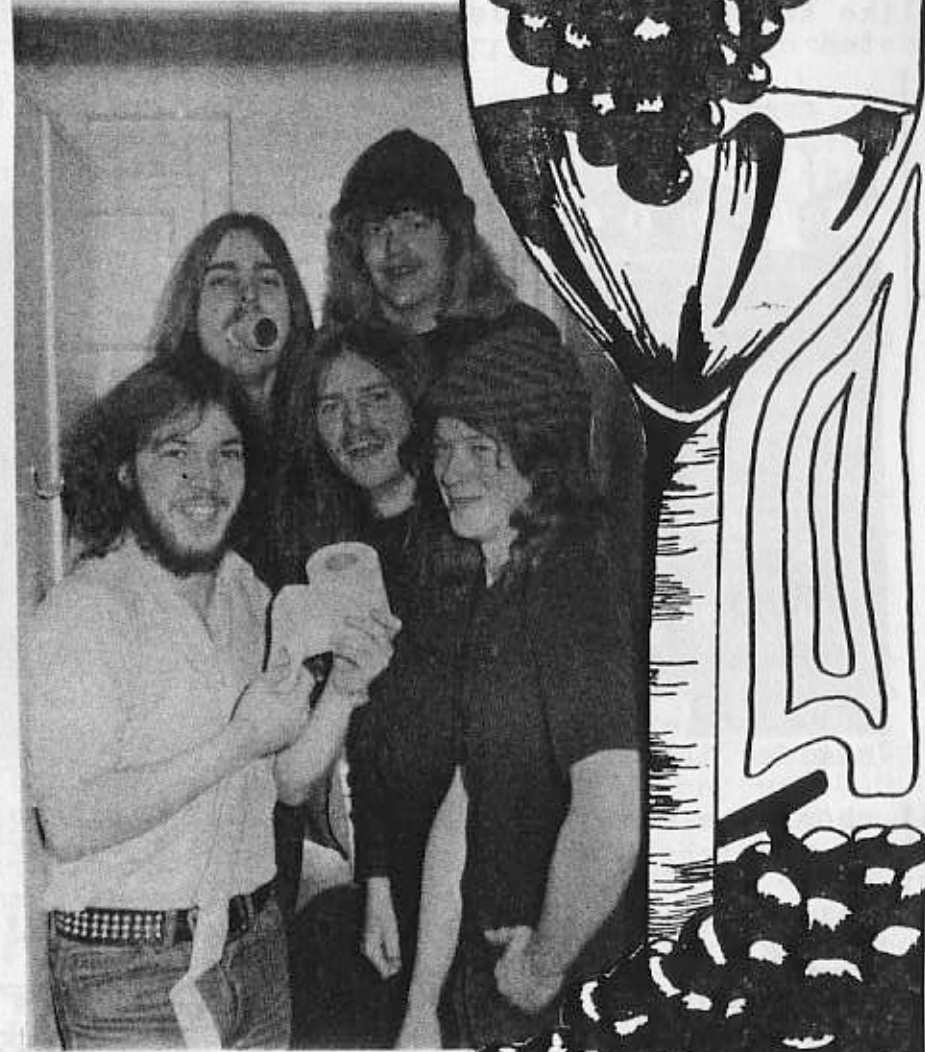
The audience seemed fairly enthusiastic, especially about the band's own "Ladies Dog" and the old Whitesnake number, "Walking in the Shadow of the Blues".

The second set had a very frustrating start due to dodgy equipment that kept cutting out, so after two false starts, Speedy finally gave up on his slide acoustic solo. The band then carried on with the Rainbow instrumental, "Maybe Next Time" and a very good version of Deep Purple's "Mistreated", which was the highlight of the evening. Also included in this second set was a selection of their own work, one of which was an excellent brand new song called "Don't read the Papers". They made a passable attempt at "Ain't no Love" assisted

by quite a few people joining in, and finished off with an unusually disappointing version of Uriah Heep's "Gypsy", a song they normally perform very well.

I think this disappointing gig was a one-off, and knowing how good they can play, I feel they are a band to be seen.

Vocals - Dave Lewis
Guitar/Keyboards - Julian Godley
Drums - Seanny
Lead guitar - Speedy
Burgundy plx by Pete Lever
Bass - John Godley



KEN COLLETT.