

SHOUT! THE PEPPERMINT DREAM

At last, the long-awaited Peppermint Dream cassette has been released, and it's definitely one to add to your collection!



The tape comes in two forms: either six tracks on a TDK for £1.00 or five tracks on a cheaper cassette for 50p. As you can see, at this price it is excellent value, and is available from HMV, E.P. Lees, Jamm Studios, and The Gaiety on a Thursday night. The band are made up as follows:-

*Colin Berry, who is the singer, songwriter and guitarist in the group. Since 1978, he formed and christened "The Critics", he has been lead vocalist with "Really Big Men", drummer with many other bands, and singer/guitarist in "Nobody Special".

*Ian (Eddie) Edmundson, who is the bass player and backing vocalist. He was the original bassist with "The Critics", and has played in "Plus Support", "Tenuous Linx" and "Nobody Special". (He also features on the Revolver Rehash tape).

*Steve Wolstencroft, on drums, was with various cabaret groups before joining "Really Big Men" (the earlier tracks to be recorded however, feature the drumming of Chris Oakes).

*Len Miller, who is the lead guitarist and saxophonist, has been in groups too numerous to mention but which include "Grim Realisation", "Autoze" and "Whitefire".

It's hard to describe the music of Peppermint Dream; I suppose the nearest description is a sort of pop/psychedelia (as reflected by Colin Berry's shirt!) - catchy tunes with adventurous guitar work and harmonic vocals. Best tracks are "Mr.G." which features some nice sax playing, "Essentially Yours", the lively "Psychedelic Sideshow", and the best track on the tape, "Shout! The Peppermint Dream". The lead guitar work in this is very good with a solo that echoes of Fleetwood Mac live (Rhiannon?). It could be worth releasing this as a single. Incidentally, Peppermint Dream's best song, "Where's Christopher?", is not on

this cassette, but will be released on their follow-up tape. Go along and see them when they next play near you, they're well worth it.

Oh No It's Them Again

Okay, hold everything, I have just witnessed the future. Like a negative pregnancy test, everything becomes clear, crystal clear. I can't remember enjoying myself more on a Thursday night than this. "Oh No It's Them Again" are fun spelt G.R.E.A.T.

Reviewing any band's debut performance can be a trifle difficult, and just like a trifle, I found O.N.I.T.A. the liveliest band Bolton has produced in a long time. Songs like "Paint of Confidence", "Window Shopping" and "Stop Sign" did much to promote their own unique sense of humour/style/imagination, not forgetting a catchy riff or ten. It wasn't only me who left impressed; Dave Hill (A Pencil) tapped his feet throughout their set, which in itself might not seem much, but anyone who knows him will know that a tapped foot from Dave doesn't mean the rest of him is! Rivington Spyke simply said "Brilliant", but whether he was talking about himself again I'm not too sure. Nick Jackson (Reporters) left with a smile on his face, which I took to mean that soon his band at last would have some competition. (Come to think of it, I've seen a lot of people smile when I mention Nick, I wonder why?).

Whatever the reason for their accolades, it would be true to say that Mike's drumming, Alan's bass and Mark's guitar playing blended perfectly with Sue's singing and keyboards (Is there anything that this girl isn't good at?). Well actually, I've heard that she isn't too hot on Sun crosswords, but try as I might, I just cannot find a cross word to say about O.N.I.T.A. Bolton beware, tomorrow the world, you have been warned by one who knows. After all, any band who takes an ironing board on stage won't surely be too hard pressed for long.

P.S. The pre-band panto was fab, let's have more please, there's not enough humour in the rock world at present.

Seven across: New Bolton band destined to go far "Oh No It's Them Again" - who else?