

THE REPORTERS RIVINGTON SPYKE

This was the bard from Bolton (or rather Horwich)'s debut gig in Blackrod, and the main question is, how does he get away with it all? His most popular pieces are still those which are blatantly crude yet quite brilliant such as one poem about life in a loo, and another about an orgy on a railway station, "Platform 69"! The old classic, "Ricky the Rocker" is still going strong alongside more recently penned odes such as "Police File" (tales of kinky rabbits and of the bard's shady past) and "What time is it, Sweeney?" with audience participation no less! More serious material was to be found in the shape of "Peter Parker's Pen" and "No Place for Reds" amongst others. On the whole, a much more developed set with an interesting use of props which should have increased his Blackrod following.

Now onto the welcome return of The Reporters. There seems to have been quite a change over the last couple of years. Gone are the days of "Green Jacket", "Do you need a Hero", "Mr Darkness", covers of Roxy and Bowie, and even the three tracks on their single, leaving only three older numbers still present in their set. The band is now tighter than ever with some extremely



solid drumming and bass work by Ben Jackson and Keith Rigby respectively. Phil Abram is showing his colours as a fast and very competent guitarist, and Nick's vocals lead the band through each number with some catchy choruses which remain in your head long after the set has finished. My favourites tonight were "Show Me", "Inside Information" and a fine end to the set, "Vitamin C". All in all, quite a professional performance although I still wish they would bring back "Lady Luck"!

cinema ^{"NOT FADE AWAY"} ^{"A LOAN AGAIN"}

cheap



A short review for this single I'm afraid due to little space remaining in the mag when it arrived. Cheap Cinema are Claire on vocals, Iggi on bass, Swizz on drums, Jawj on guitar and this is quite simply a perfect pop single. Both songs are bouncy tunes in the 60s pop style and are really enjoyable, although I feel "A Loan Again" might have been a better A side but that's just my personal taste. Recorded at Abbey Green by the way.