

B&S Clubs & Disco Report

Kendal, revisited...

EVERY now and again I like to take a trip up to Kendal to see Paul Edmundson and listen to the music he's playing; be beaten half to death by his two children; eat a marvelous meal cooked by his lovely wife Shirley; and catch some fish... but not necessarily in that order.

Anyway, with Paul at the helm, there has been Northern Soul in Kendal for about 3½ years. I first reported on it at the Brewery in Kendal then it moved to the Ibis Sports and Social Club and when I visited the place recently they were having a fortnight at the Netherfield Supporters Club as the Ibis club closed down with the factory for holidays.

So premises aside (they should be back at Ibis when you read this), what happens in Kendal? Well assuming you missed the last two write-ups on the Kendal scene (the last one was a year ago I admit), what happens is that Eddy (shorty for Edmundson of course) owns the gear and people like Fred Durnel, Peps and Phil Jackson from Morecambe play the sounds along with Eddy himself.

A combination of various factors... I like the Lake District, I like the people (they're all madder than I am) and I like Northern Soul music, mean that I enjoy the place. Eddy can't stand New York Disco

Checkin' It Out

Frank Elson, turns the spotlight on the soul havens of the Midlands and North

stuff so he sticks to stompers and oldies as does Peps. Fred plays a mixture and Phil, complete with short hair and tight jeans plays the new stuff. That seems to make everyone happy.

They come from Barrow, Lancaster, Morecambe and even Carlisle (as well as Kendal) so they must like it. Even though it was an appalling day, raining all day and into the evening, there were still a couple of hundred people crowded into the place — which incidentally is so well laid out that its a pity they're only there for a couple of weeks.

Music? Well from the stompers you could hear, Lovelights, "Don't Let It Get On Your Conscience" (Lovelight); Julian Covay, "Little Bit Hurt" (Phillips); Wynder K. Frogg, "Green Door" (UA); Freddie Hughes, "Take Me As I Am" (Big Star); and from the newies everything from Isley Brothers to

Ibris Muhammad.

It starts at about 8 pm to 8.30 depending on what time Paul and Peps get there to set the gear up and closes at 11.45 ish with a cost of 40p to get in.

Nelson Irish League Club

LONG distance readers may remember a story I did on the Barrowford RAOB Club yonks ago? At the time they were suffering all sorts of problems although I said something like they deserved to succeed (if I didn't, I should have!) well about a year or so later they're fully installed in a new place, the Irish League Club in Walton Street, Nelson, on Friday Nights and doing alright.

The club is a sort of co-operative and they've bought a set of decks out of the proceeds although they

still hire the amp. Admission is 10p, which just about covers costs, and just about everyone brings records along. Jocks are Kevin Woods, who buys records, Nick Grainge, who doesn't, and Mick Green. Once a month Dave Comer, brother of the bass player in Ace, does a spot and Pete Marshall does one "now and again". Loads of other people have a go now and again.

This lot deserve to succeed, despite having Ginger and Andy Ryding at Accrington, not so far away, they still had about a hundred in on the night I visited the place and its really one of those local clubs I'm always enthusing about — the backbone of the Northern Scene without which no All Nighter could survive. Local clubs are the life blood (as well as backbone) of the scene and this club, everyone mucking in to help is as good as any I've been to. You could hear music from "Jam Jam Jam" to J.J. Barnes' "Our Love Is In The Pocket".

Other news is that the Burnley Cricket Club has finally closed down (the Soul night not the whole club) due to a gradual falling off of attendance. Mick Green reckons Trax, under the Station Hotel, Nelson on Thursday nights featuring Jock Kieron, playing everything from Lesley Uggams to Donna Summer, is well worth a visit. Val Ratcliffe asked for a mention in my "comic" so she isn't getting one...

Bits and Pieces

YES, I know its a small column but Elson's done his back in again and typing one handed while lying flat on my back is no joke believe me... didn't this happen the last time I was at Kendal? It bloodywell did!

First Northern Soul night at the Roundabout Club, Aldershot, Hampshire went down a bomb, manager Bob James tells me. Tuesdays 8-12 admission 75pees. I'll see you there.

Cast yer minds back years ago when I wrote about a group, True Pink, consisting of a load of brothers from London. I said they'd make it big and they haven't yet. However, Delton Pink (that's their surname — Pink) was a surprise caller at my home recently and he says that since leaving Freddie Mack they've had problems but are getting back on the gigging bit again. They're also on the telly on September 6. The whole family, in a programme entitled "The Way We Live Today" on BBC One. Shows 'em playing on stage and at home. If you want a good professional British Soul group phone Delton on 01-960 3355... I still think they're gonna make it one day.

OLDIES CHARTS

FIRST OFF this ish comes from Robbie Onions, currently c/o H.M. Prison, Shrewsbury. He can't count either as there's 12 of them but here goes:—

1. Major Lance, "The Beat" (Okeh); 2. Skullsnaps, "I'm Your Pimp" (GSF); 3. Willie Mitchell, "The Champion" (London); 4. Jimmy Conwell, "Cigarette Ashes" (Jay Boy); 5. Harold Melvin, "Get Out" (Larida); 6. Wynder K. Frogg, "Green Door" (Island); 7. James Lewis, "Manifesto" (Lengend); 8. Fontella Bass, "Rescue Me" (Chess); 9. Joe Tex, "Show Me" (Dial); 10. Percy Sledge, "When A Man Loves A Woman" (Atlantic); 11. Otis Redding, "Mr. Pitiful" (Volt); 12. Wilson Pickett, "In The Midnight Hour" (Atlantic).

Robbie would like to hear from anyone interested in writing about oldies and/or the Northern Scene. Just write to the above address

quoting his number 591266 by his name.

Something a bit different comes from Dick (no other name) of Newquay, in the form of his top ten slowies. Lets get right on with it then:—

1. Persuaders, "Some Guys Have All The Luck" (Atco); 2. Bobby Womack, "I'm Through Trying To Prove My Love To You" (UA); 3. Greg Perry, "Will She Meet The Train In The Rain" (Casablanca); 4. Aretha Franklin, "Call Me" (Atlantic); 5. Irma Thomas, "Anyone Who Knows What Love Is Will Understand" (Minit album track); 6. Percy Sledge, "Come Softly To Me" (Atlantic); 7. Toussaint McCall, "Nothing Takes The Place Of You" (Mojo); 8. Dramatics, "In The Rain" (Stax); 9. Cissy Houston, "Midnight Train To Georgia" (Janus); 10. Bobby Bland, "Its Not The Spotlight" (Probe album

track).

Pete Hopwood of Wellesbourne nr. Warwick wades in with his list which contains, "the best Northern Sounds I have ever heard"...

1. 5th Dimension, "Train Keep On Movin'" (Liberty); 2. Jackie Wilson, "I've Lost You" (Brunswick); 3. Lillie Bryant, "Meet Me Halfway" (Tayster); 4. Lee Andrews, "Nevertheless" (Crimson); 5. Tempos, "Countdown Here I Come" (Canterbury); 6. Sandy Winns, "Touch Of Venus" (Champion); 7. Maurice Williams, "Being Without You" (Desu); 8. Jerry Fuller, "Double Life" (Challenge); 9. Jackie Lee, "I'll Do Anything" (Soul Fox); 10. Joan Moody, "I Must Be Doing Something Right" (Sylvia).

Don't forget to keep the charts coming in to the usual address. Mark 'em oldies on the envelope — it helps.