



HUSH

My mission was an interview with Hush, one of Sydney's fast-rising new groups. I am greeted by a Pammie who after carefully searching me for hidden bombs, etc. allowed me to enter the living room and become acquainted with Hush.

After a quick cup of coffee and the necessary introductions we decided to press on with the interview—neither party knowing what to expect.

Okay, question number one—just who and what are Hush?

(Keith Lamb, Vocalist): Hush are a group of five guys whose ambition is to play strictly commercial music and at the same time to entertain the audience both visually and sound wise. We have only been together for three months (general disorder and two rousing choruses of Happy Birthday followed by You're Twenty-one Today) and already we are writing some original material, some of which we include in our act.

Why the emphasis on commercial material?

(Robin Jackson, Lead): Commercial material is the only material accepted on radio in Australia, it's popular and is accepted by the majority of people. Most commercial numbers fit into our presentation and our image so we stick to it.

You don't like "heavy music" then?

R.J.: Oh no, some of it is really good but to please most young people and earn money at the same time then commercial music is your bag. Anyhow, at the moment heavy or underground music is not generally accepted out here.

Any plans for a record at all?

(John Kouts, Drummer): We have had a few offers from record companies and we plan to put down a single within the next six weeks. It will probably be an original on one side at least.

What do you hope to give to the Sydney pop scene and how will you appear different from other pop groups?

(Chris Nolan, Organist): We hope to give it more life, at the

moment it is pretty dead. If we can bring entertainment back into pop music then we feel that we have done something worthwhile.

(Ric Lum, Bass): We enjoy playing and want our audiences to enjoy themselves as well.

Then you think that most groups do not do this?

Ric.: Perhaps they don't realise the fact that the audience is the most important part of a pop group. After all, they pay money to see a group and buy their records so you have to please them. Take the Zoot for example, they are visually an exciting group and very good musically.

What other musical experience have you had?

Keith: Well, Robin and myself have come from England where I played with a group called Mr. Toad and Robin with a group called Bus Stop who were the original Small Faces! Both John and Ric have played with Math and Gambit while Chris was with a Sydney group called Grandma's Observers.

Keith, you and Robin have come from England; what are your general impressions of the Sydney Pop Scene?

Robin: There is a lot of potential here, groups such as Pirana and Copperwine are very good.

Keith: Over in England (God bless her) the pop business is on a much larger scale, more money, more people, more everything. When the money gets moving out here I am sure that many Australian groups will emerge as world class.

We have heard quite a bit about your stage act, is it copied from any other group—Australian or overseas?

Keith: Not at all. Some people have said that it is suggestive, but it is not. Our presentation is all taken in fun and is there to entertain and to help communicate. It's different.

Ric: We became involved in our work and our enthusiasm just shows through—it's as simple as that.

Well, thanks for your time, are there any points you wish to talk about?

Robin: Yes, Norwich to win the English Soccer Final.

John: We hope to see you all at the Go-Set Club every Sunday night! (Plug, plug).

Peace

Steven Woolridge