

GET THE

FEELIN' WITH

HUSH

In June the Hush went completely professional and then launched off on the greatest pop concert tour of all-time, that of the J-5 of course. Now their single, "Get the Feelin'," is climbing to the top of the charts and the guys are about to make their first LP. So it's time you met them ... the superbust guys who make up the Hush. There are four in Hush - dreamy Les Gock, beautiful Rick Lum, wild Keith Lamb and cute Smiley Palthorpe. Smiley is a mass of reddish blonde hair, freckles and has an outasight grin ... "Hey," he says "you know why I'm called Smiley? It's the gaps in my front teeth ... natural gaps, mind. They weren't knocked out or anything. But it gives me such a toothy grin that the name 'Smiley' stuck." Smiley is the band's drummer. "On stage, I just sit there and belt it out," he says. "Hey," interrupts Keith,

who's the nuttiest of them all. "You get to say the odd word." Smiley grins: "Oh yeah, I forgot. You know, at every concert I get to do my star thing. Before the start of a number, I'm the one who says, 'AND a-one, two, three, four ...'" Keith, who is the zaniest Hush guy, is the group's vocalist. He's the guy who started the new dance craze, "the Hush bounce," and he invites anyone and everyone at concerts to come up on stage at the end and have a go at "out-dancing" him.

Keith's a crazy tea freak - "I drink it all day and night!" - and he's knocked out by Chinese food ("all sorts") together with Yorkshire pudding ... "Yes, don't forget that. I'm a Pom, y'know!" Rick Lum, the group's bass guitarist, is the "firt" according to the other three guys. Rick just laughs and tries to look inscrutable about it all.

"On stage he looks at the girls," says Les. "He's the dreamboat one ... he looks into the girls' eyes, smiles and they flip, they really do!"

"Hey, come on," says Rick. "You're talking rubbish." And they all laugh. Before joining Hush, Rick was a window-dresser with a Sydney store.

"But working days, doing gigs at night, and having to front at 9 am after only two hours' sleep was too much," he says. "The great thing now is only working with the group and being able to sleep in. Fantastic." The Hush lead guitarist, Les Gock, is quieter than the others, has a beautiful face and dreamy eyes. "On stage he's wild, but off-stage, he's the quiet one," Rick says.

Les agrees: "I guess I am. On stage it's like a different world but once I'm off stage all I can think about is going home to a nice, warm, quiet room to relax."

All four guys in Hush write their own songs and music.

"No, there's not one person that does the writing - we just

get together and it all happens," says Keith.

The boys wrote "Get the Feelin'," their latest hit, one morning. "We all pitched in with this idea for a song, the music seemed right as we went along, and the lyrics just fell into place. The whole thing happened in a morning," says Rick. "It was really freaky that it happened so quickly but with us it seems to sometimes - everything falls into place."

Keith and Smiley share a huge, fun flat at Randwick in Sydney Rink and Les live nearby.

The group called Hush are, first and foremost, close friends who have a ball both on stage and off. "To play music well together you've got to get on," says Keith. "On concerts, tours and playing together, you have to really like one another otherwise it could be disastrous."

So far the highlight of the group's up-and-coming superpop career has been the J-5 concert tour to all States last month.

The guys think the Jackson Five are the MOST - "They're incredible guys to work with," says Rick. "So professional and brilliant on stage and off-stage, they're so friendly, completely unspoiled and such fun. It was gas - the whole thing."

The next big item on the guys' schedule is their first album which they'll be recording this month. All the sounds will be their own compositions and with YOUR help (see last week's issue for the Hush Contest) it will be a smashing success.



Keith