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What a stunner of a 60s show

ALL STAR 60S SUPERGROUP
St Georges Hall – Bradford February 2

MY VERY good friend, colleague and Showbiz Entrepreneur Tony Sherwood told me what an excellent show this was and that I would not be disappointed.

So I went along, with local Celebrity Gate-crasher (as is his recent book title) Dave Metcalf - and we were not disappointed, in fact, we had a ball!

The promoter must be congratulated on having the perception of taking what was, in its day, a revelation, the ReelinandaRockin show, but going one step, or should I say leap, further: three outstanding vocalists and musicians, Tony Crane, Geoff Turton and Chip Hawkes, with two extremely professional musicians from The Dakotas on keyboards and drums, Toni Baker and Pete Hilton.

From the moment the curtain went up, everyone was taken aback, almost, by the impact of the voices and the sound; powerful, tight and absolutely 'on the button'.

It was to be expected we would hear Tremeloes songs and well-known Merseybeats hits, and the hits from Geoff Turton's Rockin Berries days.

What was so great, however, was the inclusion of so many other songs from the era, Del Shannon, Status Quo, John Walker, The Beatles, and many other artists to whom they paid tribute.

Much attention to detail had been rehearsed at great length, I am sure, to ensure the sounds of the vocals and music were as true to the original as possible. I have little doubt the considerable talent of Toni Baker as the MD contributed in making this all come together. But full credit to Tony, Chip and Geoff for what must have been very hard, learning all these songs that, in their own gigs over many years, would never have been performed.

If you take a minute to think about what I have just said, it really is a great achievement for these guys. What's more, it was evident, from start to finish, they were enjoying

Robert Pratt for Chimes International presents

All Star 60's SUPERGROUP

★ FEATURING

Tony Crane
from **THE MERSEYBEATS**
Sorrow ★ Wishin' and Hopin'

Chip Hawkes
ex **TREMELOES**
Here comes My Baby ★ Silence is Golden

Geoff Turton
from the **ROCKIN BERRIES**
He's in Town ★ Poor Man's Son

it as much as we all were. Some interesting and amusing anecdotes interspersed songs, and Geoff Turton, in particular, was most amusing. Of course, humour was part of the Rockin Berries act, so it was good to see him in action again.

The first half closed with a medley of Beatles songs as a tribute to the group that started it all. The second half started with Geoff playing the opening chords to the Quo's 'Down Down'. Tony soon joined him on lead guitar and it went down like a storm.

I hope this 'Super Group' will return later in the year with more dates. I spoke to two groups of people in the audience who had already seen the show a week or so previous and just had to come again for some more!

As a closing remark, can I say: "Well done, the sound crew" – excellent job, lads, because - frankly - some shows are not always that good and it does make a difference to the overall enjoyment.

Roger Askey