

The Watchers at the Head of Steam

The Watchers offer a decent blend of indie rock and 70s psychedelia with big guitar riffs, echo-laden vocals and lots of feedback. There's lots of energy on stage too – in all, it's an alright show, but not that good. It's certainly not as good as the look on lead singer Liam Milne's face seems to think it is.

Throughout, Liam paces around with his mouth hanging open and staring aggressively at the crowd, in a similar vein to another famous Liam we all either love or hate. His conduct was appalling and mirrored that of the band's laddish fans, a group of whom tried to get into the venue without paying. I won't be seeing The Watchers again.

Thankfully, one of the most underrated bands in the North East – Bison Hunting – opened the night and were on top form. A revamped set with lots of new songs and oozing with confidence, these nice 'down to earth' lads deserve more recognition which, if they keep performing the way they did, won't be too far away.

Manchester's We The Dead were also excellent. Hopefully, we'll see them in the North East again soon.

*Originally appeared in NARC Magazine.