

Rock legend comes to Milton

Eric Burdon and the Animals

BY STEPHEN BAKER

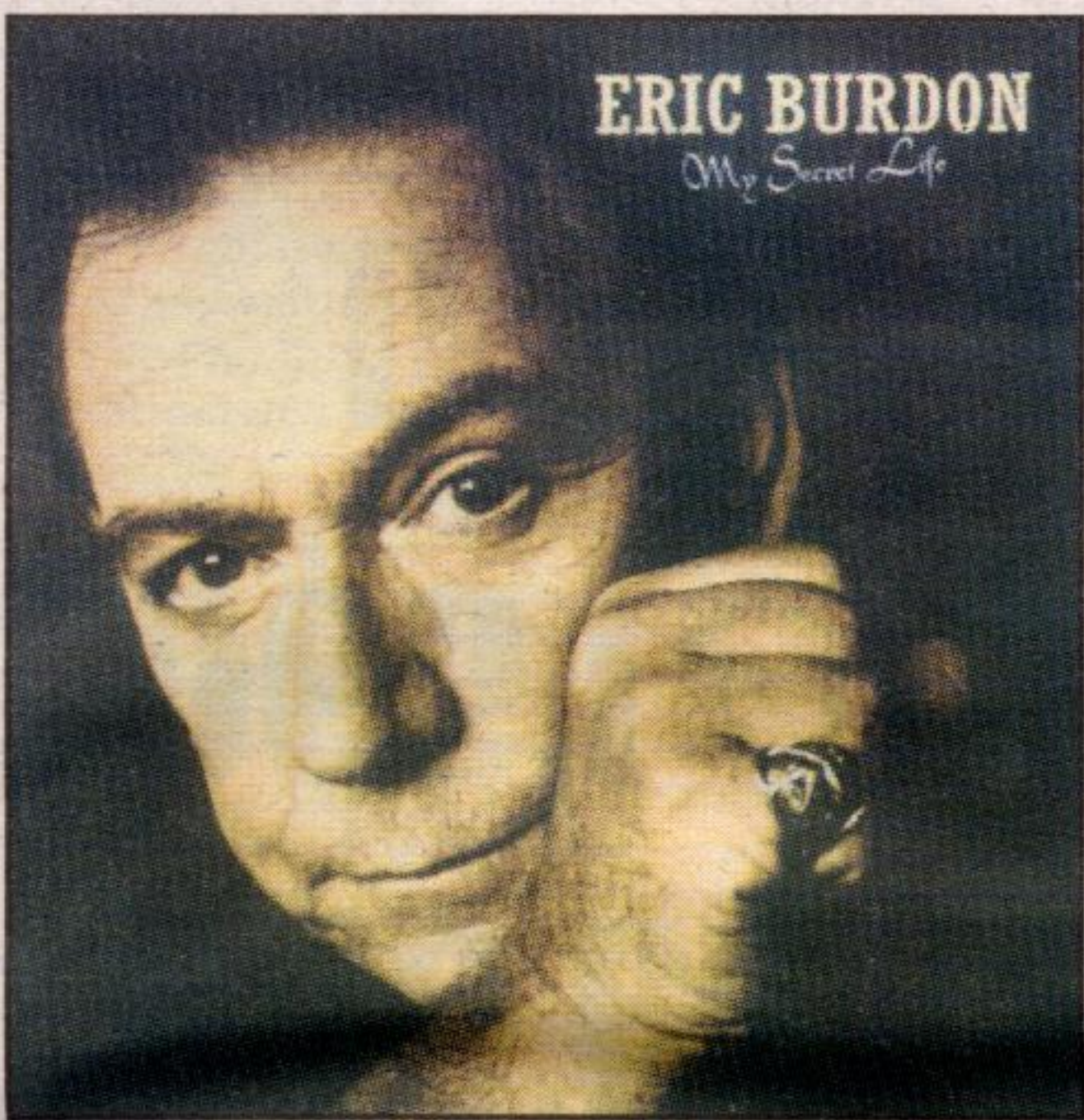
The past came alive when the Hardball Café in Milton showcased one of the legends of Rock and Roll.

Eric Burdon, he of the gravelly Tyneside twang, roared into town on his 64th birthday. After 40 years his voice is stronger than ever with a clarity of sound and note precision that would put some opera stars to shame.

How does a singer perform to an audience whose collective memory is locked into a time warp around the year 1965, the year that *House of the Rising Sun* ruled the charts. Burdon rocked his mega-hits out, wrapped up in pounding new arrangements that made them fresh. Musical sub-texts of Latino and African origin abounded in the performance. Sure Burdon doesn't look the same as he did in the 60's, but heavens he sounds even better.

The show was a journey into yesterday

for the 300 plus designer-jean clad audience, most of who were brushed with grey. Interspersed with the old hits were cuts from Burdon's latest CD *My Secret Life*. The new songs were as well received as the oldies. I have the CD playing in my truck and find myself humming snatches of the songs, which in my book is the measure of a hit. I never really liked the Animals much in the 60's but am glad I shelled out for the CD. You'll enjoy it too.



Eric Burdon's latest CD "My Secret Life"



Eric Burdon pictured at the Hardball Café
PHOTO BY DONNA DANIELLI

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