

of the Marin County Courthouse, an assault which left judge Harold Haley and three others dead. One of the latest songs to be accepted into the Northern Soul canon (released in June 1976), 'Butter Bum' is the only Northern Soul song in which the sound is predominantly synthesiser (Minimoog) produced, a fact which caused a near riot when controversial 'Kung-Fu DJ' Eamon Timmons spun the disc at Wigan Casino on All Hallows' Eve, 1979. Pole insisted that his technical collaborator, Ron Grainer of the BBC Radiophonic Workshop, was given a co-writing credit on the single, although Grainer, a founder member of the right-wing Freedom Association with Ross and Norris McWhirter, later repudiated his work after being made aware of Pole's revolutionary politics. After abandoning his music career in 1980 to focus on 'organising the projects', Pole was shot to death in the following year during an unsolved home invasion at his Baltimore apartment, and his case briefly became a cause celebre when, in his unsuccessful 1984 Presidential campaign, Jesse Jackson made a speech in which he asserted that Pole was assassinated by the FBI as part of the covert COINTELPRO programme, and that Vice-President George Bush and the Yale Skull & Bones society were implicated in his murder.

**Six:** 'Changing of The Guard'—Queenie Buckingham & the Big Ben Chimes (Empress). The fabled 'mystery song' of Northern Soul, probably released in 1967, existing as a handful of white label DJ only copies. Nothing is known about the song, artist or label. In 1973, Northern Soul DJ Russ Winstanley reputedly paid Jimmy Saville five thousand pounds to ransom his copy of the single, which Saville had acquired after recruiting legendary London cat-burglar, George 'Taters' Chatham, to break into Winstanley's palatial Lytham St. Annes apartment.

**Five:** 'Dippin' The Finger'—*Alvin Sweet & the Honey Bees* (Give and Take). Alvin Sweet (unbelievably, his real name), recorded this Otis Redding style slow groove at an unknown studio in Los Angeles in 1972, the only West Coast recording taken into the Northern Soul canon. In 1982, Alvin was sentenced to twelve years in prison for sexually assaulting an undercover police officer in a public restroom outside the Cathouse nightclub on Sunset Strip. However, he served only seven years of his sentence—in 1989 he was stabbed to death on the yard at Corcoran State Prison by Aryan Brotherhood enforcer Wendell 'Blue' Norris. The killing was reported in the San Joaquin Valley Sun as stemming from a dispute over notorious prison Queen, Raymond 'Destiny' Celenza.

**Four:** 'Don't Fool With The Mule'—*Lee Lucas* (Mama's Boy). Philly's Lee Lucas released this, his first single, in 1969, with his trademark falsetto already in evidence. However, Lee's vestigial music career was immediately interrupted by a six-year stretch in Holmesburg for voluntary manslaughter: Lee shot and killed one John 35X, a Muslim he claimed was extorting him. On his release, Lee rode the disco wave and ultimately moved to Europe where he was the original choice to be the male singer in kitsch Euro-disco group, Boney M. However, producer Henk Gauritius decided that the group needed a baritone, not a falsetto, so Lee was out and Bobby Farrell was in. Lee subsequently forged a successful late career performing Motown classics on the cruise ship circuit, before—almost crippled by the rheumatoid arthritis he claimed had been caused by the cold and damp conditions he experienced during his time in Holmesburg—moving to Thrybergh in South Yorkshire, from where he eked out a living performing on the Northern Soul circuit. Lee died of electrocution in his chalet at the Skegness Butlin's during the 2018 weekender, aged 78, apparently trying to prize a slice of jammed frozen pizza from a toaster with a fork.

**Three:** 'I'll Kill You Before I Let You Go'—Scoob McGoo (Double Zee). Hattiesburg's Scoob McGoo (real name Tyrone Massinaw) released this, his last ever recording, and his first in the soul genre, in 1965, aged 65. A real old time tough guy, McGoo had served fifteen years in the Mississippi