

The Crackly Valve

Editor in Chief: The Prof



August 2011

Take 100 Lines ...

"I must not be late"

You'd think the Prof would know better after his years in the teaching profession. Despite being first on the running list he missed his slot. Some mumbled excuse about road works just didn't cut it but thanks to Simon, who stepped into the breach, the day's proceedings got under way on time.

Not only was there a very full programme with 15 different lead players and who knows how many different line-ups playing a mere 54 tunes, but the YF Hall was jam packed with other folk who had come along just to enjoy the music, many for the first time. Thanks to you all and we hope you enjoyed the music and look forward to seeing you all back again.

Growler Takes the Stage

Simon aka **Growler** graciously moved up the running order and got things going with a smooth rendition of **Blue Star** followed by the stirring **Theme for Something Really Important**, backed by his mate Mike and Bernard on rhythm and Terry on bass. This was an appropriate tune because this **was** something really important; the first time in public that Simon had played his new TrueBill Custom guitar which shares its name with its owner: Growler, once a demon bowler and now a very fine guitar player.



Growler sounded very sweet – no growls!

Better Late than Never

Philip knocked out **Frightened City** and **Peace Pipe** using his pink Strat which had been tweaked, taken apart, rebuilt and tweaked some more by Mr Jim Tully. General opinions were that the guitar sounded a lot better so thanks Jimbo ☺. Mike and David provided the rhythm section with Brian on keys.

Under My Thumb

Bernard strenuously denied allegations that the reason he had to rush off was because his new girl friend had him under her thumb. He started his set with a first for the Club, a superb version of **Temptation** followed by **My Resistance is Low**. Rumours that he was rushing off to Dublin to meet the GF seemed confirmed by the pace at which the **Ghost Riders** galloped across the sky to close his excellent set.

Jet Set

George weighed in with two Jet Harris/Tony Meehan numbers; **Applejack** (thanks to Eric for providing the count-in from the back of the hall) and **Scarlett O'Hara** which featured an excellent drum solo from **Hall** who was glad that the tempo was a bit slower after those Ghost Riders.

Mike Stands Up for a Dance

Mike's repertoire of lead tunes continues to expand and having missed last month's meeting as he was off helping the Greek economy by taking a surfing holiday there, he managed this month to add a lively rendition of **Dance On to A Place in the Sun** and **It's Been a Blue Day**.



Hunting for a Perfect Woman

According to Eric, **Sam's** first tune **36-24-36** describes his idea of a perfect woman. Does Mrs Boal know about this, Eric?

Sam's far too busy honing his guitar skills to be bothered by such nonsense, as evidenced by an excellent performance of said tune. He followed this up with **Diamonds**, which everyone knows are a girl's best friend as well as a big hit for Jet and Tony.

Des Gets Wired In

Before **Jim** could get his set underway the Godfather had to abandon his wireless gear

and resort to an old fashioned guitar cable after his bass stopped making a sufficiently loud noise. Jim being the pro that he is didn't let this put him off and he ripped through **The Stranger** but the customary Tully seamless transition didn't quite launch **Kon-Tiki** as slickly as he usually does, nevertheless the tune soon sailed away smoothly.



Kon-Tiki sailing across the Pacific

Driftin' with Paul's 3 Blues



The elder Hunter brother **Paul** gave us a great **Driftin'** but the audience participation really needs a lot of work. Only Eric and the Prof made any effort at all and they were pretty pathetic. I want you all to practice this for next month ... "one ... two ... aaargh"

Paul finished his first set with the lovely **Blue Sky, Blue Sea, Blue Me**, better known as '3 Blues'.

Ollie's New Stool

Simon may have turned up with a new guitar but **Ollie** had to make do with a new stool which he rescued from his garage. Luckily he didn't test it for height by standing on it and jumping off shouting **Geronimo**. Instead he settled for playing the tune named after the Chiricahua Apache chief (and the exclamation traditionally uttered by a parachutist upon jumping from an airplane).

Ollie's second number was the soothing **Sleepwalk** which he played very well and put everyone in a nice relaxed mood.



Ollie settles down to play

NEXT MEETING
Sunday 4th September

O'Atlantis

Our man from Dublin, **Brian**, always adds a few little personal touches to his tunes which keep them fresh and **Atlantis** and **A Man's World** were no exception. The Prof was even spotted playing bass on Atlantis!



Why's this thing only got four strings?

London Derriere



Does my bum look big in this?

Eric's boss recently discovered that he and Eric share a love of The Shadows music so he and his wife came along to witness the proceedings – no pressure then Eric!

Mr Boal prefers the slow numbers and his version of **The Londonderry Air** and **The Breeze** and I allowed him to avoid any towel throwing from behind the drum kit. For those of you who missed Eric's last foray into the breeze, some months ago, it descended into farce with Hall literally chucking in the towel!