

# The Worn Fret

April 2012

Nearly occasional voice-piece of the NI Shadows Club ('A brazenly self-centred, I'm s-ooo beautiful, self tribute'  
: Head of Make-it-up)

Report on the April 2012 meeting at the YFC, Nards. From our chief luvvy and fanzine-ist, **Ed Banger**, the axe-man with a rubbery hatchet.

## Welcome Fools, All

The usual scrum of impatient air-guitarists & groupies weren't thronging the turnstiles at the YFC on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> in eager anticipation of the arrival of this month's bunch of Fools, ever intent on doing their worst to the old Shads favourites like 'Wonderful Lunch' and 'Piecepint'. Missing from the team sheet for this match was legendary bass-guitarist Des 'El Godfather' McNeill who was attending a memorial event for Jet Harris in London and thus Leader for the day was Chairman George, the man with the hard task of re-scheduling the no-shows and unexpecteds as well as dealing with the hissy-fits & ridiculous beverage requirements of the bunch of mediocre galacticos on stage.

## Amps 'appening



A 'congregation' of new Vox amps are welcomed to Sunday service

## Tuning Twosome



"Them peddle-steels is darned tricky to tune, yes sirree..."

## Mark's No 1/Jimbee next/then Mr Growler

Mark arrived to a clash of cymbals brandishing a new 'Squier' geetar & opened the afternoon's proceedings with 'Spring is N/Here', 'Theme FYL' & 'Apache' with Mr Bennett on rhythm & Terry on bass following which JB vaulted onto the lead pedestal with 'Midnight' & 'Genie', Terry remaining on 4 stringer & Mike taking over strums. The rhythm & bass section then stayed on stage while Simon (on his 'Great White') performed 'Aunty Sana' & 'Mustang'.



Mark 'Springing' into action with the new blade

## Messrs Bell and O'Hara

Philip & David took over as the rhythm & bass team behind, firstly, John Bell leading on 'Blue Sky, Blue Sea' and 'Geronimo' and secondly Bernardo with 'Atlantis' & 'Frightened City'.



Geroni-Bell rings out from the steeple top

### Phil them boots with diamonds !

Philip then moved directly cross-stage to lead on 'Diamonds' & 'Round & Round' with Mr Corlett making a rhythm appearance on *Eko* 12 string and David continuing plucking his bass cable wires.



**'Diamonds' on stage (5 carrots for the whole lot?)**

### JimTee & Mike

Senor Tully then bounded onto the stage on his way 'South Of The Border' and a close shave with the 'FBI' with Jimbee & DT providing the backing vibes which they continued to do for Mike on 'Place In The Sun' and 'Wunnerful Land'. On the former tune Simon provided 2<sup>nd</sup> lead embellishments.

### Ollie's Up

Following this Ollie took to the floor to give flowing renditions of 'Sleepwalk' & 'Cozy' with Terry on bass & Chairman (for the day) George making his first appearance on stage as strummer.



**Ollie, 'cozy' round his fret board**

### George & Jim pair up

GT then continued on lead from the left side of the stage, as is his wont, just to confuse cameraman Charlie Hill who was no doubt busy checking all round his cockpit for 'huns in the sun' – Mr Tully had reappeared with his rhythm-king hat to provide the strums to GT on 'Shindig' & 'Shane', which sounds a bit like some yankee detective pairing that would drive around in 1960s jalopies solving crimes and chewing gum – naw, it would never catch on.....



**'Shindig' on lead, left of stage, with 'Shane' to RHS**

### S'nosh time

There having been no injury time, the hooter sounded and the assembled company could retire to partake of Andrea's considerable confectionaries – thank you kindly, Mrs Turner, your efforts are much appreciated by all, particularly Mr Sticks at the back of the stage who must burn 8000 calories in each half!

### Johnny G hits the floor

Following the eats & drinks the club's Italian tenor, 'Donny' Giovanni took to the stage with his white Strat on 'Sleepwalk' & 'FBI', the latter slightly incomplete as it had, by his own admission, lain dormant since last played around 1967. No vocals this time but hopefully JG will return to serenade the Club again before too long.



**La Sonna Passeggiata – bravo!**



### **Bennett, Corlett & Hawthorne (a 70s supergroup?!)**

Jim Bennett then stepped into the limelight with 'Blue Star' & 'Foot Tapper' with Mike & Terry in the back stalls following which the assembled company were treated to an acoustic set by Simon on 12 string with 'Lute Number' followed by 'Carillion', Mike & David backing & Bernard providing 2<sup>nd</sup> lead distortion on the latter track. Philip then returned to the rostrum with 'Argentina' & 'Peacepipe', the Turner Dynasty on rhythm (George) & bass (David).

### **BO'H/JohnB/JT/MC**

Bernard then cranked up the pace on 'Gonzales' & 'Miracle', again Mike & David on R & B respectively prior to John Bell stepping forward for his 2<sup>nd</sup> slot with 'Perfidia' & 'Lost City', G&T providing the backing mix (90% proof) after which Mr Tully struck up on 'Golden Street' & 'Ton-Kiki'. Clarke & Corlett then returned to the airwaves, the former on lead on 'Dance On' & 'TYFL', the latter providing 12-string acoustic rhythm & David the 4 string thumping.

### **Ships/Theme FSI/and .....Home**

Sailor Boy Ollie then hove into view with 'Windjammer' & '3 Galleons', George & Terry splicing the main-brace & keel-hauling the landlubbers as only they know how. The show then drew to a close with the Simon/Bernard Joint Venture on dual 'Theme From Something' leads, JT & Terry on rhythm & bass following which Bernard waved the chequered flag with 'Going Home' to the same backing band.



**'Scarlet' O'Hara sees the funny side of JT's trademark solo**

### **Statistics & Thanks**

An excellent day's entertainment with minimum fuss and maximum skill all round and exceptionally efficient set-up & break-down. For the Stats freaks amongst us 41 renditions of 38 tunes were performed with 'exceptional skill' by 11 No lead, 6 No rhythm & 2 No bass guitarists. (Don't tell Uncle Des about the minor start-up hiccups on W'ful Land, Carillion & Miracle).

### **Musical Appreciations**

As always the players would wish to acknowledge the continuing support of the audience (including some new faces). Thanks from the guitarists to Mr Key Boards, Chris Johnston, and Mr Sticks (Hall Smyth) for prolonged service at the back/side of the stage. Also a mention for Mr Key Grip, Charles Hill, for the hours spent peering through his camera lens & subsequently editing the results as a reality

check for the musicians who might be under the illusion that their performances were flawless (in your dreams, boys!).

### **Talent Spotter – is this man working for Simon Cowell?!**



**Otto Preminger checks the stunt doubles for transparency**

### **A battle with fitness – the trials of a top drummer**

This column, in an earlier edition, reported on an unfortunate clash between our percussionist's ankle and one of his thoroughbred steeplechasers during a friendly football kick-about. This time we should again pay tribute to Hall's never-say-die attitude to drumming as he played the entire afternoon with one hand strapped on with elastoplast having again come off second best during 7-a-side ruck & maul practice with his four legged charges. Far be it from our place to respectfully suggest that Mr Smyth stick to Tiddlywinks in the weeks before Club Sundays in order to avoid potential disruption to other club members' routines.



**Ludwig Van Thumbusten, ace skins-man & abuse victim, suffering from whiplash & colaris thumpissimus.**

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