

The Crackly Valve

Editor in Chief: The Prof



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Special Euro 2012 Jubilee Edition

It's the return of the 'Special One' for the extra special Euro 2012 edition. No it's not Jose Mourinho, it's The Prof, back after a well earned rest in the (slightly) sunnier climes of The Algarve. David – I promise not to mention anything football-related again.

Many thanks to Ed Banger for once again producing a fantastic and amusing May 2012 edition of the now World famous Shadows Club NI Newsletter.

Apologies were received from Simon who was sailing a narrow boat up the Thames – and no doubt getting stuck in the traffic jam that was the Thames Diamond Jubilee Pageant, Ollie who was christening a grandchild and Bernard who was helping his girlfriend celebrate her birthday – ah how sweet!

Chris B was a last minute cry-off after he received a monetary inducement to play a gig in Newcastle.

Also missing were Hall's drumsticks but by a lucky quirk of fate, Terry was able to produce a pair from the boot of his motor. These bass players aren't just pretty faces you know!

With members somewhat thin on the ground Prof kicked things off with a four number set consisting of tunes vaguely resembling *Santa Ana*, *Blue Star*,

Diamonds and *Geronimo*. Rhythm guitar was by Mike with Terry plucking his vintage Fender Jazz bass and a relieved Hall NOT having to use his bare hands on the skins.



Why's Prof wearing a Marshall T-shirt?

The aforementioned rhythm section stood firm while Jim Bennett took over lead duties for *Foot Tapper* and *Find Me A Golden Ball –oops – Street*.

David took centre stage; well he was a bit more to the right of stage, as he played the lead on the bass-cum-overdrive pedal on *Stingray*, a first for him and the Club. Terry played the more conventional bass with George on rhythm.

Apparently David tried four different pedals until he got the sound he was after and his efforts were well worth it with a fine

rendition of a Shads tune that's not heard too often.



Spot the Ball (err pedal, sorry)

Des then took over from David and gave us *Besame Mucho* on his Fender VI with vocal encouragement from the stands courtesy of Mike and Jim B.

Chris J got his turn in the spotlight as he managed to coax an uncanny resemblance to the sound of a harmonica from his keyboard for the Licorice Locking composition *Dakota*, additional twiddly bits from George with Jim T and Des making up the rhythm section.



How did he ever get that in his mouth?

George then took the lead on the John Lennon medley *Imagine/Woman* which was very well received. This set was completed by the Jet Harris tune *Applejack*.

John Ball, err Bell, sporting the only Burns guitar on show, used it to good effect on *Tales From a Raggy Tramline*, *Wind Jammer* and *The Frightened City* with Jim B and David providing the backing.

David stayed on bass while Philip joined on rhythm for Mark's renditions of *Wonderful Land* and *Theme for Young Lovers*.



Nice pose, Mark ☺

Mike leaped back on stage to perform *It's A Blue Day*, *Dance On* and *Atlantis* feat. George and David.

Jim Tully then treated us to some *Sweet Dreams* and the *Theme from Giant* with George on rhythm and Des on bass.

Incidentally George deserves a special mention for performing well beyond the call of duty having spent most of the previous night in hospital and Jim was suffering from a very painful shoulder so well done to both gents. We hope you are both over these health problems soon.

Before the interval we had a special guest appearance by Michael Morgan from Portadown who sang *Peggy Sue* and *Hey Good Lookin'* - he must mean me (Prof) - accompanying himself on his Taylor acoustic with Stanley providing the essential twiddly bits.



"We're in the Army Now"

With the second half about to kick off it was time to bring on the substitutes with Chris B having picked up an injury (err wad of cash) before kick off. Jim B stripped off his track suit before rendering Kon-Tiki backed by George and Terry.

John Bell played a blinder in JBI: the John Bell Interpretation aka FBI, backed by Phil on rhythm. The latter kindly declined Des' offer to play substitute lead on The Savage.

Mike was no doubt grateful as it saved his strumming arm for Stanley's set which

consisted of *Mustang*, *Midnight*, *Guitar Boogie Shuffle* and *Peace Pipe*



Mike 'Rhythm King' Clarke

Des then strapped on his Fender Strat – yes a 'proper' Strat with six skinny strings – and played lead on the Jet Harris numbers *Song For Tony* and *Here I Stand* while George and Terry provided support.



"I wonder if I turn up the volume how long it would take Des to notice."