



The Surrey Shadows Club



AUGUST 2013 NEWSLETTER

HELD AT THE HERSHAM SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB, HERSHAM ROAD, WALTON ON THAMES
EVERY THIRD FRIDAY OF THE MONTH

www.hershamsportsandsocialclub.co.uk

www.shadowmusic.co.uk

LAST MONTHS CLUB MEETING

Our last meeting went very well, not wishing to blow my own trumpet (I have enough problems learning to play a guitar) I did perform not one but TWO new tunes, **Atlantis** and **Theme for young Lovers**. Both I had been learning in secret for the past few months. Not 100% but I can only improve (it can't get any worse).

The standard as always was very good with a duo by Tony Copeland & Tony Knight and a particularly energetic performance by Nick McNulty.

Joe came without his guitar so I challenged him to play his favourite tune Albatross on my cheap strat copy (with no tremelo) which he played as perfect as ever.

It was great to hear some nice sounds from my guitar so I guess the problem is not the guitar, back to my lessons then!

John gave us a rendition of **The Eye of the Tiger** and **Everything I Do** which might be out on the Shadows next album, just kidding, it was a nice change and both were very well played, too.

Steve J

Sorry if I did not mention you all by name, I will get to know you all in due course.



Nick McNulty in action



Albatross Joe



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SPECIAL BURNS GUITAR NIGHT – 20TH SEPTEMBER 2013



As we announced earlier this year our 20th September meeting will be a Special Burns Guitar Night with as many players as possible playing their Burns Guitars.

Our star guest for the evening will be the one and only **Barry Gibson** who will have a great collection of Burns Guitars and accessories on display and for sale.

The highlight of the evening will be our annual Guitar Raffle for a really special **Burns Barracuda "Jet Harris"**

Six String Baritone Guitar.



Barry Gibson

The Barracuda has a 30" scale and can be played either as a short scale bass or an effective lead and rhythm guitar. Tuning is the same as a standard six string guitar but one octave below. As used by the great man himself.

Be sure to buy your raffle tickets for a chance to win this exceptional guitar

THE SILVER SHADOWS RETURN – 18TH OCTOBER 2013

The good friends of the Surrey Shadows Club – **The Silver Shadows** will be performing as our backing band for our 18th October 2013 meeting.

They have very kindly offered to step in due to the absence of **Breakthru'**, who as you will have read, will be headlining at the **Ch'tishads 2013** event in France that weekend.

We are most grateful to them and just know it's going to be a superb evening at the Club in October.



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The following is an extract very kindly sent in by club member Stuart Wolf

FROM STUART'S BENCH

In 1966 I left school and had a summer job in an Electrical shop in Teddington ,
On the Thursday morning before the 1966 big match. Bob (the electronics engineer) and I
had a customer arrive in an ABC Television Anglia Van, he asked, "do you fix electrical
things?"

"What do you want fixing " I enquired

He said they had a pop group at the studios and one of the AMPs has packed up and they
could not continue until they have it fixed, it really is most urgent"

Bob stated that we were busy with repairs because of the big football match and it wouldn't
be fair to all the other customers waiting for just this one job.

"Would 25 guineas help?", he said, Bob gesticulated that I should go to the van and help
this man in with the AMP and I was introduced to my first VOX AC30.

Bob told our new client to telephone around 4.30 pm for an update. I then made tea while
Bob gave the AC30 the once over.

After tea Bob told me that the AC30 repair job was mine, he then took out a cigar, stuck a
screwdriver into the high voltage section of an old T.V set and drew a huge electrical arc
which he used to light his cigar! "Oh, and be careful with the high voltage inside that amp!"

The first thing I noticed was that the voltage was set to 115v. (American mains voltage)
and reset it to 230v. (English mains) I then plugged it into the mains, switched on, nothing,
I unplugged it, removed the rear panel, testing the fuses I found both the mains and high
voltage fuses had blown. I replaced them and switched it on again, the high voltage fuse
blew immediately, but the mains fuse remained intact and the valves lit up with a strange
odour coming out of the works!

We unplugged the amp from the mains and took the chassis out for inspection. The main
capacitor had burst and sprayed its goo over the components. We checked the valve
which turns AC into DC voltage. It was also blown and we had neither of these in stock. A
quick call to Watts Radio in Kingston confirmed that they had these in stock so I went by
push bike to collect them.

Upon my return, Bob had cleaned the goo off the chassis and put in new fuses. I replaced
the valve and the capacitor, refitted the chassis and changed the plug fuse whilst Bob
made up a "test lead" to connect to a record player.

Our only record was "Strangers in the Night" used to demonstrate record players and
radiograms

Continued....



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.....Continued

As the pick-up lowered onto the vinyl, the AC30 burst into life, the shop window vibrated drawing in a crowd. I took some voltage readings and checked for burning. The volume was then cranked up to maximum. I had never heard 32 watts of audio in such close confinement!..the floor shook, dust fell from the ceiling, The dead flies in the window seemed to come back to life!

Our man arrived just after 5 pm and I assisted him loading the AC30 into the van. He returned to settle up and gave Bob a "fiver" for the helpful boy and after deductions for the parts about £4-17-6d (£4-80p in today's money) Bob gave me £15.00, £5 for the shop owner and £5 for Bob!

A good days work and the start of my career.

The following day a customer came in Bob knew she worked at the Television studios and asked who was the group at the studios, they were in to do that Steamboat Shuffle program, **The Shadows**


I never did find out who owned that AMP, Hank or Bruce, but it was a *Shadows amp*.
I found out that the Shads released an LP album in May that year called Shadows Music and they were at the studios in the July to promote the LP

Stu Wolf (abridged edition)

The Surrey Shadows Club
Hersham Sports and Social Club
128 Hersham Road, Walton on Thames, Surrey KT12 5QL

16 Aug
20 Sept
18 Oct
15 Nov
20 Dec

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DIARY DATES

16 August

20 September

Special Burns Guitar Night
with Barry Gibson
(Burns guitar raffle)

18 October

with The Silver Shadows

15 November

with Shadowmaniacs France

20 December

The Clubs 6th Birthday

If you have any items that you wish to share with the club please contact the Editor