

THE

BRO-KEN STRING

Reporter: Enrico de Bolica
Voice for the NI Shadows Club
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HEADLINES

Worn Fret replaced with Broken String
Fitting Tribute To Local Guitar Legend
New Boy Band Plays YFC
Super Sonic Jet Flies High Over YFC

Hi it's **Enrico de Bolica**, your new 'axe-man' reporting from the NI Shadows Club for the all new Bro-ken String.

First of all a word of thanks to my predecessor Ed Banger, from the Worn Fret, you'll be a hard act to follow.

As the headlines show what a day to start reporting for the NI Shadows Club.

Where's Our Drummer?

With the rhythm section already in full swing Hall 'Sticks' Smyth was finally persuaded to put down his mug of tea and join the rest of the house band so as the day could officially start.

Eric '*The Enforcer*' called things to order with an announcement for the up and coming 2nd Anniversary Concert. He then introduced Chris '*Fingers*' Johnston and the house band who opened up with the appropriate *Time Is Tight* and *Telstar*. Then Simon and Bernard joined them to play the very popular Sky hit *Carillion*.

Bernard stayed on to give us a roaring *Gonzales* and he then had us all looking out for 'Alan Ladd' riding of into the western sunset as the *Theme From Shane* trotted across the horizon.

Mr Arpeggio, or George Turner to his friends, then had us all feeling nice and *Cozy* before Turner-ing out a first class *Guitar Tango* with yours truly on rhythm guitar.

Chris Braniff, making a very welcome return, was up next and he very nicely *Perfidia* Cha Cha'd his way down to *Argentina* for the local *Dance On* Sunday.

Guitar Phil's *Apache* then scared a new ending out of *The Frightened City* just before John Bell joined the *Shindig* by *Foot Tapping* his way to a *Wonderful Land* before finally coming to rest around about *September Time* (his own composition).

Fitting Tribute To Local Guitar Hero

The Shadow-Hunters were up next with Paul soloing on a *Blue Sky, Sea & Me* before dueting with brother Sam to get the audience surfing along the *Pipe-Line* into Sam's solo on *Parisienne Walkways*, a fitting tribute to local guitar legend Gary Moore who, unknown to us at the time, had sadly passed away. The Hunters finished their first set of the day with another first for the club a good rendition of Peter Green's *Man Of The World*.

Simon was next into bat getting caught at first slip by *Flingel Bunt*. He then led the house band into Maggie's favourite *Theme From Something* with Bernard also putting on a good few runs as second batsman.

Stanley very nicely *Guitar Boogied* with his *True Love Ways* before his *Mustang* galloped of into the *Midnight* darkness.

Mark then put in an unexpected appearance to please his growing band of followers with a very good *Theme For Young Lovers* in the undersea world of *Atlantis*.

Mr Rhythm better known as Jim Tully closed the first half performances *Tonight* by paying tribute to *The High And The Mighty*, with his usual effortless, smiling swagger.

We all then headed for the ever busy Maggie's Kitchen for some well earned tea/coffee sandwiches and biscuits. The usual die-hards

kept the torches lit by trying out new things usually on any guitar but their own.

It was about this time a rumour started that a new era was about to take over the club as everyone, especially the female section of the ever growing crowd, looked on with keen interest as some new gear was erected and the whispers grew to ear deafening proportions. Yes it was true and the latest craze to escape Simon Cowell's grasp was about to perform at our club.

New Boy Band Plays YFC

Opening the second half was another first for the club with *OLD SPICE*, the latest 'Boy Band' (who are they trying to kid), driving the female section of the audience into a wild frenzy with their stunning good looks and fantastic bodies (I was paid a fortune to put that in) performing their debut single *Don't Make My Baby Blue*.

Super Sonic Jet Flies Over YFC

With the ladies finally back under control and all clothing either straightened or replaced *Mr Arpeggio* showed us his dazzling lead skills once more by flying a Super Sonic 'Jet' through *A Song For Tony*, over an *Applejack* field before landing superbly to watch *Scarlett O'Hara* display her well earned *Diamonds*. With, it has to be said some rather nifty work on the skins by *Sticks Smyth*, as well as some inspired work by the rest of the house band.

Resident cameraman Bernard then cut loose by telling a *Man Of Mystery* that after having a volume swell of a time he was *Goin' Home*, for reasons best kept to himself.

Guitar Phil then forced *The Savage* rhythm playing of Jim 'Rhythm Man' Tully into submission so as he could invite Mike (a.k.a - *Ed Banger*) to join him on an all expenses paid trip to *Santa Ana*.

Paul Hunter backed by Mike on rhythm and David Turner on bass then got an *Albatross* to fly very sweetly over *A Blue Day* with just enough time left from his flight for him to help brother Sam run *Round And Round* the *F.B.I* once again with Dave T keeping a steady beat in the back ground.

The Enforcer was up next, backed by the crisp angelic acoustic tones of *Mr Arpeggio* and the rest of the house band, managed to swell his way through *Cavatina* and into another club first, a new aroma known locally as *Londonderry Air*.

Mr Rhythm Man Tully, just back from a well earned rest, unpacked his lead skills and headed *South Of The Border* looking for a *Golden Street*, taking Jim B and Mike along to help share rhythm duties.

Simon then brought a busy day to a close with two old classics (and I'm not referring to his rhythm and bass player). He danced his fingers across the frets, of his soon to be redundant old strat, setting the *Theme For Young Lovers* in *Atlantis*. Worth noting here is the virtuoso talent of *Guitar Phil* who showed us that his on-line bass guitar course with the *Godfather* has been a worth-while success.

A big thank you must be said here to Hall 'Sticks' Smyth, Chris 'Fingers' Johnston and our club 'Godfather' Des McNeil for providing a sturdy rhythm unit for all performers to play with.

We must also thank the staff of Maggie's Kitchen who somehow manages to keep us fed and watered at each monthly meeting.

Don't forget to order your tickets for the Anniversary Concert as they are selling quickly and you won't want to miss it. Contact Eric at ericboal@hotmail.co.uk or phone 0775 241 9290.

Finally for the anoraks here's this month's stat's.

36 – Cups of coffee

24 – Trays of sandwiches and biscuits

36 – Cups of tea... just kidding. Here they are for real:-

49 tunes, 22 band variations

With only two tunes played more than once.

Don't forget next month's meeting has been moved to the second Sunday and the Anniversary Concert is on the 18th.

Enrico de Bolica.