

# The Crackly Valve

Editor in Chief: The Prof



August 2013

## Don't Panic! Don't Panic!

It's not often the NI Shadows Club meeting starts off with the sound of a fire alarm but that's what happened before the commencement of the August jamboree. Nothing to do with the World Police and Fire Games that were running concurrently, the culprit may have been a steamy kettle in the kitchen but reports of a certain someone lighting up in the foyer were also received so – **if it was you, please don't do it again!**

Once Chris had found the PIN code to turn off said alarm and relative peace and quiet had been restored to the YF Hall, Jim T got the proper noises underway with a slickly joined up set consisting of *Apache*, *The Stranger* and *Kon-tiki* with Brian and Des providing backup.

Jim then slipped into the rhythm guitarists seat as Bernard played the tune *Giant*, which is a rarity as far as our wee club is concerned, followed by *36 34 36* which Mr O'Hara described in a succinct phrase "This tune is a b#@%\*x" Is that how you spell b#@%\*x?

David, plugged his bass into a fuzz box, Mike strapped on his acoustic and Terry combined with Dave to give us the twin bass guitars on *Stingray* and *Besame Mucho*.

If you thought the alarm was loud, you should have heard Philip's rendition of *Geronimo* and *Dance On!* Simon tried to cope with this overabundance of decibels while he accompanied on rhythm as David discarded his fuzz box for the plain bass.

Alan then played *Peacepipe* and *Flingel Bunt* on his custom Telecaster with young Turner continuing on the four string and Mike taking over on rhythm.

Brian, who was kept busy most of the afternoon as George was unable to play any of the rhythm, backed up Simon for *The Rumble* and *Round and Round*, Terry being the bassist on these two up tempo tunes.

Terry stayed up while Philip took over rhythm as Jim B's set consisting of *Midnight* and *Spring Is Nearly Here* calmed us all down again.

Mike's turn to be Hank brought us *It's Been a Blue Day* and *A Place in the Sun* with Simon and David in the engine room.

Brian strapped on his Burns to take the leading role in *Some Are Lonely* and *Cosy* with Jim T and Des in their accustomed roles.

The inimitable John Bell then smiled his way through *Shazam* and *Walk Don't Run* before causing some confusion with a last minute decision to play *Diamonds* instead of *The Rumble*, which was fair enuff as Simon had already been rumbled not long before. Jim T, David and Des bravely faced

these challenges and emerged mostly unscathed though Des was heard to say at one stage “My ears are only half working today”

Ollie brought the opening half to a close with *Temptation* and *Zambesi* which got off to a false start and was only reined in after Brian (on rhythm) asked “What key is it?” and a wee voice from the other side of the stage, just in front of the bass amp, wearing a nice bass guitar, naming no names, like, responded “B flat” as Ollie merely shrugged his shoulders and looked quizzical!

Philip had found the volume control on his guitar (or maybe Des had done same on Vox AC30) as he kicked off the second half with *Nivram* (Jim B on the ‘Bruce’ second lead part) and Des on the ‘Jet’ bass solo, followed by *Atlantis*.

Bernard’s *Bossa Roo* got everyone into the South American mood before *The Savage* got their heads banging – were there head bangers back in the 60’s? Mike was seen looking relieved in the corner as Brian played the rhythm on these two tunes. As members will know Mike has a permanent appointment with the ‘Witch Doctor’ to put his shoulder back in as he has been up to now our regular rhythm guitarist on *The Savage*.

Brian’s arm had to recover quickly as he was immediately on lead guitar for *The Stranger* and *The Lost City* with Mike showing his undying gratitude by playing the strums on these two. Terry was in the middle of a sequence of tunes on bass, commencing with *Bossa Roo* and continuing on to *Genie WTLBL*.

Jim T returned for one number, one that I personally particularly enjoy hearing him play, *South of the Border*, Brian doing the chords.

Simon’s second lead set featured *The Lonely Bull* and the aforementioned *Genie with the Light Brown Lamp*. Mike was on rhythm guitar for these two before Alan returned with his Tele to give us *Apache* and *Don’t Cry for Me Argentina*, Simon

having swapped to rhythm and David giving Terry a wee break on the bass.

The planned ‘Ghost Riders’ in Philip’s final set sounded more like *Blue Star* (because it **was** Blue Star) and was followed by *Diamonds*, Terry, having had his wee cuppa, was back on bass and Mike was on rhythm.

Jim B strolled along *Golden Street* before *Gonzales* ground to halt with Des saying “Something sounds like we’re out of tune”. It was good of him to admit that it was down to him starting the tune on Am instead of Em.

Mike managed to get through 3 Gallons without falling down drunk – oh wait, I need new glasses, that tune is called *3 Galleons!*

His final tune of the day was *Santa Ana*, Simon and Des being the backers.

Mark’s was the penultimate set of our August afternoon with *Spring is Nearly Here* and *Theme for Young Lovers*, Philip and Terry on six and four strings, respectively.

Ollie brought the day to a successful conclusion with *The Windjammer* and the jaunty *Deep Purple*, Simon and David providing the strums and plucks.

A, big, big thanks to Hall for his drumming throughout the day and to Chris for tinkling the ivories and where would we be if not for Maggie and Andrea supplying the eatables – just a pity some gannets had scoffed the lot before I got to the kitchen☺.

**Next Meeting ...**

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> September**

## Rogues Gallery



“Speak to my agent!”



“Where’s the whammy bar, Al?”



“Jim, if Des says it’s in Bb – it must be ...”



“Daddy, why’s that man of the left got a blurry arm?” “Cos he’s strumming the Savage son”