

THESE ARE THE TIMES



London Gangshow Fellowship
Founder: Ralph Reader CBE
Autumn 2016

CHAIRMAN'S AUTUMN MESSAGE

Another great weekend at Hurley thanks to Pete Bessell, the sun shone – most of the time – although the sing song was rather curtailed by the rain which we hope wasn't a comment from above by Ralph on the quality of our voices. Several regulars were missed and we hope that we will all be together again next year. It was great to see Jo again, all the way from Saudi, it is really good that she manages to coincide her trip home with the camp. Thanks again to Brenda for all that she does to make the weekend swing along. Read the report in this issue and book next year's date, the last FULL weekend in June.

We had a good turnout for our visit to view the refurbished Ralph Reader display and were able to make a further donation to the museum to help with the future upkeep of the display. We were also able to donate a red scarf and 40th anniversary woggle to complement the display. It was particularly special that Bob was able to say a few words and that his son Stephen was able to record the occasion photographically, although he had to be prompted to "wind the film on" on Bob's camera!

Gordon our archivist has set up a closed group on Facebook. All you need to do is like the page and he will arrange for you to have full access. He has already loaded some very interesting items.

London Gang Show Fellowship Archive

Website

Barry Thurston aka "The Wanderer" has very generously registered domain names and is designing our new website. Your ideas for content are welcome please send them, for the time being, to me.

londongangshowfellowship.org

londongangshowfellowship.org.uk

"Watch this space"

Top ten GS songs of all time.

A great idea from Bill Iveson. "A worldwide membership invitation to name your 10 favourite Gang Show songs. Each of us will have our own special memories, of our days and our shows." We will start through the pages of TATTs but please spread the word. As Bill says "There will not be any individual winners, except for the Gang Show Fellowship. And of course, each entry will provide an extra tribute to Ralph and all that he did for us. It will provide an opportunity for Gang Show aficionados worldwide to take part. The choice would not include "Crest" and "These are the times". Nothing could compare with these two!"

Bill has kindly offered to receive e-mail entries and generate an overall analysis of favourites so start thinking and email Bill. billiveson@ntlworld.com

AGM

Our next event is the AGM on Sunday 30 October, The Anchor, Church Square, Shepperton - book the date now, details in this issue. Business dealt with promptly with plenty of time for catching up with friends.

Reunion

Another date to book Saturday 28 January 2017 The Ship Hotel, Weybridge.

I look forward to seeing you at the AGM

David Clay
davidclayathome@hotmail.com

CREWKERNE MUSEUM (Saturday 2nd July 2016)



A wonderful occasion! We were made very welcome by the museum and given time to look around all the exhibits. On the ground floor was a photographic record of the 20th Century events in Crewkerne and we found a 1955 newspaper photograph of Ralph with members of the gang. They had been performing at the local hospital, as they did most years, and a lovely photograph had been taken with some members of the staff.

We met up to view our exhibit, take photos and hand over some more money to the museum staff, with the help of Bob Corp-Reader who had travelled down with his son Stephen. If you haven't had the chance to see the museum, it really is worth a visit if you are in the vicinity. It's a chance to see a few of the things that Ralph used to keep at 'Round Corners' in the display cabinet including his first shoes and his Honours. It was lovely to meet up with members who we don't see very often, including Toni-Sue(Burley), Geoff Taylor and thanks to Gordon Blackburn who made the long trip down from Scotland and of course helped with so much of the memorabilia. We were treated to tea/coffee and some delicious cakes by the museum giving us all time to enjoy our memories and catch up.

We adjourned to The George next door where the celebrations continued, with drinks and some members having lunch. Quite a few members took the opportunity to go to Ralph's old home a short walk from the museum and view the blue plaque and the general feeling was that it was well worth the trip and that Ralph would have been proud to see us as still part of the gang.

FELLOWSHIP CAMP WEEKEND (Friday 24th June – Sunday 26th June 2016)



Not so many units this year, which was a pity but it was still a great success and the weather was reasonably kind. The coffee morning held on Saturday morning included the usual raffle in aid of Ralph's fund and gave everyone the opportunity to meet up and see who was around,

leaving the rest of the weekend to relax.

We started the sing song on Saturday evening, but after about half an hour it started to rain and we had to split up, but many members still got together in each other's awnings and kept the memories going! Certainly Brian and Brenda's awning was very full and noisy and kept going for some time. Although Friday to Sunday is the official camp more and more people are arriving early and not leaving until Monday, avoiding weekend traffic and having a mini holiday in the lovely surroundings with great facilities.

Hoping to see more units next year, it really is a great opportunity to spend time with friends without the pressure of time. See you there!

FUTURE EVENTS.

AGM Sunday 30th October 2016 - details attached

ANNUAL DINNER AND DANCE Saturday 28th January 2017

ANNUAL CAMP Friday 23rd – Sunday 25th June 2017, Hurley, Berkshire

OF INTEREST!

I've just been watching a DVD of a 1935 film called 'First a Girl' starring the fabulous Jessie Matthews with 'Dances by Ralph Reader'. Very Busby Berkely and you can see why Hollywood was after Ralph at that time. Fred Reeve

Note from the Editor

Contact with members of the gang continues to go well. This means that TATTS is being received both by e-mail and post by a growing number of the gang. However, below is a list of members we have not heard from for some time, if anyone knows of their whereabouts perhaps they could pass on Richard's address or e-mail and say how much we would like to welcome them back to the gang.

Lost Touch Column

Derek Allen	Michael GFroom	Jon/Lesley Muir
John Andrew	Sylvia Graham-Taylor	Roger Ness
Steve Ashenden	Peter/Cath Groves	Alan Nunn
Adrian Bailey	Dudley Hebden	Douglas Pell
Michael Bellegarde	Alan Hollingdale	Michael Pritchard
Lilian Broughton	June Holloway	Neil Roberts
Malcolm Burnett	John Hughes	Nigel Rode
Janet Bushell	Nick Humby	Tony Roper
Matthew Butterfield	Peter Humby	Mervyn Rutter
Jerry Buxton	Richard Jefferies	Dorothy Sacre
Stuart Cheeseman	George Jordan	Tom Seal
Leonard Clark	Terry Kenmann-Lane	Andrew Skene
David Cockerton	Lesley-Ann Last	Jon Slade
William Corp-Reader	Jack Lillie	Barry Summerfield
Richard Crumpton	William Lockwood	Jonathan Tait
Kenneth Doughty	Peter Lush	Trevor Thomas
Alan Drew	Malcolm Lycett	Leslie Threadgold
Colin Dutton	Jane Emanuel	Pat Timony
David Ellingford	Rob McDonald	Michael Turner
Jill Ellis	Roger McLeod	John Walker
Peter Ford	Neil McMinn	Roy Walton
Carol Foster	Mark Mirosevic-Sorgo	Helen Wilkes
Marion Goold	Terence Mitchell	
Richard Goold	Anthony Morris	

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Many thanks to all those people who keep me up to date with happy and sad events around the globe and for ideas to keep TATTS more interesting. It is difficult to include all the features as they come in as TATTS would be too long, but keep them coming please and I will include as many as possible.

As David mentioned in his message we now have a Facebook page and this is being updated regularly. It has prompted messages from many of the gang and if you are not a member yet it really is worth a look. So many photographs that I'm sure we have all forgotten but certainly bring a smile.

London Gang Show Fellowship Archive

Brenda

CAN YOU HELP ???

I have had a request to the Archive from a group looking for the loan of a copy of the Ralph Reader Musical

“LEAVE IT TO PETE”

(A Musical Play of Sea Scouting)

The only details I have are as follows

Written circa: 1953

Musical Director: John Stiles

Producer: Bryan W Fox

Songs Include: We're far better off where we are. There's something about the sea.

Sea Scouting is the life for me. Saucy Sue. Sea Scouting Days. What goes up, comes down.

IF YOU CAN HELP CONTACT: Gordon Blackburn (Archivist) email: gordon@nodascotland.co.uk

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LONDON GANG SHOW FELLOWSHIP

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the forty-first Annual General Meeting of the London Gang Show Fellowship will be held at the Anchor Hotel, Church Square, Shepperton, Middlesex on Sunday, 30th October 2016 commencing at 1.00pm.

The following business will be transacted: -

Adoption of Annual Report and Accounts Election of President, Vice-Presidents, Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer Election of six members to the Executive Committee

Nominations for any of the above offices should reach the Secretary no later than 10th October 2016

Please join us at 12 noon for light refreshments. There will also be a cash bar available.

Guests are welcome at the meeting but shall not vote.

Members are also reminded that the annual subscription of £5 falls due on 1st October and should be sent to the Membership Secretary, Mr Richard Micklefield – address below.

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richard@remohca.com

Committee nominations and apologies please to the Secretary : -

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NB

It will greatly assist with catering if you will please confirm your attendance