

THESE ARE THE TIMES



London Gangshow Fellowship
Founder: Ralph Reader CBE
Winter 2014

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

We had a very pleasant time at the AGM although attendance was once again affected by the weather. In particular we were sorry that Johnny B had to miss the meeting again having set out and been unable to complete his journey. It was good that our President David Camfield was able to be with us but we missed Sylvia who has had a prolonged stay in hospital and still has a long road ahead to recovery. We send her our love and good wishes. The business of the meeting was dealt with efficiently and promptly leaving plenty of time to socialise.

We have achieved a good result with our dealings with the Scout Association regarding the Ralph Reader Memorial Fund and thanks are due to our treasurer Phil Smith, further information in these pages.

We are also making progress with provision of an updated exhibit in Ralph's memory at the museum in Crewekerne. Developments have been delayed in part due to the flooding in Somerset but Brenda and Phil have material prepared for submission to the museum.

The next major event in our calendar is the reunion on Saturday 31st January 2015 at the Ship Hotel Weybridge. We will follow the format established by Jack Seaton with a cabaret, and of course music throughout the evening and our sing song. Despite increased costs we have managed to minimise the increase in the ticket price. Please send your booking form to Reg and Mary promptly. We are looking forward to another great evening and I hope to see you there.

Dear Tree One wants to book pitches early for our camp over the weekend 26th to 28th June 2015 in order to ensure that we reserve enough space so please respond to the notice in this issue

I trust that you and your families will all enjoy yourselves over Christmastide and wish you every happiness and success in 2015.

David

FUTURE EVENTS

Reunion Dinner Saturday 31st January 2015 at the Ship Hotel, Weybridge, Surrey – order form and hotel information is attached.

Annual Camp Friday 26th – Sunday 28th June 2015, Hurley, Berkshire.
(Contact Peter Bessell on 0115 9656531) More information will be included in the Spring edition

AGM Sunday 25th October 2015
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



EXTRACT FROM MINUTES OF THE 39TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE LONDON GANG SHOW FELLOWSHIP HELD ON SUNDAY 26TH OCTOBER 2014

PRESENT: President: David Catt-Camfield
Chair: David Clay
Vice-Chair/Treasurer: Phil Smith
+ 20 members and friends

OPENING REMARKS

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. He expressed his and the meeting's delight to see our President, David Catt-Camfield and asked David to pass on the members best wishes to his wife Sylvia for a complete recovery from what has been a long, painful and very upsetting illness. Mike Lovejoy has had an accident and would like to say thankyou for all the good wishes he has received. David explained that a DVD of the speeches from Michael Hurl's memorial service would be playing after the meeting and thanked David Catt-Camfield for bringing this along today.

Matters Arising:

David Clay confirmed that the Committee had looked at The Constitution with regard to the annual election of the President and Vice Presidents at each AGM and read out the relevant section [5(i) – (b)] It clearly states that the President, Vice Presidents, Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer shall be elected at each AGM. The Committee therefore decided to continue this practice. The meeting agreed.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT year end 30.9.14

Sadly we have lost Marjory Robertson this year, she was the wife of Ken Robertson. He was a member of the No.1 RAF Unit, both were supporters of the London Show and many Gang Show events. More recently Mick Brooman (formerly Flowers) sadly passed, he was a member of the final show.

As mentioned earlier we all send our best wishes to Sylvia Catt-Camfield for a full recovery. Tommy Edwards has had a nasty fall, but is on the road to recovery and would be happy to hear from members who remember him. Joyce Thurnell, wife of Don is now very frail and being cared for in a home in Bristol. Anyone wishing to contact Joyce can do so by letter or through her grand-daughter. Peter Stephens is very poorly and is being cared for in a home in Chesham. If anyone would like contact details of people mentioned here, please contact Brenda or David Clay via e-mail or telephone.

The Committee is proud to announce that Sheila Burston, wife of Alan Burston, has been awarded the MBE for services to Diabetes UK. The fellowship sends its hearty congratulations.

The Reunion in January proved to be another great evening raising £400 in the raffle, thanks to the many contributors for a good selection of prizes. Thanks to everyone who helped to make the

evening run smoothly and to Reg and Mary Mitchell who again collected and coordinated the ticket sales. The quiz raised £70, thanks to Phil Smith who provided the questions. The Water Rats provided the entertainment and Phil Phillips played throughout the evening.

The annual Camp in June was, as usual, loads of fun and glorious weather. Thanks go to Peter Bessell for his continued hard work in dealing with the campsite and coordinating the bookings. The numbers were again very good and it was great to see so many grandchildren enjoying the freedom of the camp. Thanks to the many contributors to the raffle, we raised £205. The coffee morning was held on Saturday morning again this year and it seems to be a popular time.

Bob Partington made contact with members of the Committee on his visit to UK/Europe and was able to meet up with Alan Bailey. He is keen to keep up to date with UK Gang Shows and would be happy to hear from anyone who can help. Brenda has his e-mail details. The article included in this edition explains his project.

Brenda apologised for Autumn TATTS not being published due to computer problems. The dinner and dance had not been finalized at the time of the meeting the usual form is included in this edition. Thank you to John and Richard for their work with e-mailing and posting TATTS.

Our thanks to Dougie for facilitating the use of the facilities at The Anchor and the The Ship for our celebrations.

The Chairman thanked Brenda for her work during the course of the year.

2014 ACCOUNTS

A printout of the accounts were distributed at the meeting and Phil Smith explained the detail to the meeting. The LGSF is a satisfactory position at present and Phil said he would be talking in more detail later in the meeting. The Chairman thanked Phil for his work throughout the year.

Acceptance of the accounts was proposed by Brian Pow, seconded by Mike Hoffman and unanimously agreed by the meeting.

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

Richard reported that we have 214 members, 100 are up to date with their subs, but 56 people are 5 years or more in arrears, with others 1,2,3 and 4 years in arrears. We have had a few resignations from the fellowship mainly due to older members and spouses no longer connected to current events. There are 12 Honorary members, 3 people have standing orders. Some members have old and out of date standing orders and in spite of reminders have not updated these.

ELECTIONS

Nominations for offices as detailed below were all approved.

President: David Catt-Camfield

Vice Presidents: Bob Corp-Reader OBE, Peter Bessell, Ron Meyer BEM - Proposed by Mike Hoffman, seconded by Ian Waddell - all in favour

Chairman: David Clay - Proposed by Mary Turner, seconded by Laurie Derbyshire - all in favour

Vice-Chairman/Treasurer – Phil Smith, Secretary – Brenda Pow - Proposed by Mike Hoffman, seconded by Brian Pow - all in favour

Committee: Alan Bailey, John Beaveridge, Sue Rhatigan, Mary Turner, Richard Micklefield - Proposed by David Catt-Camfield, seconded by Geoff Bengé – all in favour.

RRMF

Phil explained in detail the meetings with the Scout Association that David Clay, David Catt-Camfield and he had attended had been constructive. The fund discrepancies held by the scouts have been satisfactorily resolved. A full discussion of the details took place and many points were clarified. Full details appear in the minutes of the AGM and will be available in the New Year.

It was confirmed, after a question from the members, that we are not recognised by the Scout Association.

OPEN FORUM

Crewkerne Museum: Brenda informed the meeting that progress has been made on choosing the material to be displayed and that Phil has written the copy to accompany each photograph and artefact. Mike Hoffman has kindly agreed to produce the layout and artwork that will be submitted to the Museum in order to make up the displays. The meeting thanked Mike for this generous offer.

The question was raised as to whether it would be beneficial for the Fellowship to become a registered charity. Phil explained the reasons why this would not be advisable.

David Catt-Camfield thanked everyone who has supported Sylvia and himself during the last very difficult months.

The question was raised and discussed how much scouts and guides currently performing in their local shows understand the ethos and significance of Ralph. This is difficult to monitor and it is hoped that where possible a potted history of Ralph's life and The Gang Show is explained as the casts rehearse. It is hoped the website will be running very soon with a link to other shows which would help with spreading the 'word'.

The Chairman, David Clay, thanked everyone for attending.

The meeting closed at 2pm

2014 Camp

Another great camp, thanks to Peter's organisation, high attendance and good weather. The Saturday coffee morning is proving popular for a catch up, get together and of course the raffle which this year raised £205, so well done to all contributors and the willing band of children selling so many tickets.

Of course it can be an exhausting weekend. Anybody recognise this sleeping brat??



There were many scenes like this, but lucky for most I didn't have my camera handy!

So if you haven't tried the weekend or made a day visit perhaps 2015 will be the year for you. Looking forward to seeing you there.

Contact Peter Bessell at the number given in forthcoming events and reserve your pitch or save the date and drop in for the day to catchup with old friends.

**London Gang Show (fellowship) Re-union
"Hamilton Hall" - Liverpool Street station
Friday 11 July, 2014**

On Friday 11 July - after around 44 years, London Gang Show cast members Alan Bailey and Bob Partington formerly from London's East End, got together for a "mini-reunion" at Hamilton Hall situated in Liverpool Street station! After a couple of beers...the reminiscing flowed in abundance!

Alan, who joined London Gang Show in 1963 along with his brother Adrian remained in cast for 11 years and was in the last, historic and final performance in 1974. Both Bob and Alan are still active in scouting....Alan with group and District and performing arts in Australia.

.Alan has been involved in LGSF is "well known" to the former LGS camps, dinners, AGM's and other is perhaps lesser known these

.....Bob joined London Gang Show active in cast until 1970 – including Performance in the presence of Her who has lived in Australia since Director of Hornsby Gang Show in suburbs, and is still active with Associate with NatPAC – Australian Performing Arts Conference.

Both Alan and Bob acknowledge Reader and the London Gang experience has had on their lives.

The opportunity for the re-union Bob was on holiday in UK & Europe....staying with long time of course!

Bob is keen to forge closer links between the Australian & New Zealand and those in the United Kingdom and encourages folk from the UK to parto@thepartingtons.com

Bob Partington & Alan Bailey – July 2014



Ralph and Bob in 1960's

since it's inception and community, attending related activities. Bob days.....

in 1962 and was a Royal Command Majesty QE II. Bob, 1973, is a former Sydney's northern performing arts, as an Scouts National

ie impact that Ralph Show

came about as scouting friends,

Gang Shows contact him on

Note from the Editor

I would like to apologise to all members for the lack of Autumn TATTS. I have had many problems with my computer for several months and as many of you know once it starts to go wrong it seems to take a long time to correct the fault! Richard continues to contact members of the gang ensuring that our lists are up to date however, if anyone hears of a member who is not receiving TATTS and information please give them Richard Micklefield's or my address and e-mail and we will ensure they are able to get back in contact.

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As you will note from the membership report given at the AGM there are several members still receiving TATTS and notifications who have not paid any subs or not enough subs for 5,4 and 3 years. If you know you are in arrears for any length of time and would like to continue as a member of the Fellowship please contact Richard or me, we don't want to lose you. However, administration of the Fellowship costs money and we do need the subscriptions in order to keep Ralph's Fund, TATTS and our events going.

Many thanks to all those people who keep me up to date with events around the globe and for ideas to keep TATTS more interesting. Keep them coming please.

Brenda

LONDON GANG SHOW FELLOWSHIP – REUNION DINNER AND DANCE Saturday 31st January 2015

THE SHIP HOTEL
Monument Green, Weybridge, Surrey KT13 8BQ (ample car parking)
Easily located from M25 Junction 11

Dinner, Dance & Cabaret £40 per person
(only 50p increase)

Star Cabaret and dancing to Phil Philips and his music

Pre dinner drinks and canapés

Ardennes Pate, Spiced Pear Chutney & Rustic Bread
Slow Roasted English Sirloin of Beef, Yorkshire Pudding
Roast Potatoes and a Selection of Market Vegetables
Vegetarian Option available
Chocolate Profiteroles
Cheese and Biscuits
Tea or Coffee and Mints

Reception from 6pm – Dinner 7pm – Carriages Midnight

We have arranged a rate for Bed & Breakfast, although this is an increase on last year, it is still a significant reduction from the normal function rate

Double and twin rooms £70 per night (2 sharing) [a saving of £15]

Single rooms £50 per night, [a saving of £25]

To make your reservation contact the hotel –

Phone: 01932 848364, Fax: 01932 817153, E-mail: info@shiphotel.co.uk

quoting the London Gang Show Fellowship.

Book with Reg & Mary Mitchell on the form below. Early reservation urged as we are limited to 100 persons.

To: Reg & Mary Mitchell, 8 De Bruce Road, Brompton, Northallerton, North Yorkshire, DL6 2QE (Tel: 01609 761875). **Please enclose cheque with form otherwise you will not be booked in** and enclose a stamped addressed envelope for acknowledgement.

Name _____

Address _____

Please reserve _____ places at £40 per person, cheque enclosed for

£_____ made payable to 'London Gang Show Fellowship'.

GUEST LIST – to assist us with our seating plan please list the names of guests to be seated together, stating whether the vegetarian option or any other dietary option is required.