

THESE ARE THE TIMES



London Gang Show Fellowship Founder: Ralph Reader CBE Winter 2018

CHAIRMANS WINTER MESSAGE

Welcome back!

To our "usual" TATTs and Brenda who is now very much back in harness.

Annual general meeting

We had our usual relaxed and enjoyable meeting. We are very fortunate that the legacy of Douglas Gordon lives on and the hotel provided facilities and refreshments free of charge.

After the meeting there was an opportunity to view some interesting material from the archive. We hope to have further items on display at the reunion and, possibly offer some of the duplicates for sale in aid of The Ralph Reader Memorial fund.

Sad News

I am sorry to have to report that since the last "regular" edition of TATTs we have lost David "Tec" Evans and Lilian Boughton (nee Buckman).

Tec was an enthusiastic member of the Fellowship, you will remember the amusing supplements included with TATTs, "Extra Tec", which he used to produce very much along the lines of "The Gang Show Star" produced by him and others during the show at Golders Green Hippodrome. He also wrote and said a very personal Grace for each Reunion in recent years.

Lilian was a warden at BP House when we used to rehearse there, she also met Jim Broughton when they both worked at BP House and Jim writes " Very best wishes to you and all members who remember Lilian from her BPH days.

She often recalled the days of the Gang rehearsals at BPH and I was privileged to meet Ralph at the AGM / Reunions when held at BPH where I too worked for about 5 years. It was at BPH of course that I met Lilian in 1978 and we were married in 1988

Our thoughts are with their families and loved ones

The Promise Path

You will have read in "TATTS Light Autumn" that the committee had decided to have a square granite brick laid in memory of Ralph and were considering the various options to finance it. We have committed to purchase a bespoke brick at a cost of £1,500 and are considering the wording and logo to be engraved on the brick. If you wish to make a personal donation towards the cost of the brick, please make cheques payable to The London Gang Show Fellowship and send them to our treasurer clearly marked as being a donation to the cost of the brick. However, if you are able it would be preferable to transfer money direct to our bank account:

Sort code 20-38-83 account London Gang Show Fellowship account no. 70591831. Please quote as the reference your name preceded by PP

More details available for information about the Promise Path via the following link.

<https://secure.artezglobal.com/registant/donate.aspx?eventid=43844&langpref=en-CA&Referrer=https%3a%2f%2fwww.google.co.uk%2f>

Treasurer Phil Smith
67 Elmstead Avenue
Chislehurst
Kent
BR7 6EE

Reunion

You will already have booked the date, Saturday 26 January 2019, at The Ship Hotel, Weybridge. Now complete and mail your application for tickets.

We have been able to hold the price this year despite rising costs and continue to subsidise the event.

The evening will start at 6.15 with Bucks Fizz and canapés, followed by a three-course meal. Phil Philips will entertain us during the evening and 10pm will be cabaret time followed by our sing-along.

I look forward to seeing you at the Reunion.

I wish you and your families a very happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

David Clay

MINUTES OF THE 43rd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE LONDON GANG SHOW FELLOWSHIP HELD ON SUNDAY 28TH OCTOBER 2018

PRESENT: President: David Catt-Camfield
Chair: David Clay
Vice-Chair/Treasurer: Phil Smith
+ 19 members and friends

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting we remembered members who had passed away since our last AGM:

Douglas Gordon, Terry Simister, David "Tec" Evans, Lilian Boughton nee Buckman

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE received from:

Brenda & Brian Pow, Reg and Mary Mitchell, Laurie Derbyshire, Dennis Layell, Tony Haynes, Robert Lyons, Lorna Baker, Janet Davies, Linda Moore, Veronica Williams

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE 42nd AGM were proposed by David Fricker and seconded by David Catt-Camfield and agreed nem com.

Matters Arising:

The Edinburgh Gang Show have not arranged a memorial to Gordon Blackburn and, as we understand matters, have no immediate plans.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT year end 30.9.18

We have continued with our social events of the reunion dinner in January and the camp in June.

The dinner was judged a success following the format established by Jack Seaton, although it is harder to find a cabaret act without his influence and support, we have managed to have a different act each year. Our numbers have remained fairly constant despite having lost some of our regulars.

The camp was the usual fun event although, again, we have lost some regulars. Thanks to Pete Bessell for the organisation and Brenda and Brian for organising the raffle.

Our new website was launched fully, thanks to Barry Thurston for generously having the site designed, established and maintained by his company and to Mike Hoffman for being our webmaster.

We have received our archive and Gordon Blackburn's personal collection, with thanks to Liz Fricker for arranging transport from Edinburgh at a very reasonable cost. The committee were able to sort a couple of boxes at the camp. We have been unable to find a suitable archivist and have had to take the decision to break the collection up. Whilst this is unfortunate we can see no other option; our first task is to complete the sorting and cataloguing so that we identify possible recipients.

We mentioned in Autumn TATTs The Promise Path which will trail through Gilwell Park and provide an opportunity to create a lasting memory of a friend or loved one with the object of raising funds to “build a brighter future for Scouting”. The committee has considered three ways of financing the cost of a square granite brick laid in memory of Ralph.

The options considered were:

Using existing funds, if possible, which widens the base of people contributing.

Inviting donations from members and consider adding the balance from existing funds

Launch an appeal to members

The majority were in favour of using existing funds. Although since the article in TATTs I have received a donation towards the cost. We may discuss this in the open forum if you wish.

I would like to thank Brenda for her work as secretary and TATTs editor, Phil for his work as treasurer, Richard for mailing and John for emailing TATTs, Mike for acting as webmaster and the committee for their support. Thanks to the hotel staff for the catering and, thanks to the legacy of Doug Gordon, providing them without charge.

2018 ACCOUNTS

A printout of the accounts and a written explanation were distributed at the meeting by Phil Smith.

Both documents attached.

Acceptance of the accounts was proposed by Richard Micklefield, seconded by Dick Lacey unanimously agreed by the meeting.

The Chairman, on behalf of the Fellowship, thanked Phil for all his hard work.

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

Richard Micklefield explained that we have 193 members on record of whom 109 are considered as current and fully paid up with 11 honorary members.

The Committee will review the status of members who are in arrears.

The fellowship will continue to try to contact people in the hope of making more people aware of us. Thanks to Richard.

ELECTIONS

The meeting was asked to vote for the Nominations as shown on the bottom of the Agenda.

President: David Catt-Camfield

Vice Presidents: Bob Corp-Reader OBE, Peter Bessell Proposed by Mick Moore seconded by Eileen Fricker and agreed nem com.

Chairman: **David Clay** – proposed by, David Fricker seconded by David Catt-Camfield and agreed nem com..

Vice-Chairman/Treasurer – Phil Smith proposed by Colin Brown, seconded by Geoff Bengé and agreed nem com.

Secretary: **Brenda Pow**

Committee: Alan Bailey, John Beaveridge, Mary Turner, Richard Micklefield, Iain Waddell (co-opted Mike Hoffman) – proposed Mick Moore, seconded by David Fricker and agreed nem com.

RALPH READER MEMORIAL FUND

Please see the treasurer's report attached

2019 REUNION DINNER

Information and booking forms will be included in the Winter TATTS as other years. The dinner price is still being discussed with the venue and details will be emailed to the committee for approval before TATTS is published. We are looking for a volunteer(s) to assume responsibility for the reunion in 2020 as David Clay will stand down after the 2019 reunion.

WEBSITE

Mike gave a progress report. He is currently scanning documents provided by Johnny B and when completed will scan photos from albums in the archive

OPEN FORUM

No issues raised but everyone took the opportunity of perusing items from the archive

David Clay thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

Meeting closed at 1.30pm.

FUTURE EVENTS.

ANNUAL DINNER AND DANCE Saturday 26th January 2019 – booking form and details attached.

ANNUAL CAMP Friday 28th – Sunday 30th June 2019, Hurley, Berkshire

AGM Sunday 27th October 2019



FELLOWSHIP CAMP 2019 Rounders! Circa 2018

Yes. Just as you were thinking the only thing to worry about was Christmas, along comes the details of the Hurley Extravaganza (2019 version). It's that time of year again folks, and I bet most of you have not yet got the new diary. When you do get it, turn to the page with June 28th, 29th and 30th on it. Now write in "annual knees up with Three One". Now you have no excuse to miss the Social Event of the Year. I'm sending out notification a little earlier this year as you may have realised that we have jumped forward a week. It's still as usual the last full weekend in the month but this year it's the last three days of the month also. This means that we are into Henley Regatta time and pitches will be in high demand. I have booked our usual numbers but they will be chasing me very early to claw back. It is therefore imperative that you reserve with me as soon as possible in particular those of you that may wish to arrive earlier in the week. So, as soon as you have read this, phone me on 0115 965 6531 and reserve a pitch, the number of which I will inform you of. Alternatively you can e-mail on Sylvia.bessell@btinternet.com. The address of Hurley Riverside Park is Shepherds Lane, Berkshire, SL6 5NE. You are advised to arrive after 1PM so as to avoid congestion of people departing the site down the rather narrow lane. If anyone wants to contact me during the week prior to the Party I can be reached on 078543 75515. Cos by then I will already be there. Chickedysnitch

Regards
Tree One.

New Member

Our membership secretary has received an email from a new member of the LGSF, there is an extract below. It's great to hear from Dennis and might inspire you to seek out other members of the Show who have lost contact with us but who you perhaps hear from at this time of year.

"Hi Richard

I was in the London Gang Show.
I appeared before Her Majesty the Queen.
I was on some of the LP Records.
I was on the TV Shows.
Later when I worked at the BBC I worked on the TV shows.

I recorded with Max Bygraves at Abbey Road with other youngsters from the Gang Show

I often stayed with Ralph at his home.

My Father (Fred) was one of the two Back Stage managers.

My Mother (Edna) was a registered Matron for the younger cast members.

My sister (Barbara [Reid] worked in wardrobe.

In a lot of shows our household furniture appeared on stage.”

Perhaps we'll see you at the dinner Dennis??.

Note from the Editor

Thank you so much for all the good wishes for myself and Brian over the last few months. Brian is improving and although he still has several hospital appointments, overall his health is improving day to day. I am absolutely great and back to normal – whatever that is!!

If anyone has any ideas how we can reach some of our past show members or knows of any members who would like to be contacted, please let Richard or myself know.

Brenda Pow
172 Gorse Lane
Great Clacton
CO15 4RJ

lgsf-tatts74@hotmail.co.uk
bt-bp49@hotmail.com

Richard Micklefield
Remohca House
Woodlands
Wimborne
Dorset
BH21 8LW
richard@remohca.com

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.

The booking form and details of the Annual Dinner and Dance are on the final page and I look forward to seeing you all there. Book early to avoid disappointment!
I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a healthy New Year!

Brenda

TATTS is sponsored by ATL

**LONDON GANG SHOW FELLOWSHIP – REUNION
DINNER AND DANCE
Saturday 26th January 2019**



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

Dinner, Dance & Cabaret £43 per person

Star Cabaret and dancing to Phil Philips and his music

Pre-dinner drinks and canapés
Goat's cheese, tomato and red onion tart with balsamic glaze
Pan fried Chicken with café au lait sauce served with seasonal vegetables
Lemon Curd tart with citrus glaze
Tea, Coffee and Mints
Vegetarian option on request

Reception from 6.15pm – Dinner 7.00pm – Carriages Midnight

We have arranged a special rate for Bed & Breakfast

Double and twin rooms £88 per night (2 sharing)
Single rooms £63 per night.

En-suite rooms. 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 Brian & Brenda Pow on the form below.

To: Brian & Brenda Pow, 172 Gorse Lane, Great Clacton, CO15 4RJ (tel 01255 479035) **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 £43 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.