

Kingswood, UK - Chartered 1960

The Youngster



Songs From the Second World War

March 2019



Graham began this trip down memory lane with the speech by Neville Chamberlain warning the country that the Germans had sent tanks into Poland and that this country was now at war with Germany.

The Government encouraged an atmosphere of entertainment to help lighten the mood of the hardship that was to come so popular songs began to reflect this with Lambeth Walk, Ill Be Seeing You, and Wish me Luck sung by Anne Sheldon and Gracie Fields.

Churchill, now in charge, supported the true British tradition of determination and stiff upper lip with a number of rousing speeches. No one more represented this attitude more effectively than the great Vera Lynn who reflected our resolve with songs like the classic Nightingale Sang in Barclay Square and White Cliffs of Dover.

After the Battle of Britain, so valiantly won by the Royal Air Force, the Japanese entered the war with their bombing of Pearl Harbor which brought in the Americans and their brand of music. Glen Miller and the Andrews Sisters very much lightened the mood along with Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy swing.

Fashion reflected the shortages of materials while songs like Bless 'em All reached out to our brave lads serving abroad.

The tide was eventually turning, the war was going to be won, peace was in sight. The legendary Vera Lynn gave us There'll Always be an England and We'll Meet Again.

Thank you Graham for putting this together with the great support of Eileen.

Pete Sheppard

Diary

Thu 21 Mar	7.30 pm Dinner Night - 'Guilty Pleasures: Chocolate, Beer and Tobacco' - Chris Bigg
Mon 25 Mar	8.00 pm Project/Programme Committee Meeting
Sat 30 Mar	7.30 pm Ten Sing Race Night at Warmley Community Centre
Sat 6 Apr	9.30 am set up, 10.00 open Coffee Morning - extra support needed
Sat/Sun 6/7 Apr	Weekend in London - Post Office Underground Railway, Emirates Cable Car
Tue 9 Apr	8.00 pm Board of Governors at Chris's house
Thu 18 Apr	7.30 pm Dinner Night - 'My Life with Musical Instruments' - Geoff Pegler
Sat 4 May	9.30 am set up, 10.00 open Coffee Morning
Sat 11 May	Phoenix Wind Band Concert
Thu 16 May	7.30 pm Dinner Night
Sat 1 June	9.30 am set up, 10.00 open Coffee Morning
Thu 20 June	7.30 pm Dinner Night - 'Family Favourites' - Graham Walker
Sat 6 July	9.30 am set up, 10.00 open Coffee Morning
Sat 3 Aug	9.30 am set up, 10.00 open Coffee Morning
Sat 12 Oct	Race Night

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To acknowledge the duty that accompanies every right

President's Lunch - 24th February

One look on our table at the end of the main course said, loud and clear, 'It's been a 'my eyes are bigger than my belly' occasion. At the same time the diners were all saying what a tasty meal it had been. There were no 'I wasn't very keen on the potatoes, meat, gravy or vegetable' remarks just some 'I'm old enough to know when I've eaten sufficient' comments. And yet we all went up to the table for the rhubarb crumble and bread and butter pudding and cream and custard in order to get a second course.

It was a delightful lunch. Lovely food eaten in the best of company. Thank you Chris for organising it; we'll let you be President again.



Over the Bridge



Our combined Probus/Y's Men's Club coach trip to Cardiff started with 29 booked but eventually 22 hardy souls braved the border, although we did meet Sam, Jerry and Sandy there, outside the castle walls. However, compared to last time it was arranged in cars when five people turned up, that's pretty good. We ended up then having coffee chez Bendrey.

Cardiff is a fine city with much of interest to see. Most of our party initially visited the castle which is an enormous structure with a fascinating history which goes back to Roman times. More recently it was owned by the Marquis of Bute who constructed residential accommodation with spectacular rooms and ceilings. There was a lot of money in coal in those days! Well worth a visit.

The rest of the day was spent in various ways. A small party went to the National Museum of Wales (it was free!), some took a sight-seeing tour by bus, and others even went shopping!

A projected loss for the trip was avoided by Roger Cromwell's wizard idea of buying a bottle of wine, which was raffled on the coach. Thanks to all who supported the trip from both clubs. A qualified success.

Mike B



Y's Walkers hit TV Stardom



Last summer the BBC brought their 'Antiques Road Show' to Filton alongside the Concorde Display. As this is perhaps their most prestigious programme they invited Diane and Graham (along with about a million others who lived in the West Country) to the show. There were the Walkers



sharing the limelight with Andy McConnell (glass), Lars Tharp (ceramics) and Fiona Bruce (charisma). The BBC felt that having these extra local stars on the programme made this one of their best ever road shows.

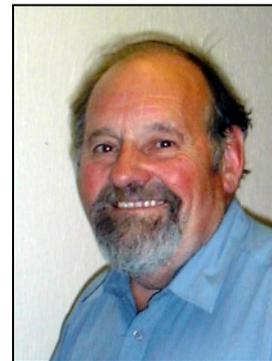
Clearly this article is not included in the Youngster in any sense of bragging but we are aware that it will be pleasant for other members of the Y's Men's Club to be able to say to their friends that they not only know but are on friendly terms with two of country's star performers.

Yours, in a sense of true humility,
Diane and Graham



Top Honours to the Top Grays

These photographs, obviously taken yesterday, show the Club's latest publicly honoured members. The Scout Association has awarded Bob a Silver Wolf Medal, the highest award that they can give for services to Scouting. And, very appropriately, Sherry has been awarded the Silver Acorn for her years of service to the movement. There is not the slightest doubt that this recognition of their lifetime commitment is well deserved. Congratulations to you both.



Their son-in-law, Kim, married to Miranda and living in East Anglia has also been awarded a bar to his Silver Acorn. If you are in that family you just can't escape Scouting can you?

Seeking Songs

Graham is still looking for songs to include in the June entertainment 'Family Favourites'. He's got four so far but is looking for about twelve. Can you provide one of those eight more - with an explanation of why you have chosen it? Please contact Graham with your choice.



Did you Know?

There was a question at BOG about a recent speaker and members were not aware that a list of speakers from 2000 till now is in the front pages of the dinner attendance book. As well as this fascinating information (!) it also shows who joined the club during this period. Do have a look.

Wise Words from Past International Secretary General Ingvar Wallin

Why did I join Y's Men?

Because somebody asked me – and he did not really have any arguments related to what the movement does. He simply said that the club members meet twice a month at the local Y to eat – and “you eat regularly, don't you?”. He also said that I would meet friends from the local Y, so I agreed to come – and that was close to 60 years ago and I am still a member!

Why am I still a member? There are several reasons why I am still a member, but today I will only mention two. The first one might sound like a joke: I am a member for medical reasons! At one of the yearly “Service Club Leaders Conferences” with top leaders from other Service Clubs, a report was presented, which showed that people involved in voluntary work had a better health and lived longer than those without such involvement. Just look around you – and look at me – we are living proofs that this is true!

I belong to Y's Men because we are unique in many aspects – many of them are expressed in our “Statement of Purpose” in our International Constitution. It is stated that we work closely with “the Young Men's Christian Association” (YMCA). It is a great strength for us to work in close partnership with the largest non-governmental youth organisation in the world – but it is also a weakness. We are often seen as a part of the YMCA (if we are seen at all!) and that is wrong – and dangerous for us. We have since 1981 a document called “Principles of Partnership” with the World Alliance of YMCAs. In it is very clearly stated that the two organisations are separate – and wish to continue being separate. This document has been re-affirmed several times since then and also signed on lower levels – but to be honest, this is a dilemma for us – it is a strength and a weakness at the same time. I have no simple answer to solve this dilemma for us, more than to say that I think that we need to work on strengthening the positive aspects of our partnership. If we today would “play down” our partnership with the YMCA, then one could ask what is it that makes us different from other Service Clubs? Many of them do support the local YMCA in their respective communities. There is no easy solution to this dilemma, but I have “grown up” in the YMCA, so our partnership is a strong reason for my being in the movement.

An extract from the Past International President's Club March newsletter.

International News

I attended the Area Council Meeting in Denmark last weekend and thought you would like to hear some bits of information from it.



1. It is reported that the Roll Back Malaria Project is likely to be closed in December 2019 and replaced with another Project, probably about the subject of clean water provision.
2. There is a Brotherhood Fund Delegate opportunity to visit Egypt from 19th August to 13th September 2019. Applications by May 1st, contact me for more information.
3. Regional Director Elect Training in 2019 will be held in Toledo, USA, from 14th to 17th November. We do not have an RDE at the moment but I am looking for a volunteer.
4. There was a reminder that new rules are in place which mean clubs can only continue if they have a minimum of 5 members. It does not worry us at the moment but it will affect one of our clubs in Central Southern Europe. The rules also state that only clubs with a minimum of 15 members can take part in International votes. There are 9 clubs in CSE and 4 meet this requirement, 5 fall below the number.
5. The Area Europe web site has been updated and has a lot of interesting information. Visit the site at www.ysmeneurope.eu
6. The next Area Convention will be in Ekaterinburg from June 28th to 30th 2019. Visit the promotional web site to see what is on offer. www.europeconvent2019.ru
7. The 2020 International Convention will be held in Odense, Denmark from 13th to 16 August 2020. There is a very good promotional video on YouTube at – https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y3x7aNnXQ4M&feature=player_embedded
8. YMCA celebrates the 175th anniversary of its foundation with a celebration at the ExCel, London from August 4th to 8th 2019. Information at www.ymca175.com/news
9. As a completely different subject, I learnt about a free language learning programme which would be worth checking out if you want to brush up your skill or learn a new language. Go to www.duolingo.com to check it out. Could be useful one day since we are part of an international organisation!

To look at the various web sites copy the link and paste into the box of your search engine.

Wally

A boy asks his granny, "Have you seen my pills, they were labelled LSD?"
Granny replies, "Never mind your pills, have you seen the dragons in the kitchen?"

Taken from Mr Cromwell's Diary

On Reasons to call 911 - Mind numbingly dumb

Caller: A deer just swam across the river behind my house.

911 operator: And ...?

Caller: Well, I'm worried it might be cold.

On Those Musical Irish Police

Belcoo police seized 20 cattle and 30 small pigs on suspicion of having been smuggled, assisted by Miss K. McDermott (violin) and Mrs P. O'Rourke (percussion and effects).

In the Fermanagh Herald