


G.F.C. NEWS



No. 1
1941



This Magazine is issued from the office of:

The Organising Secretary
George Formby Club
169 Oxford Street, W.1.

to whom all enquiries should be addressed.

EDITORIAL

At last! - you will all be saying and breathing a sigh of relief. No! We had not forgotten you, but unfortunately the Paper Control Board restricts the issue of the magazine during the war and not only will this copy have to last some time, but it will not be as elaborate as in the past.

First of all a special message from Beryl to Mrs. Martin, thanking her very much indeed for all the knitted goods she so kindly sent which, she can rest assured, have been distributed to the most deserving causes. We understand Mrs. Martin has sent some beautiful work and also very generously contributed £1 to the Formby Fund in aid of the Trawler Men's Widows and Orphans. Well done, Mrs. Martin. A special message too to Miss Attrill for so kindly donating a postal order to the same fund.

Thanks also from the President to his countless friends who so kindly sent greetings at the New Year and sincere regrets that both your George and Mrs. Formby have found it simply impossible to reply to them individually.

REGRETS. We are sorry we cannot supply any more blazer badges or club ties. The factories which normally supply these are now entirely concerned with essential war-time equipment, but they will be on sale again as soon as possible. Stationery too, is unobtainable at the moment.

THE PRESIDENT'S ENGAGEMENTS. Here is a summary of the immediate variety dates of your President:-

SCOTLAND has already had the pleasure of George's company for two weeks - at GLASGOW on FEBRUARY 24TH and EDINBURGH on MARCH 3RD. Other quickly following engagements are:-

MORECAMBE	-	MARCH 10.	A week
MANCHESTER	-	MARCH 17.	in each
NEWCASTLE	-	MARCH 24.	case.

If you are lucky enough to be within reach of these districts, you will be well advised to book early to avoid the rush!

OUR SERVING MEMBERS. A special message of good cheer and good luck to our increasing list of members of H.M. Forces. With every magazine we hope it will be the last war-time issue and we are still looking forward to an early VICTORY number.

Members will be glad to know that our President had a most successful season in Pantomine at Blackpool and has also completed his latest film "Turned Out Nice Again." "Spare A Copper" is being generally released on April 14th and we are sure you will all make a special effort to see George in this grand picture. It may be shown in your district before this date, so watch your local cinema announcements.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Formby have been putting in some excellent work at concerts recently, touring munition works and not only entertaining the workers during their lunch hour, but also again during the midnight breaks. You can imagine how thoroughly their performance was enjoyed.

RECORDS. Our President is still carrying on with the good work in spite of Home Guard duties and has managed to record the following:-

ON THE WIGAN BOAT EXPRESS.....) REGAL ZONOPHONE
DOWN THE OLD COAL HOLE.....) M.R.3325.

(MR. WU'S A WINDOW CLEANER NOW.....) REGAL ZONOPHONE
(GRANDAD'S FLANNELETTE NIGHTSHIRT....) M.R.3301
(COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS AND SMILE.....) REGAL ZONOPHONE
(OH! DON'T THE WIND BLOW COLD.....) M.R.3316

ALL FOUR FROM THE FILM "LET GOERGE DO IT."

YOU'VE GOT SOMETHING THERE.....) REGAL ZONOPHONE
I ALWAYS GET TO BED BY HALF-PAST NINE) M.R.3324

LANCASHIRE HOT POT SWINGERS.....) REGAL ZONOPHONE
WITH MY LITTLE STICK OF B'POOL ROCK.) M.R.3147

BLESS 'EM ALL.....) REGAL ZONOPHONE
LETTING THE NEW YEAR IN.....) M.R.3394

GUARDING THE HOME OF THE HOME GUARDS) REGAL ZONOPHONE
(I WISH I WAS BACK ON THE FARM.....) M.R.3411
(I'M THE UKELELE MAN.....) REGAL ZONOPHONE
(ON THE BEAT.....) M.R.3358

ALL THREE FROM THE FILM "SPARE A COPPER."

OUR LETTER BOX

We wish to thank all members who have written to us since the last issue of the NEWS and have pleasure in dealing with some of the letters below. Will those members who require a direct and personal reply to correspondence please enclose a stamped addressed envelope.

"I should very much like to start an autograph collection of film stars. So would you please ask any member if they have any spare autographs of Tyrone Power, Mickey Rooney or Jack Oakie. If not those, any others will do."

ERIC DRUITT, 16, LAVINGTON RD. BEDDINGTON, SURREY.

Now then some of you champion collectors, see if you can help Eric to make a start.

"If any members have any spare cigarette cards, I should be very pleased to have them and will pay all postage necessary if they will just let me know."

DOROTHY HOLMES, 17, HOWITT CRESCENT, UTTOXETER, STAFFS.

Can anyone do anything about this appeal?

"Would it be possible to let me know the addresses of Fritz Kreisler and Paul Robeson."

MASTER W.B. CRIBB, 20, DORE AVENUE, MANOR PARK, E.12.

As we cannot oblige, perhaps one of our members can.

"Would you mind asking a few members if they have any spare photographs of dance band leaders they can let me have, as I have started a collection of them and film stars and I only have one of George, so if any member would care to write and let me know if there is any star they want, I will exchange with them."

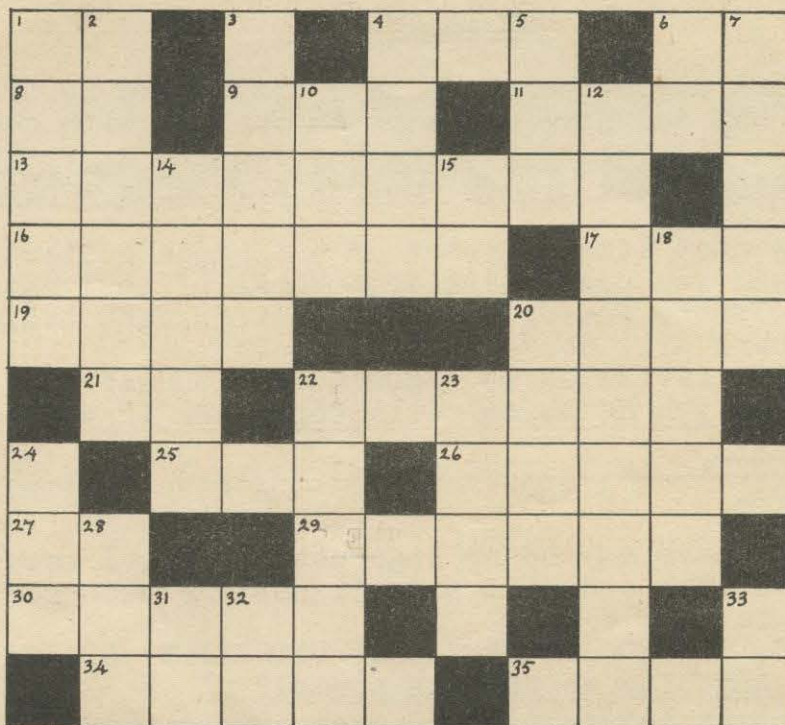
DOROTHY JONES, 15, HOLMESDALE ST, GRANGETOWN, CARDIFF.

Once more we must encroach on your generosity and ask you if you can assist a fellow member.

CONGRATULATIONS ON BEHALF OF ALL CLUB MEMBERS TO MR. F. WHITAKER, WHO IS NOW ENGAGED. WE WISH HIM THE VERY BEST OF LUCK IN THE FUTURE.

"Has any member any spare photographs of any film stars, as I want to start a collection."

TOMMY COSGROVE MILLAR, 69, NORTHDENE AVE, BRAKPAN, TRANSVAAL, S.AFRICA.
Here is an opportunity for you to assist one of our Colonial members.



ACROSS:

CLUES.

DOWN:

- 1. Florin (abb)
- 4. Implore:
- 6. Father:
- 8. Behold!
- 9. Town in Cambridge:
- 11. Spike of metal:
- 13. To issue in excess:
- 16. Ask:
- 17. Eggs:
- 19. Mineral salt:
- 20. Wild pig:
- 21. Half of yard:
- 22. Soaks in liquid:
- 25. Meadow:
- 26. Servant:
- 27. Not out:
- 29. Many girl's names:
- 30. Plaster:
- 34. Brag:
- 35. Oceans:

- 1. Flowers:
- 2. Beautiful:
- 3. Whey:
- 4. Most of an abyss:
- 5. African Antelope:
- 6. Mathematical term:
- 7. Change.
- 10. Repose:
- 12. It flies:
- 14. Peer:
- 15. Street (abbrev)
- 18. Fertile spots in desert:
- 20. Strike:
- 22. Wise ones:
- 23. Always:
- 24. Extremity:
- 28. Catch suddenly (slang)
- 31. Thus.
- 32. Cheerio!
- 33. Since:

DAVID BALHATCHET
 PORTHCOTHAN.
 N. CORNWALL.

SOLUTION TO CROSSWORD PUZZLE IN LAST ISSUE.

Across.

- | | |
|--------------|--------------|
| 1. Tears. | 19. Comb. |
| 3. Smash. | 20. Yea. |
| 7. Coil. | 21. Bit. |
| 9. Stir. | 23. Tendril. |
| 11. Terrier. | 27. Diet. |
| 14. Tie. | 28. News. |
| 16. Eon. | 29. Loyal. |
| 18. Crib. | 30. Chips. |

Down.

- | | |
|--------------|------------|
| 1. Tacit. | 13. Incur. |
| 2. Rile. | 15. Ice. |
| 4. Muse. | 17. Obi. |
| 5. Heron. | 20. Yodel. |
| 6. Par. | 22. Tusks. |
| 8. Iterate. | 24. Etna. |
| 10. Tremble. | 25. Dab. |
| 12. Robin. | 26. Inch. |

SENTRIES OF THE SKIES.

Way up in the heavens,
Sentries of the skies,
Fighting and avenging,
Each Englishman that dies;
Giving way to no man
An when its time to go
Die bravely at their great task
To make the whole world know
That Britain always conquers
And she'll always be
What these men have made her
Happy, Proud and Free.

GEORGE FOSTER.
WEST HARROW.

Soldier.

I want to thank you for the woolly vest you
sent me.

"Were you pleased?"

"Huh! I was tickled to death."

DOROTHY HOLMES.
UTTOXETER.

Prizes for contributions in this issue are awarded to:-

DAVID BALHATCHET
PORTHCOTHAN.

GEORGE FOSTER
WEST HARROW.

EILEEN CRESSWELL
GLOUCESTER.

PEN PALS

either living abroad or in
the British Isles.

JEAN CARLISLE
21, Melbourne Street,
Gloucester.

) I should very much like a pen pal. I
) am 14 years old and interested in
) film stars, sports, animals and
) theatricals.

W.B. BARLOW
Corrie, Charters Road,
Sunningdale, Berks.

) Pen pal required, boy or girl, aged
) 13-15, interested in films and boating.
) Living preferably within fifty miles
) radius of Ascot, Berks.

GEORGE HITCH,
42, Pollard Row,
Bethnal Green, E.2.

) would like pen pals of the opposite
) sex between ages of 16 and 20.
) Interested in all hobbies except stamp
) and autograph collecting. Best hobbies -
) films, stars, reading and cycling.
) Will be glad to hear from a girl abroad.

ARTHUR PINK,
5, Green Walk,
Whalley Range,
Manchester. 16.

) Will a boy or girl in any part of the
) world care to write to me? Interested
) in photography, stamps, the British
) Navy and films. I am 16 and would also
) like to make some personal friends
) living in Manchester.

JOAN FORBES,
11, Thames Street,
Princes Park,
Liverpool. 8.

) would like a pen friend from 14-18
) years old. I am 14 and interested in
) films, photograph collecting and sport,
) especially cycling and walking.

PRIVATE G. WHITEHEAD
7359958.

) asks all those who have kindly written
) to him to address all future correspondence
) to the Club as he is moved about so often.

JUNE PLATT
Penrhos College,
Chatsworth,
Nr. Bakewell, Derbyshire.

) would like a boy pen friend living
) in England, about 17 or 18 years of
) age. She is 15 years old.

JUNE WELCH
Penrhos College,
Chatsworth,
Nr. Bakewell, Derbyshire.

) would like an English boy pen friend
) about 17 or 18 years of age. She
) is 14 years old.

EILEEN CRESSWELL.
GLOUCESTER.

CATCHES.

If Dick's father is Tom's son,
What relation is Dick to Tom?

ANS. Grandson.

If a bottle and a cork cost $2\frac{1}{2}d.$ and the bottle is 2d.
more than the cork, how much did the cork cost?

ANS. $\frac{1}{4}d.$

A little boy walked into a butcher's shop and looked
round enquiringly.

Butcher. What have you lost sonny?

Little Boy. My dog.

Butcher. Well, when I whistled those sausages moved.

Wife. Bill has called for the wireless-repair money.

Husband. Tell him he's out of turn. I have'nt paid for
the wireless yet.

Little Tommy has just used a swear word.

"How dare you swear before your aunt Tommy,"
said his father.

"Well how did I know she wanted to swear first Daddy?"

Guest. (To hostess, as they walk towards the table)

"May I sit on your right hand?"

Hostess. "No, I'll have to eat with that, you'd better have a chair.

"Sir I want to have your daughter for my wife"

"Tell your wife she can't have her."

Customer. "Waiter, do you serve crabs here?"

Waiter. "We serve anyone sir."

ONE OR TWO DETAILS OF OUR PRESIDENT'S TENTH FILM

It is little wonder that George Formby is, for the third year in succession, top of the motion picture poll as Britain's favourite star when he turns out such excellent pictures as "Spare A Copper," which, as already mentioned, is due for release on April 14th.

In it, George appears as a War Reserve policeman with ambitions to get into the Flying Squad. His determination to make headway is proved when he succeeds in crushing attempts at sabotage in a shipyard, rounding up a gang of crooks into the bargain.

The story gives George the opportunity to return to motor-cycling for the speed sequences which always form an important angle in his stories. In addition, he has to drive a miniature car which was built specially for him for a "Wall of Death" performance.

The action of "Spare A Copper" takes place before the outbreak of war and is one of the funniest of the star's films. You may be sure that his ukelele is much in evidence in this picture, during the course of which he renders four new numbers.

During the making of the film, George had some very hectic adventures, as a result of which he is now in a position to assure all those who believe that hay is soft that they are labouring under a delusion. Hay may be soft to lie on, but it is uncomfortably prickly to lie in. George made this discovery when he had to crawl across a cart laden with hay and disappear in the centre of it all. He came through this sequence covered with scratches and with two large weals on his neck. This is only one part of a long scene in which our President holds up traffic in all directions and the largest sound stage at the Ealing studios became the scene of what was probably the most incredible traffic jam on record when these episodes were being filmed.

He also had to climb over a cart laden with calves, then scramble under several vans and cars, dragging a bicycle after him. "Film-making is so restful," says George!

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