No Limit

The Yorkshire Ukulele Circle Newsletter - January 1997
Edited by Peter Pollard - Volume 3 - No. 1



1997

Well, here we go again - another new year and lots of fun and jollification in store. Already there are calls for some Saturday concerts at Mirfield. Just make sure you all practise some new stuff and with this in mind you will find a good song on page 4 to get to grips with. Not the easiest of numbers but we must endeavour to maintain the standards within the Uke Circle as I'm sure you will agree. I trust that you will all support your newsletter in '97 and help to maintain the Uke Circle as the foremost ukulele gathering in the country. *A Happy New Year to one and all.*

The Power Of A Song

This is a picture of GFS President Dennis Taylor with of course his lovely wife Pat. The reason for Pat's joy is the fact that Dennis has just announced that he is going to start tipping up his wages! Actually the pic was taken in the Wilton Hotel, Blackpool during the Winter convention and Pat and Dennis are actually sing the song, "Ordinary People." This was the most memorable moment of the weekend because the lovely Pat is really a very nice singer and of course we all know how good our Dennis is. Words can't describe the atmosphere these two generated so the best thing is to get them up on stage and do it again. I can promise you a treat. Bring your hankies with you!

A Word From Our Chairman...



May I, through your magazine "No Limit" wish all the members of the Y.U.C. a very happy and prosperous new year for 1997.

What did 1996 hold for us - some very happy and some very sad times. Apart from the two meetings a month - Wakefield and Mirfield, many members attended the G.F.S. meetings in Blackpool and also branch meetings at Leeds, Sale and other venues further afield, and we were all made most welcome, as I hope we made welcome the friends who visited us.

The outstanding social events of '96 started with our Editor Peter Pollard's birthday party (the old git!!) What a night to remember. No Cookridge this year but again we were most welcome Nostal Priory (despite Dennis M's shorts!)

Many thanks once again for entertaining at A.E. Auto Parts "War On Cancer". Over £10,000 was raised by the event - super, and they want us back again this year. In November about ten members went along to York Street Working Men's Club, Wakefield to entertain ex-service men and women commemorating Armistice Day and we were again made very welcome.

The Christmas party at Mirfield seemed to go very well apart from some twerp forgetting the crackers - but Santa came and everyone received a present. A good night was had by all.

So may I, at this point thank all the people who helped to make this a memorable year - to **Dickie Speake** who's accompaniment on the keyboard makes us all sound great, and he also provides most of the equipment.

Thanks also to **Dennis Mitchell** who tirelessly transports all the equipment back and forth to the meetings. **Lionel Owen** who always makes sure we have enough cash in the kitty to carry on with, **John Beevers** who looks after our supplies, **Alan Buckley** who puts a lot of work in behind the scenes, and not forgetting yourself Peter for keeping us all informed through your magazine and the many other jobs you do. Thanks also to **George Butterworth** who always makes a wonderful Santa.

May I also say a big thank you to the Committee and staff at our new venue, Carrgate W.M.C. Wakefield who have really bent over backwards to make us feel at home. I am sure we all enjoyed the pie and pea supper in December - not quite a Christmas party but still a great night out.

And a final thanks to all you members who have supported us all year through.

Sadly let us remember our good friend George Crossland who passed away last year. Some of the newer members may not have known George as he had been ill for quite some time, but the older members will have fond memories whenever they hear anyone singing "The Lancashire Toreador" - George's favourite.

The year ended on a high note as Mac and Millie McGee and some of the ladies organised a Christmas party at the Pudsey Plonkers beginners night. The weather was terrible, but those who didn't make it missed a great ending to 1996 as the food and the company were excellent.

Cheers for now, keep plonking and let's make 1997 even better still.

I cannot let this piece from our Chairman close without mentioning one other who always gives the Yorkshire Ukulele Circle his heart and sole - yes, the man himse Paul Mountain who is of course ot resident M.C. and will always encoura our newer members and unstintingly giv up his own spot in the list of entertaine on many occasions to allow someone el in. When I think about it, Paul must l responsible for launching many people c to the stage for their first song includi your truly.

Final words from Kath Mountain, lor suffering better half of our Chairman "I'm resigning as Paul's Secretary until I can get his notes in the right order WHAT A PLONKER!!!

Kath is I think referring to Paul's writte notes but my wife Kathryn thinks she very lucky as she has to suffer my singi notes which are never in the right order!

GEORGE FORMBY - AT THE FLICKS

Our good friend Reg Thacker has once again worked a minor miracle in masterminding the release of another Compact Disc featuring everybody's hero - this one is entitled "George Formby - At The Flicks" and I can promise you a real treat. Twenty four superb tracks from a selection of George's films and all computer enhanced to give the best possible sound reproduction. It has to be said that Reg's collection of GF records are all in superb condition and with the benefit of modern technology this CD must rank with the best. A nice change as well is the fact that the quality of the sleeve and the CD itself are the best I have seen. Nice photos of George and Reg insisted that the record company actually put a picture of GF on the CD itself. He has also penned some very interesting sleeve notes and taking everything into consideration this is one release you should not miss. Not the cheapest at £10 but we all know in Yorkshire that you only get what you pay for. The best news comes last though - if you are a member of the George Formby Society you can purchase this CD for £8.00 - a genuine £2.00 reduction. You can order through Peter Pollard.



Bell Bottom George

Chords arranged by Dickie Speake

Now I can guess that some of you are wondering at my navy blue
Or how I came to be - Oh a sailor on the sea.
You may think that I'm too daft to know what's for'd and which is aft,
But when I've sung my song - Oh, you'll all agree your wrong.

A happy-go-lucky A.B. on the land or the sea
I know a few nautical games and my name's Bell Bottom George.
A girl in each port may be true of the boys dressed in blue.
A sailor I know has got three and it's me, Bell Bottom George.

It's the same for me if we sail to Tripoli or we go back home to Dover
I can go ashore and have one or two more till I'm feeling half seas over.



A Dickie Speake backing tape of this song is available from Dennis Mitchell - Price £2.50 contact Dennis on 01422 256891



Adventures I've had by the score, what a life what a war.
If ever you get in a scrap I'm your chap, Bell Bottom George.

When others are up to their necks pulling ropes, scrubbing decks,
Who slips on the soap and goes - whizz - down on his Bell Bottom George.

The Admiral's not a bad guy, we get on, he and I,
He speaks when we meet on the stairs, gangway there Bell Bottom George.

And the Chief is grand so I always lend a hand
With a grin and a smart "Aye, Aye, Sir."
And it's fun 'by gum' when I've had a tot of rum,
I'm the champion main brace splicer.

I've sailed the Dead Sea and the Med and the Black and the Red
There's only the suck it and see left for me, Bell Bottom George

Top Of The Pops

1. Leaning On A Lamp Post
2. When I'm Cleaning Windows
3. With My Little Stick Of Blackpool Rock
4. Our Sergeant Major
5. Mr Wu's A Window Cleaner Now
6. The Lancashire Toreador
7. Chinese Laundry Blues
8. Bless 'Em All
9. In My Little Snapshot Album
10. Auntie Maggies Remedy
11. Sitting On The Sands All Night
12. Mother What'll I Do Now
13. It's Turned Out Nice Again
14. Sitting On The Ice In The Ice Rink
15. The Window Cleaner (No. 2)
16. Riding In The T.T. Races
17. I Don't Like
18. Madam Moscovitch
19. With My Little Ukulele In My Hand
20. Swimmin' With The Wimmin'



With the release of Formby At T Flicks this month, there are now *eighte* different CD's on the market, f exceeding the vinyl output of the o long player. Of course many of t tracks on the CD's will be duplicat and this gives us a insight into just wh the George Formby Hit Parade wou feature. This is therefore the first offici chart of George Formby bestsellers.



"A fellow in the forces was writing a letter" - how many times did we hear that song in 1996, not enough by the antics of these enthralled party go'ers.





Two totally different styles but they both speak the same language. Preston's Alan Southworth and Doncaster's Charles Hayes make sure the entertainment flows freely.



The party's in full swing and Santa is doing his stuff dispensing Christmas gifts to all the lucky people who managed to get to Mirfield for the party night. Fred Baxendale is seen here receiving his official "I Am A Yorkshire Man" papers - it looks as if Peter Firth has just received his "I Am A Lancashire Man" papers!!!



We've all heard they song but just to prove that it's true, one more chorus of - "I saw Mummy kissing Santa Claus"
George "Santa" Butterworth gets his Christmas presents early from his lovely wife Brenda.

All Our Yesterdays - Vellum - June 1978

The Yorkshire Ukulele Circle held its first Annual General Meeting in March and although we have been meeting for the last three years, we only made it official as a body twelve months ago, from a small beginning of around six members we are now twenty seven and still growing.

The committee was resolved and was voted back in again by the members, Secretary Simon Black, Treasurer Dickie Speake, and myself as Chairman. It was voted that we have another Pleasure cruise this year, and if possible carry on with a concert in the evening.

A film show was given by Simon Black, the film a shortened version of "No Limit" where George sang T.T. Races and the film showed the whole of the race, which was kindly loaned by Simon Black. Mr George Galloway brought a film of his own and helped with the show, we then had a small buffet supper followed by a concert.

We are very fortunate that we have been able to rent a concert room with a bar at a reasonable cost and our meetings now take place the third Monday in the month at the Butterfield Tank Works Social Club, Shipley. If any member or friends of the G.F.S. are able to make it to any of our meetings, they will be more than welcome as most of our members are also members of the George Formby Society, and if anyone is interested they could contact Mr. S. Black on Bradford -------- who will be pleased to furnish them with details.

I would like to add my personal thanks and also the thanks of the other members of the Ukulele Circle to the committee of the George Formby Society for a really great time at the Blackpool meeting.

Keep up the good work with the Vellum, This way we at least are able to keep in touch with everybody.

Happy plonking

Paul Mountain - Chairman of the Yorkshire Ukulele Circle.

Trevor Smith

The New Year has got off to the worst possible start with the death of one of our members, Huddersfield based Trevor Smith. Trevor wasn't a George Formby exponent but supplied his own brand of entertainment with mouth organ and wooden ukulele. He was also more a visitor at the Mirfield branch. Always a quiet and unassuming man, I read with interest of his exploits within the swimming world and found myself thinking how sad it is that we get to know people and yet we know nothing about them at all. Trevor was a successful long distance swimmer and had in fact was a past president of the British Long Distance swimming Association. He was also Yorkshire's first Morecambe Bay champion in 1948 and he had completed the Windermere, Ullswater and Coniston swims. Trevor usually had something a bit different to entertain us with and will be missed by all his pals within the Yorkshire Ukulele Circle. We were represented at Trevor's funeral by Tony Marshall, Roy Fielding and Don Riley and Roy reports that an enormous crowd of people turned up to pay their last respects and it was in fact 'standing room only'. A poignant moment was at the end of the funeral service "Duelling Banjos" was played. We extend our condolences to Trevor's family.



Support the Newsletter

Remember!

Fingers Wants Facts!!!

1997

The Yorkshire Ukulele Circle meets at

- Carrgate WMC -

1st Tuesday in the month.

- Mirfield Conservative Club -

3rd Tuesday in the month.