

THE GOONIST MOVEMENT

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No. 1.

Dear *John*

First of all let us apologise to those of you who waited patiently for your membership cards. The delay was due to a hold-up in the printing of them owing to the Christmas rush.

The Goons have asked us to express their thanks to all of you who have joined. Already the Club has developed into something of an international body, as we have members in Malta, France and Cyprus, and we have our own sponser in Scotland.

After this month page 6 will be devoted to your views and criticisms on the GOON SHOW and the Club, so we invite you to write in to us in time for next month's magazine to go to print (that is a fortnight from now).

We know you all must feel as we do that the GOON SHOW is the most popular radio programme in the country, and therefore we are sure you will do all you can to make this the Club with the largest following in the British Isles.

May we remind all of you that when writing in to us (if you need a reply) to enclose a stamped addressed envelope so that the cost of postage will not be so heavy on the Club's funds.

Yours,

Goy & Payne

PETER

B I O

Born Southsea, 1925 of theatrical stock. His Mother and Father were in show business, and his Grandmother was the first person to introduce revue in this country. They had such titles as "Splash Me" and "Have a Dip". Uncle Bert is Manager of London's Garrick Theatre.

Started his career as a drummer with several well-known bands, but it was while serving in the R.A.F. in India that he began his impressions. He then joined "The Gang Show" and toured the Middle East.

His first broadcast came about as a result of his ringing up producer Roy Spear and pretending to be Kenneth Horne and Richard Murdoch recommending himself. In 1948 he made a hit at the Windmill Theatre, and the "GOON SHOW" on the air, with Harry and Spike, started in 1951 and has been playing intermittently ever since.

In 1954 he was chosen to appear in the Royal Command Variety Performance, and that year also marked his debut in pantomime as the Baron in "Mother Goose" at the London Paladium. He also scored a great success in the T.V. series "and so to Bentley" in which he played many character parts.

He has also been very successful in variety this season.

He is married to actress Anne Hayes and they

R A P H Y

have one son, Michael, who is nearly two.

Peter's two favourite hobbies are photography and cars, and any free time he may have, he spends weightlifting.

Although all the characters that Peter has created has built him up a reputation of being one of our greatest entertainers, his ambition is to do a straight play on the London Stage.

Recently he has opened up a brilliant career for himself as a straight actor in films. After "Orders Are Orders" released early last year, in which he played Brian Reece's batman; came "John and Julie", and on December 8th. his latest film "The Ladykillers" with Alec Guinness and Herbert Lom was premiered at the Odeon, Leicester Square.

Even though this film has won him considerable praise he confesses that he is still a "Goon" at heart.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

We would like to congratulate the following members who celebrate their birthday this month:-

Gillian Walker (7th)	Stephen Webb (25th)
David Radcliffe (12th)	Joan Bridgnell (30th)
Alan Ellam (16th)	Don Rainbow (31st)

FILMS

Peter and Spike have now completed their second film called "The Case of the Mukkinese Battle-Horn".

As you are, probably, now all aware, Peter has completed a film starring Alec Guinness called "The Ladykillers". This shows that besides being a first rate impressionist and comedian Peter also proves his acting ability.

Ray too has made a film including our honorary member Marion, with the Eric Winstone Orchestra.

RECORDS

Harry's record - Strange Harmony of Contrasts
On with the Motley- PB 523.

We have heard from Philip's Record Company that this disc is number two on their Hit Parade and is selling in its thousands.

We congratulate Harry on this record getting into the Best Sellers list as this is the first classical record to do so for many months, and we feel that at least part of its success must be due to our members.

Harry is now under recording contract with this Company and has made another record which is due for release very shortly now - this is "Stars are Brightly Shining" from Tosca,

coupled with "None shall Sleep" from Tuarandot. On both these records the orchestra is under the direction of another member of the GOON SHOW - Wally Stott.

We have received many letters asking what has become of the record Peter and Spike made of "Unchained Melody". This, we regret to say, has been withdrawn by Parlophone, because the music company that held the copyright of the original song, thought it might interfere with the serious recordings of it.

Wally has just recorded a 12 inch L.P. which is being sent to the United States.

TELEVISION

Peter has recently completed twelve fifteen minute plays for American Television in which he plays all the roles himself, and next year we may see them on our cinema screens in this country.

PANTOMINE

On December 20th. in Manchester, "Cinderella" had its opening night starring Harry as Buttons. This is scheduled to run for two months, and we have since heard that it is a huge success.

NEWS AND VIEWS

VARIETY

Unfortunately Spike will not be doing very much variety in the future, as he is going to concentrate more upon his writing.

Harry may star in a resident Paladium Show next summer. We will try to confirm this and give you more details in our next magazine.

THE POPULARITY OF THE GOONS

Perhaps you will understand, those of you who have written to the B.B.C. for tickets for the GOON SHOW, why you have to wait so long, when we say that there is a waiting list of over a thousand applications. The listening public to "our Show" is estimated at well over ten million every week, so perhaps "the powers that be" will realise it is time that the Goons won the Radio Award for the year.

In four years the Show has developed more pulling power than any other comedy programme since "Itma", and it is the only show whose audience is increasing in spite of T.V.

Next month we hope to print a letter from Canada, outlining the response of the Canadian people to "our show", which is now broadcast to all the English speaking countries in the world through the General Overseas Service, but contrary to the statement in the New Musical Express a couple of weeks ago, the series will not be extended but will finish on March 13th. as scheduled.

G

COMPETITION

RULES

1. Entrance fee payable only by 3- 1½d stamps.
2. First all correct entry will receive a Cash Prize.
3. Mark your envelope "Competition".
4. All entries must be in, not later than January 16th.
5. Send your entries to:- 17a, Gransden Avenue, Hackney, London. E.8.

QUESTIONS

1. Who was the first producer of the "GOON SHOW"?
2. Which three instruments does Spike play?
3. Where are the birthplaces of these three?

(a) Ray (b) Spike (c) Harry

WHO PLAYS WHO

Several members have asked us to give a list of which characters are played by whom in the Show.

HARRY

NEDDIE SEAGOON

PETER

BLUEBOTTLE

MAJOR BLODNOCK

HENRY CRUN

GRYTPYPE THYNNE

SPIKE

ECCLES

MINNIE BANNISTER

MORIARTY

DATE SHEET

Dec 20th- February Harry in Cinderella at
Palace Theatre Manchester
Jan 1st Recording of GOON SHOW
Jan 3rd First Broadcast of GOON SHOW
Jan 6th Peter in "Henry Hall's Guest
Night". (I.B.C.Radio)
Jan 7th Repeat of GOON SHOW
Jan 8th Recording
Jan 10th First Broadcast
Jan 14th Repeat
Jan 15th Recording
Jan 16th Peter in "Starstruck"(BBC Radio)
Jan 17th First Broadcast
Jan 21st Repeat
Jan 22nd Recording
Jan 23rd Peter and Spike in Variety at
Empire Theatre, Chatham.
Jan 24th First Broadcast
Jan 28th Repeat
Jan 29th Recording
Jan 30th Peter in Variety at Grand
Theatre, Southampton.
Jan 31st First Broadcast

COACH PARTY TO CHATHAM

We would like to remind you that we are arranging to go down and see Peter and Spike at Chatham on the 28th of this month. We have written to most of our London members, but if by any chance we have overlooked you, and you are interested in coming; please contact us immediately.

STOP PRESS

We have just received confirmation that Harry is to star in the Paladium show next summer, starting 3rd week in July.

If you have not already done so and you are willing to subscribe to Spike's birthday present, could you please send an uncrossed 6d. postal order to your respective branch Thanks