

The

Goonist

MOVEMENT

The Official Club
for the
Goon Show

THE GOONIST MOVEMENT

No. 3

Joyce,
40, Ashcroft Avenue,
Blackfen, Sidcup,
Kent.

Rayna,
17a, Gransden Avenue,
Hackney. E.8.
London.

Bexleyheath 7501

AMHerst 3619

Dear Members,

May we thank you once again for all your letters in appreciation of last month's magazine. We do like to hear from you, so please keep on writing.

We regret to say that the last recording of "Our Show" takes place this month, and we would like to take this opportunity of thanking Spike for the wonderful scripts he has written for this series. Each one was a masterpiece of "Goonery".

A number of our new members have written to us asking for a copy of January's magazine, but unfortunately, much as we regret this, we are not able to supply back numbers.

We have had many requests to start a Pen-friend service in the Club, so members who are interested, please write to either one of us, stating your age and hobbies, and we will print as many names as we have room for in April's edition.

We are sorry to be so insistent with the subject of postage, but unless you enclose a stamped addressed envelope when asking questions, we cannot guarantee a reply.

Yours,

Rayna and Joyce.

WALKING BACKWARDS
a dramatic short story written
by Spike.

Hercules Bleriotte snuggled down in his favourite chair. He was a tall man (as you, dear reader, will observe, when he stands up.) He puffed casually on an opal samovar (but then you can see) a wisp of smoke escaped from the bowl - he inserted a fresh wisp. To all outward appearances Hercules Bleriotte was at peace with the world but! a hurried X-ray plate showed that his inward appearance differed drastically. (Oh God, Nature can be cruel).

Hercules Bleriotte was in a state of seething acute agitation. On the table before him lay a freshly opened letter which he was even now freshly reading. "Your mistress, Madame Dupont, is in our hands. Do not tell the police, etc.etc.etc." (usual stuff). "Madame Dupont ? Kidnapped?" (I should not read any further, it is pretty grim from here on. I am writing it and I am fed up already), "Sapristi" quotes Hercules. He stood up: he reeled forward, he reeled backwards, he reeled sideways, and finally reeled upright. A second sense told him danger was nigh. In one tigerish bound he leapt behind the firescreen not a moment too soon. A mere eight hours later a brick landed where he had stood. (I should mention, dear reader, that a brick hit him the moment he had leapt behind that firescreen). He grabbed the phone. "Le Police" he gabbled in fluent French. In a matter of moments the Maria Noir was at the door. A tall handsome gendarme entered, followed by trente deux (32) French policemen. In their midst stood a short bearded man in the uniform of a private detective. He doffed his hat. "We are police" he said with a certain air of confidence. (You see he knew). "I am glad you came said Hercules,

FOR CHRISTMAS
specially for "The Movement"

"make yourselves at home". In a few minutes they had accepted his invitation. Several were in the garden sipping wine and mowing the lawn, two had gone upstairs and were sleeping softly with the blinds drawn, while the rest sat around the house spitting and making little raffia mats.

Chapter Two - All's Well that Ends Well.

Next morning the bearded private detective appeared on the landing wearing spats and Hercules' best dressing gown. "Quelle belle jour" he said. After breakfast he finally cornered Hercules. Why are you holding us all prisoners here?" Hercules blanched blanche, and reeling obliquely, handed this kidnap note to the bearded private detective. "Sacre blue, this note is no concern of mine, it is addressed to you". But Monsieur private detective, I called you because I was in trouble". "Why should you", replied the detective, "when I am in trouble I never phone you. This is a job for the police" - and by God dear reader, so it was. Join the police and help.

Author's Note

I know the story lacks that vital quality, but what the hell?.

PHOTOGRAPHS

Photographs are now available of Spike, so all members who wish to have one of these, please send a stamped addressed envelope to Rayna, and she will forward one on to you.

HARRY

It was in Swansea on September 8th., 1921, that Harry Donald Secombe was born. He was the second of three children - before him came his brother Fred, and later his sister Carol.

At school, Harry showed some of his talents which have earned him his place in the entertainment world today. He went to St. Thomas's Council School until he was 11. A good scholar, English was his best subject, and singing. Yes, the wonderful voice he was endowed with was only a secondary consideration to Harry until a few years ago, when he found that he had a voice that people really wanted to hear, and when he was 8 years old, he joined the St. Thomas Church choir. The choir was a great joy to Harry, and his bouncing vitality caused many an uproar among his fellow choristers. Once, at the age of 17, when he was in the Territorials and still in the choir, one Sunday morning he just managed to finish manoeuvres in time to get to church. He slung his cassock over his uniform and took part in the service.

When he left St. Thomas's school, Harry joined his brother Fred at Dynevor Secondary School. Fred, who always wanted to be a Minister, was an excellent scholar, and in his role as Prefect was well able to keep an eye on his mischeivous brother. English again proved to be Harry's best subject, quickly followed by literature and art. He obtained his school certificate, and apart from a certain yearning towards journalism, he had no particular aspirations.

PART 1.

By the time he left school at the age of 16, Harry was quite a seasoned entertainer, for he had been busy appearing at concerts with his sister Carol. In these days, he was doing impersonations, a favourite one being Stanley Holloway. After school came work. In the back of his mind he had the subconscious urge to want to go on the stage, but it was not strong enough to make him decide upon it as a career as yet. Instead, he chose office work, and continued in this somewhat uneventful career until the age of 17 when he joined the Territorials. Then came the war, and at 17 years of age, Harry found himself in the Army.

He was soon posted abroad and at that time had become a lance-bombardier in the Range Finding Section attached to 321 Battery, 123rd. Regiment Field Artillery. He was in the first landing in North Africa, followed by Sicilly and Italy, and had many narrow escapes when serving in those countries. It was while he was in the Army that Harry met Len Lightowler, who was an excellent pianist. Both had the same interest - that of show business - and whenever Harry put on a show for his friends, Len would accompany him at the piano. It was then that he said to his Leeds-born friend - "If I ever get on in show business Len, I would like you to come and join me". Today Len Lightowler is not only Harry's pianist, but his manager as well.

(continued next time)

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

We would like to congratulate all members who celebrate their birthday this month.

"GOONREEL"

THE POPULARITY OF THE GOONS

We would like to thank those of you who wrote to the Head of Variety about the abolition of the Saturday repeats. We are afraid, however, that these did not alter the state of affairs, and we now quote an extract from a letter we have received from the B.B.C. explaining the reason for this.

"We are sorry that because of revised programme arrangements, the repeat of this in the Light Programme has had to be discontinued for the time being, as it is not possible at the moment to find room for it in the schedule".

To bring you out of the depths of despair, we have a few pieces of wonderful news.

There will be repeats of "Our Show" on the 27th. March, and the 3rd. and 10th. of April.

On St.David's Day (March 1st.) there will be a special 7½ minute Show, and starting on May 25th. for eight weeks, there will be a repeat of some of the Shows in this series.

BADGES

We are contemplating designing a badge, and if you have any ideas on the subject, we should like to hear from you.

T. V.

As you already know, Harry has been invited to appear on the Ed. Sullivan T.V.Show in New York.

At the time of print the date for this was not settled, but we will outline his plans.

After the last recordings of "Our Show" he is flying to Bermuda to spend a holiday. He will then travel through America, and appear on the T.V.Show, and will then come back to London to star at the Palladium at the end of May.

COMPETITION

RULES

1. Entrance fee payable only by 3-1½d stamps.
2. The best entry will be printed, and entrant will receive a Cash Prize.
3. Mark your envelope "Competition".
4. Entries to be in, not later than 12th.March.
5. Send your entries to Rayna.

We have decided to repeat our last Competition as February's magazine was not issued until a few days before the closing date for entries.

For this competition we invite you to send us your opinion of your favourite character in the Show, with your reasons. We will print the winning entry, and also take a vote, so even if you do not enter the competition, we would like to know who your vote would go to.

GET WELL SOON

As you probable know Wally who conducts the Orchestra in "Our Show" is ill, and we know we are speaking on behalf of you all, when we say "Get Well Soon".

DATE SHEET

March 1st- 10th. Harry in Cinderella at Palace
Theatre, Manchester.
March 1st Ray at Queen's Hall, Barnstable.
March 2nd Peter and Max (I.T.V.)
March 2nd Ray at Pump Room, Bath.
March 3rd Ray at Town Hall, Oxford.
March 4th Recording
March 6th First Broadcast
March 8th Ray at Co-operative Hall, Nuneaton.
March 9th Peter and Max (I.T.V.)
March 9th Ray at Astoria Ballroom, Nottingham
March 10th Ray at Queen's Hall, Preston.
March 11th Recording
March 13th First Broadcast
March 13th Ray in "Festival of Dance Music,"
Royal Albert Hall.
March 16th Peter and Max (I.T.V.)
March 16th Ray at Savoy Ballroom, Southsea.
March 18th LAST RECORDING
March 20th First Broadcast
March 23rd Peter and Max (I.T.V.)
March 23rd Ray at Floral Hall, Gorleston.
March 24th Ray in A.T.V. Music Shop.
March 25th Ray at Colston Hall, Bristol.
March 27th Repeat
March 29th Ray at Baths Hall, Barnsley.
March 31st Ray at Town Hall, Longton.

ADDRESSES

We have had numerous letters asking for
"The Goon's" home addresses and telephone numbers.

We are sorry, but we cannot disclose them.
