

Update Number Seven

January and February 2018

“At last we’re getting some place”



TWO THOUSAND AND EIGHTEEN

Can you believe it? Where do the years go? Seven months ago Paul and I put our hands up to suggest that the Saps At Sea would host the Laurel & Hardy UK Convention next year in Norwich. Now it is next year! Which reminds me that I guess we had better find a hotel, arrange some things to do in Norwich, book the coaches, chose the meals and make sure that I am free to be there.

Seriously, it is all looking good. I have even ordered sunshine for the weekend. I have friends in high places! Over 100 attendees have now paid in full and most others are well on schedule which is brilliant – thank you folk. Just a reminder that all monies are due to be paid by February 1st.

EXTRA NIGHTS AT THE HOTEL

Paul and I will be going the Hotel Mercure on 17th January so please contact me if you have any queries relating to your stay there that haven't been covered. Also a further reminder that until the end of January you can book extra nights at the hotel by contacting me.

SONS ENTERTAIN

Can you do any of these things or maybe something else? One of the highlights of the UK Sons Convention is 'Sons Entertain'. So brush away the cobwebs, step away from embarrassment and let your hair down because 'Sons Entertain' in Norwich will be on the last night and we want YOU to be part of it. The emphasis is on having FUN.



If you would like to take part, please liaise with our wonderful compere, John Ullah (he can't let his hair down).

Contact him by e-mail:- j.ullah@blueyonder.co.uk



“DON'T TELL HIM PIKE”

Who could not like ‘Dad’s Army’? Created by Jimmy Perry and David Croft, this wonderful series about the British Home Guard in the Second World War, ran for nine series with 80 episodes. There was a spin-off radio series, a stage musical and a film. It was wonderfully cast and the public took the characters to their hearts.



We are delighted that we have been able to organise a private visit to the Dad’s Army Museum in Thetford. The lovely museum staff are really looking forward to seeing the ‘Sons of the Desert’.

Although they need to be finalised, the arrangements are that we will travel by coach to Thetford, for our two hour visit. We will be in three coaches and upon arrival we will stay in separate groups and have designated museum guides for each group. The groups will rotate so that everyone can see

- **Dad’s Army Museum** –*there are some excellent exhibits and this will bring back happy memories of what a wonderful family show it was. There is a sales room here*
- **Charles Burrell Museum** – *this is a celebration of steam power and transport. Of particular interest and very photogenic is Jones’ Ford Butcher’s van used in the series*



- **Guided Dad’s Army Short Tour** - *there are many locations in Thetford that were used in the filming of the series. We will see some of these in this walk and the statue of Arthur Lowe as Captain Mainwaring*

PEE WEE AND GAMES

Now in case you have been polishing up on your Pee Wee skills (I am hopeless at it) or working out at the gymnasium to excel at the Convention games, I have some bad news for you. All the games will take place indoors at the hotel and they have a bit of pub-theme to them, including our version of Pee Wee, in which everyone has an equal chance to win.

The games will be available to play on the Friday afternoon and staged in an



area adjacent to the sales room, not too far from the bar and Registration. To cater for late arrivals on the Friday, we intend to have them available again on the Saturday afternoon if time permits.

BS There will be no games involving snooker cues and glass cabinets!

and finally.....

Once again, my thanks to everyone for the enthusiasm and interest expressed in the Norwich Convention. We want it to be an enjoyable, entertaining, comfortable, stress-free and sociable weekend for everyone. And for those of you who are attending a UK Laurel & Hardy Convention for the first time, we thank you for 'breaking the ice' by coming to Norwich. We hope that, like all the regulars, you will want to return for more of the same in the years ahead. Just like flu, it can become contagious.....but it is much more fun than flu!

HOTEL DETAILS

<http://www.accorhotels.com/gb/hotel-8321-mercure-norwich-hotel/index.shtml>

The address of the hotel is:- **Mercure Hotel, 121-131, Boioundary Road, Norwich, NR3 2BA**



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