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**QM FORMER STAFF ASSOCIATION**

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Hon Treasurer and Social Secretary  
Mrs B Paine  
50 Tudor Road  
East Ham London E6 1DR

January 2017

Dear Member

Although we have already arrived at mid-January, it's not too late send you wishes for a happy and healthy 2017.

Barbara Coughlin recently spoke to Beryl Paine on the 'phone and asked to be remembered to her friends in the Association.

We are pleased to welcome a new member: **Christopher Sankey**, who was Assistant Finance Director at Barts Medical College.

Sadly, we have to report three deaths:

**Peter Newman**, ex Geography, died on 27<sup>th</sup> December. His daughter, Lesley, requested that a donation be sent to the Bomber Command Association and this has been done.

**Professor Rawstron**, ex Geography, was tragically killed in a road accident on 23<sup>rd</sup> December. We only have this information from an obituary published in "The Times". We would like to make a donation to a charity in his memory but we do not have any family contact numbers. If anyone has contact with his family and could give us this information, we would be grateful.

**Peter Browne**, ex Bart's, who only joined the Association a few months ago, has died of cancer. We have contacted his family to ask about their wishes for a donation to a charity. His funeral is being held on 20<sup>th</sup> January at St Elizabeth's Church in Richmond.

**BERYL RYAN WRITES: Visit to the Aldwych Theatre to see the musical "Beautiful" on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2016:** About 16 members of the FSA went to see this delightful musical about Carole King, the chart-topping music legend who was an ordinary girl with an extraordinary talent. She fought her way into the record industry as a teenager and sold her first hit "Will you still love me tomorrow" when she was just seventeen. By the time she was twenty she was writing number one hits for the biggest stars in rock and roll, including the Drifters, Aretha Franklin and the Monkees.

"Beautiful" is the story of Carole King's journey from schoolgirl to superstar, from her relationship with her husband and song-writing partner and of their close relationship and friendly rivalry with fellow song writers to her remarkable rise to stardom. Along the way, she became one of the most successful solo acts in popular music history. She was a great singer and an accomplished pianist.

We had very good seats in the Dress Circle and I feel sure everyone enjoyed this very uplifting show.

**Beryl**

**BERYL PAINE WRITES:** I was pleased to see so many members at the Christmas lunch and many thanks for all the cards I received, one of which, from Anna and Egon Gruber, contained a poem headed "Rejoice", written by Anna, which has been published in "An Anthology of Verse" and is kept in the British Library. Here it is for you all to enjoy. Congratulations Anna.

**REJOICE by Anna Gruber**

There is a star in the heaven afar  
A star so bright  
All through the night  
To show us the way  
Lighten dark nights and days.

Heavenly choirs  
With trumpets and lyres  
Singing and winging  
Their way down to earth  
Announcing our Saviour's birth.

Jubilations amongst all nations  
Rejoice, pray and sing  
God's son is born  
Our heavenly King.

Last July we visited the Banqueting House in Whitehall, the only part of the Palace of Whitehall to survive the Great Fire of London, which started on 2<sup>nd</sup> September 1666 and destroyed much of the City. For a few months, the Museum of London has had a special exhibition to commemorate the 350<sup>th</sup> anniversary, where the sights and sounds as the fire spread through the City can be experienced. I have made a booking for 2 pm on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March and have been advised that the visit will take between one/one and a half hours. There is a café in the museum and many places in which to eat/drink in the surrounding area, including in the Barbican. The museum is situated at 150 London Wall and the nearest tube stations are St Paul's, Moorgate and Barbican. Normal entrance to the museum is free but there is a charge for the Great Fire Exhibition and this will cost you a subsidised sum of £4.

I know those of you who went to the Brick Lane Music Hall last year thoroughly enjoyed the show and said you would certainly like to go again. On New Year's Day I tried to book for a St George's Day theme show in April but almost four months ahead, found it was fully booked. Not to be outdone, I tried instead for June, when they are putting on a few shows for their 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary and could hardly believe that it is also fully booked. However, there are sometimes cancellations nearer the date, so we are on a waiting list. It does show how popular the Music Hall is.

Meanwhile, 24 people who returned the reply slip from the November newsletter are going in May to see "42<sup>nd</sup> Street" which opens at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane at the end of March.

Two years ago, we went to see "The Play That Goes Wrong" which was hilarious from beginning to end. Last year "The Comedy about a Bank Robbery" was put on by the same company at the Criterion Theatre but there were no mid-week matinées. Now, for a few weeks only from 26<sup>th</sup> April to 12<sup>th</sup> July there will be a Wednesday matinée so I have booked seats for 7<sup>th</sup> June at 2.30 pm at a cost of £29.50 (normal price £46.50). Normally, of course, I would not book so far ahead but as "42<sup>nd</sup> Street", when special offers arise I take advantage if I can.

Please complete the attached reply slips and return to me, together with remittance and self-addressed envelope for theatre tickets – a stamp is not necessary.

Finally, a reminder to those listed below that their membership subscription of £5 per annum, which was due on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2016, is still outstanding and should be sent as soon as possible:

F Dick  
J and L Lambert  
J Webster.

C Foreman  
J Menter

R Hook  
E Rafferty

**Beryl**

Yours sincerely



**Sheila Fenn**  
**Hon Secretary**

**QM FORMER STAFF ASSOCIATION – REPLY SLIP FOR RETURN TO:  
Mrs B Paine, 50 Tudor Road, East Ham, London, E6 1DR**

**Please make cheques payable to QM Former Staff Association**

**MUSEUM OF LONDON – GREAT FIRE OF LONDON EXHIBITION  
WEDNESDAY 8<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2017 at 2 pm**

NAME .....

NUMBER AT £4 .....

TOTAL ENCLOSED £ .....

**Please return to Mrs B Paine at above address, to arrive no later than Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2017.**



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**“THE COMEDY OF A BANK ROBBERY”  
CRITERION THEATRE, PICCADILLY  
WEDNESDAY 7<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2017 at 2.30 pm**

NAME .....

NUMBER AT £29.50 .....

TOTAL ENCLOSED £ .....

**Please return to Mrs B Paine at above address, to arrive no later than Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2017, together with an addressed envelope (no stamp needed).**