


# G.F.C. NEWS



No. 2  
1940.



This Magazine is issued from the office of:

**The Organising Secretary**  
**George Formby Club**  
**169 Oxford Street, W.1.**

to whom all enquiries should be addressed.

## EDITORIAL

Well, here we are again, and although we have been a little bit longer than usual, better late than never!

You have no doubt all heard that Mr. & Mrs. Formby have been in France entertaining the troops, where they have had a terrific reception. We expect some of you have seen them on the news reels and you can take it from us, they put their heart and soul into the task of affording amusement to our fighting forces.....which reminds us.....you will remember in our last issue we made an appeal for Mr. J.B. Bowker, our first member of the B.E.F., well, since then we have had notification of several other members who are in various branches of the services and we are hoping to send them all a packet of cigarettes if funds permit. Unfortunately, to date, we have only received a small sum. By the time you receive this we will have posted a small parcel of cigarettes to Mr. Bowker and will keep the balance until we have a sufficient amount of money to provide smokes for the next member on the list...and so on.

We give below, complete list of serving members received to date:-

935138, J.B. Bowker,  
1st Sound Ranging Battery.  
B.E.F.

Fus.F. Clark, 6465003,  
Z. Infantry Coy,  
Royal Fusiliers.

6846445, F. Billington,  
1st Batt. Princess Louise  
Regiment.

Signalman Harold Downing,  
NoL2593584,  
2nd Army Signals.

Fred Whittaker,  
R.A.F.

Mr. William Bennion,  
Somewhere in the Navy.

Dennis Pitkeathley,  
Somewhere in the Navy.

Pte. G.W. Whitehead  
No: 2 Company,  
R.A.M.C.

Pte. Ernest Scales, 7616117.  
R.A.O.C.

THE FORMBY FLORIN FUND. You will be pleased to know that our President has formed a new war charity. He hopes to raise a hundred thousand florins for the dependents of trawler men who have lost their lives at sea. We are sure you will all join us in wishing him every success in his very noble effort.

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We are extremely sorry to have to announce the death of one of our most enthusiastic members.

LESLIE SKEEL of 61, VICTORIA ROAD, EDMONTON, N.9. had been a cripple from birth, but in spite of his disability he was one of our President's keenest fans.

He passed away after a tragic accident and we are sure you will all join us in conveying our deepest sympathy to his parents for their sad bereavement.

They have written to us asking if we will thank members of the Club for their past kindly letters and interest in Leslie.

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Owing to the difficulty of obtaining paper supplies we are forced to drastically cut down this issue. To the many members who have sent long lists of autographs we express our regrets. In future we can only print your name, and give your "want". It is our intention to keep the Formby Flag Flying as long as possible but as time goes on and as this "blue pencil" war continues we may have to still further economise. All being well we shall be with you again about the end of June or early July. In the meantime - keep smiling - chins up - and heres hoping that our next issue will find us all back to normal - with grins instead of guns - and in the famous words of our famous President - "Its turned out nice again."

We had a considerable number of entries to the Mains puzzle and it was apparent that you all thoroughly enjoyed working it out. In all cases, except the winner's, you drew at least one of the mains through one and sometimes two of the houses, but we think you will agree that Mr. Allard's idea of bringing the gas main underneath one of the houses is the more logical suggestion.

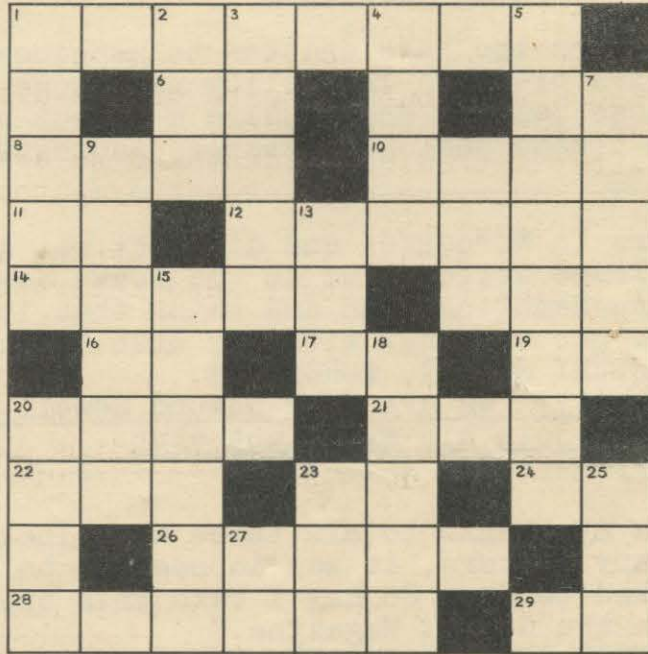
#### THE WOODS

O fragrant woods whose charm of old  
Hath still some mysteries untold  
Of squirrels gay who prance and play  
With joyful glee all through the day.

Of rugged oaks beneath whose shade  
Many a youth his lover bade  
Of elm trees tall, with ivy bound  
From which emits the birds sweet sound.

O myriad things I could relate  
If I had time and you could wait  
But I must leave you now dear friends  
Unless my talk to bore doth tend.

JOHN HOLMES  
WHITCHURCH. READING.



CLUES ACROSS:

1. Where we may see George.
6. Anno Regini (abbrev.)
8. Without company.
10. To rise in the air.
11. Conjunction.
12. To be present.
14. Flavour.
16. A direction of the compass (abbrev.)
17. A laugh.
19. Same as 6 across.
20. Old.
21. North (abbrev.)
22. Half of burglar's tool.
24. Perform.
26. Willing, desirous.
28. A ship is steered by this.
29. Not outside.

CLUES DOWN.

1. George is a ---  
in his latest film.
2. Tin used for carrying.
3. What it is to see George.
4. Relaxation.
5. Class grade.
7. Command.
9. A fruit.
13. The jumbled up.
15. Appear.
18. Fury, temper.
20. Open.
23. No. of years.
25. Possess.
27. Put after dates (abbrev.)

Submitted by WILSON ERVIN  
32, LUCERNE PARADE  
STRANMILLES. BELFAST.

OUR LETTER BOX

We wish to thank all members who have written to us since the last issue of the NEWS and have pleasure in dealing with some of the letters below. Will those members who require a direct and personal reply to correspondence please enclose a stamped addressed envelope to the Secretary.

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"If there are any members in Worcester and district who are interested in walking, will they please write to me at the above address, as I am secretary of the Vigorina Rambling Club and think that it would be a good idea for members to get together with our club."

EDMUND J. SEWELL. 7, PENBURY STREET, WORCESTER.

What a wonderful opportunity! We are sure Edmund Sewell will be inundated with requests to join his excellent club.

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"I would like to express my thanks to all those who kindly wrote to me. But owing to the many letters, it was impossible to answer all of them as I would have liked to do. So may I take this opportunity of thanking you all through the G.F.C. Magazine."

LAWRENCE A. MORLEY. 1, WEST ROW, STOKESLEY. MIDDLESBORO.

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"I should like to get a few of the club members together for some jolly meetings. Please send all enquiries to:-

SYDNEY E. DEEKES. 38, BUSHEY ROAD. SUTTON. SURREY."

Now then, some of you lonely people, how about it! Of course all interested members will send a stamped addressed envelope for a reply, so that Sydney will not be forced to face a heavy postage bill.

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A HINT FOR THOSE WHO ARE LEARNING TO PLAY THE UKE-BANJO.

"If, having tuned your instrument, your chords still sound out of tune, see that the bridge is not out of line with the frets on the finger board. If this is so, fix the bridge parallel with the frets, tune up again and I think your trouble will be ended."

ALAN WOODHOUSE, 297, HASLAND RD. HASLAND. CHESTERFIELD. DERBYS.

On behalf of all members, thank you Alan. So many of our ukelele enthusiasts are anxious to obtain all the hints they can get.

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"I am anxious to know if the boys and girls who collect autographs such as Lord Halifax and Mr. Chamberlain send their albums by post with the money to return them."

DOROTHY M. DRANSFIELD. MOUNT PLEASANT. THURGOLAND. NR. SHEFFIELD.

We expect one or two of you autograph enthusiasts will be only too glad to let Dorothy know the correct procedure to adopt.

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OUR LETTER BOX continued:

"I should particularly like autographs of the following clubs:- Manchester United, Manchester City, Preston N.E., Sheffield Wednesday, Sheffield United, Stoke City, Notts Forest, Charlton Athletic, Tottenham Hotspur, Coventry City and West Bromwich Albion." MAURICE JARVIS, COOMBE FARM, NUNNEY, FROME, SOMERSET.  
This member doesn't seem at all interested in film stars! We hope some of you can help him to secure the autographs he covets.

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"Have any members cigarette card sets or autographs to sell cheaply or to exchange? Some members have started saving photographs of other members, and I would like to do the same. I propose that for the benefit of autograph collectors it would be a good idea if members sent into the 'news' all the addresses of famous personalities - boxers, film stars, radio stars etc. that they know."  
DON COATES. 76, GENEVA CRESCENT. DARLINGTON.  
We shall be only too glad to give names and addresses in future issues of the magazine if members will send them to us, and we hope he receives assistance from you with regard to the photographs etc. that requires.

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"I should like to know if there are any young male club members (about 16 years) living in or near Bristol who can play Hawaiian guitars, electric Hawaiian guitars or ukes (I should prefer the ordinary Hawaiian type to the uke-banjo). If these would communicate with me we might be able to form a passably good Hawaiian band. I play the ukelele-banjo myself."  
J.D. TOOGOOD. 23, BATTENBURG RD. ST. GEORGE. BRISTOL.5. GLOS.  
Now here's a bright suggestion which should appeal to a number of our members and we wish the proposed band every success.

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"I have S P A R E S, either personally signed photos or autographs of the following:- Florence Desmond, Barry Mackay, Bobby Howes, Marie (American) Wilson, Craig Reynolds, Alastair Sim, Robertson Hare, Rene Ray, Ferdinand Gottschalk, Paul Cavanaugh, Boris Karloff, Walter Huston, Gibb McLaughlin, Wally Patch, Herbert Marshall, Alfred Drayton, Robb Wilton, Hal Gordon, Jimmy Hanley, Anna Neagle, Basil Sydney, Veronica Rose, the late Ted Healy, Gordon Harker, John Mills, Sandy Powell and John Turnbull.  
IF ANY OTHER MEMBERS CARE TO WRITE WITH OFFERS FOR ANY OF THESE I SHALL BE PLEASED TO HEAR FROM THEM."  
JESSE. E. JOLLY. 19, Tynemouth Rd. South Tottenham. N.15.  
It seems as though Mr. Jolly has the answer to at least one member's prayer and we are sure he will be inundated with offers of exchange.

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OUR LETTER BOX Continued.

"If it is possible to print my record for the 1938-39 Table Tennis Season I should be pleased. I play for Wordsley Methodists Young People's Club in the Stourbridge and District League. I was a partner in the Champion Doubles Pair for which I received one medal, Semi-Finalist in the Handicap Singles, losing 3-2 on the 5th set after leading 18-15. I was a member of the Champion Team which won the League and a member of the team which lost 6-4 in the final of the Cup. For all these I got three medals and a cup replica which is not bad for a lad of 18 in one season."

JACK EVERS. 17, ASHWOOD AVENUE. WORDSLEY. NR. STOURBRIDGE. WORCS.  
We are sure other members will agree that this is an excellent record.

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"I wonder if you would be so kind as to tell me where I can get some more autographed photos of stage, radio and screen stars."  
ROBERT D. BAILLIE. 62, WESTLAND DRIVE. GLASGOW. W.4.

This latter paragraph is typical of many requests we have received. WE SHALL BE ONLY TOO GLAD TO PUBLISH LISTS OF NAMES AND ADDRESSES FOR THE MUTUAL BENEFIT OF MEMBERS IF SOME OF YOU COLLECTORS WILL KINDLY LET US HAVE DETAILS.

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"I am just starting a collection of autographed photos and autographs. I have no autographs to exchange with but I have quite a number of footballers photos to exchange with any member who has any of the following autographed photos to spare:- Alastair Sim, C. Aubrey Smith, Gordon Harker, Hughie Diamond, Jack Buchanan, Jean Colin, Mantovani, Robert Preston, Raymond Massey, Sally Gray, Sir Cedric Hardwicke, Vera Lynn, Pat Kirkwood, Victor Silvester."  
ARTHUR J. WOLFE. 17, RUTHERFORD RD. MOSSLEY HILL. LIVERPOOL. 18.  
We sincerely hope some of you will be able to assist Arthur.

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Master of the house (roaring with rage.): "Who told you to put that paper on the wall?"  
Decorator: "Your wife, sir."  
Head of the house (subsiding): "Pretty, isn't it?"

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A woman motorist was driving along a country road when she saw two repair men climbing a telegraph-pole.  
"Fools!" she exclaimed to her companion. "They must think I've never driven a car before!"

-----

JOYCE BAVIN  
WELLING. KENT.



PEN PALS

- Mr. Jesse E. Jolly,  
19, Tynemouth Road,  
South Tottenham. N.15. ( would like pen friends  
( about twenty years of age.  
(
- Peter Womby,  
65, Ack Lane,  
Cheadle Hulme, Ches. ( Will anybody interested in acting  
( living in or near Cheshire write  
( to me? Ages must be from 8 - 14.
- Jack Evers,  
17, Ashwood Avenue,  
Wordsley,  
Nr. Stourbridge, Worcs. ( I am anxious to communicate with  
( anyone, male or female, who is  
( interested in the following:-  
( Table Tennis, Skating, Football,  
( Cricket, Boxing, Athletes, Ukeleles  
( (especially) and anyone who thinks  
( they might be famous some day.  
( I am eighteen years old.
- 7359958 Pte. G.W. Whitehead,  
No:2 Company,  
R.A.M.C. ( would be glad to have some boy or  
( girl pen pals about twenty and  
( would also like to correspond with  
( anyone who has any autographs and  
( signed photos to dispose of.
- Master A.C. Whitby,  
87, Duckmoor Road,  
Ashton,  
Bristol, 3. ( I want a pen pal in the British  
( Empire. Boy or girl - age about  
( 13.  
(
- Madeline E. King,  
43, Onslow Road,  
Fairfield,  
Liverpool. 6. ( anxious to secure a boy pen friend  
( about 17-20 who is interested in  
( films (particularly British) and  
( autograph collecting and also in  
( plays and repertory companies.
- Nurse Ruth Leedale,  
Children's Hospital,  
Bradford. ( is in search of pen friends (either  
( sex) living near Bradford, with a  
( view to making personal friends.
- Winnie Worpole,  
60, West Ham Lane,  
Stratford, E.15. ( Very anxious to have a pen pal.  
( She is 14 years old.  
(
- Sydney E. Deekes,  
38, Bushey Road  
Sutton, Surrey. ( would like a young lady pen pal  
( aged about 20- 22.  
(
- Eveline Bell,  
25a, Cookson Street,  
Blackpool. Lancs. ( Would anyone like to correspond  
( with me? My age is 14 and I am  
( interested in autograph hunting.

SOLUTION TO PUZZLES SUBMITTED BY WINNIE WORPOLE

CONUNDRUMS

1. A fountain.
  2. The Isis (ice is).
  3. One has false keys and the other false locks.
  4. Because for every grain the fowls take they give a peck.
  5. A cabbage.
  6. Because a horse can run when he is in a trap and a fox cannot.
  7. Because the wheel spoke.
  8. Because it makes ill will.
  9. The outside.
  10. One sells watches and the other watches cells.
  11. When the wind makes them water.
  12. When it's made into little pats.
  13. Hailing taxis.
  14. When the rain is dripping.
- 

JUGGLING WITH MONEY

The sum is £12. 12. 8d which is equal to 12,128 farthings.

FOUR NINES

The four nines can be written  $99\frac{9}{9}$

A MISER

He had 72 pennies, 24 halfpennies, 48 shillings, 60 florins and 54 pounds.

TOWNS

YARMOUTH.	LEEDS.	FOLKESTONE.	RAMSGATE.	BRIGHTON.
DEAL.	MARGATE.	BOGNOR.	CANTERBURY.	

STARS

COXCOMB.	HONOLULU.
RESTRAINT.	YELLOW-WORT.
ALTOGETHER.	SAFETY-VALVE.
LARCH LEAF.	SOCIETY.

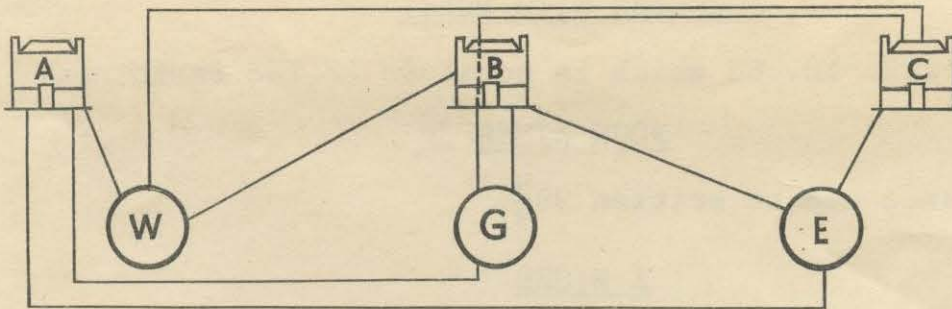
CODED SUM

The sum reads:-

504
<u>  5</u>
2520
<u>  43</u>
2563
<u>  71</u>
4 2492
623

Now here is something for which you have all been waiting - the solution to the mains puzzle.

We have had a different effort from each one of you but in our opinion the following is the correct solution:-



NOTE. GAS TO HOUSE 'C' IS LAID UNDER HOUSE 'B'

This was submitted by Mr. A. Allard of Bournemouth, to whom an autographed photograph of Mr. & Mrs. Formby has been awarded.

The bishop was very tired. There were many candidates for Confirmation and the church grew hotter and hotter. The Bishop could feel his eyes getting heavy. At last, when he was nearing the end of his labours, a bald-headed man knelt in front of him. The bishop, suppressing a yawn, put both his hands on the shining head and muttered, "I declare this stone to be well and truly laid."

N. LESLIE ROBINSON. CHEADLE HULME.

Assistant: "I assure you madam, that carpet your husband is examining will take some beating."

Customer: "Oh, that doesn't matter; he's stronger than he looks."  
JAMES CROSTON. LIVERPOOL.

