

Sons of the Desert – Brats Tent (Sheffield) Oasis 80 (Founded 1988)

Grand Sheik: John Burton

Grand Vizier: Alan Hancock

Sub-Vice Vizier: Brian Jessop

Remember: All members
have absolutely no authority
whatsoever!



Vice Sheik: Kevin Hepplestone

Vice Vizier: Mark Johnson

Everyone Else: Board Members
At Large

’Twas Ever Thus! - Brats Monthly Newsletter

12th June 2006

Good Evening and welcome once again to an evening dedicated to our dear old friends Stan and Ollie!

Show me that again.....

Tonight we will start with the short **Our Wife** in which ‘Dimple Dumpling’ Ollie plans to elope with ‘Ducky Lover’ Dulcie with ‘help’ from ‘Best Man’ Stan! This will be followed by **Laurel & Hardy’s Laughing 20’s**, a 1960’s compilation of L&H silent classics. Our final film tonight will be **Going Bye Bye** in which the boys are important witnesses at the trial of a hardened criminal – It could happen!

You don’t believe me!.....

Last week BBC4 screened 2 L&H related programmes, the first was Stan, an adaptation of Neil Brand’s radio play, based upon Stan visiting Babe on his deathbed in 1957. Although only fictional some of the scenes were loosely based upon fact. Although a little slow moving at times, it offered a potential insight into the duo’s final days. Old Stan was played by Jim Norton, (Bishop Brennan from Father Ted), and old Ollie by Trevor Cooper, both of whom gave great performances. The second was Paul Merton’s **Silent Clowns**, a 1 hour review of the boys silent career. This featured a full screening of **Your Darn Tootin’** complete with a new musical score. Another excellent programme (although it did lose it’s way a little in the middle of the programme concentrating too much on issues relating to silent film music in general) and one to look out for if aired again! We have copies of both which may be screened in the near future!

Meetings at the Panopticon.....

The Panopticon Theatre, was the venue for Stan’s first ever stage performance. It is now the venue for a monthly meeting of ‘Sons’. Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month, with doors open at 6.30pm and the show starting promptly at 7.00pm. The Britannia Panopticon Music Hall is at 113-117 Trongate, Glasgow. Please get along if you can – you will be made most welcome!

Forthcoming events in 2006.....

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| 17 th June | - | Boys at the Bull, Bottesford, (Bull Inn from 1pm) |
| 18 th June | - | Early to Bed Tent Meeting, Spital Hotel, Chesterfield 7:30pm |
| 1 st July | - | Ulverston Carnival |
| 10 th July | - | Brats Meeting, New Crown Inn, 7:30pm |
| 12 th – 16 th July | - | International Convention, Harlem, Georgia USA!
see http://www.berthmarks.com/index.htm for more details |
| 24 th July | - | Brats Curry Night – Lajawab Restaurant |
| 11 th August | - | Acorn Brewery visit |
| 2 nd September | - | Laurel and HarDay, Beer Engine, Wigan |

Fraternally Yours,
John,

**You can lead a horse to water
But a pencil must be lead! (Brats 1930)**