

Lynn's Pages

OH WHAT A PARTY; OH WHAT A NIGHT – MARCH 1ST 2008!



Ken Andy Lynn Ray George

The Party Well it was just great seeing so many old faces again at De Hems Bar in Soho – some of whom we had not seen since the Presentation to Frankie Valli at The Victoria Apollo in 1981 or at Butlins in 1992 when the rain came through the roof onto the stage! I always felt they should have started singing Tell It To The Rain ... but that's another story!

Arriving to the Seasons sound of Ray Nichol's Remix Disk (which he handed out as a memento to everyone), were lots of names

from the past - George Ingram; Ken Charmer who travelled from Spain and Stefan Wriedt from Germany; Ray Nichol from Newcastle; John Pingree; Rod Bacon; Mark Garvey; Lynne Spears (nee Haines); Christine Wright; Phil Elms; Kingsley Abbott; Phil Elms; Mick Holloway; Eric Charge; Rob Ryan and Roy Court – thanks for the badge Roy – 'Lynn Boleyn No 1 Frankie Fan' – and not forgetting Tina Ryan (nee Riddell)!

Although we all met up 2 hours before the show we could have done with a whole evening! There was so much catching up to do with news, stories and music to exchange. Ray told us about his meetings with Bob Gaudio the day before at the Prince Edward and rumour had it that Frankie Valli was also in the UK although we did not get to see him. The food was superb and the wine was flowing freely!

The highlight of the evening had to be the personal messages to our group from John Paiva and Joe Long which were read out by Ken Charmer followed by the playing of the wonderful unreleased track 'You Are The Sunshine Of My Life' by Frankie Valli – very apt and enjoyed by everyone. As if that was not enough, our special guests, Let's Hang On, a fantastic tribute band to Frankie Valli and the 4 Seasons, did an outstanding acapella 'Sunday Kind Of Love' so sincere thanks to Robin, Dino, Scott and Martin for a great performance and for getting us in the mood for the show to follow. Full details for the band and tour dates can be found at www.letshangon.co.uk

The greatest party ever And I can't wait to organise the next one!



Ken and Ben Boleyn



Ken and Lynn



Let's Hang On
Martin; Scott; Dino and Robin with Lynn

The London Show

Who said us Brits don't do standing ovations?! From where I was in the packed out theatre I couldn't see anyone who was not standing, clapping and cheering at the end of this outstanding show. A fantastic standing ovation for Ryan Molloy and all the cast of Jersey Boys which was certainly very well deserved.



Ryan Molloy was a fantastic Frankie Valli with a beautiful singing voice – you could close your eyes and it could almost have been Frankie singing – I thought he was absolutely brilliant. Glenn Carter was superb and very funny as Tommy DeVito and complemented well by Philip Bulcock as Nick Massi. Stephen Ashfield was perfect as Bob Gaudio and the whole musical experience was just as good as a Four Seasons concert. It was pure magic and I am sure it will be on the West End for a long time to come and will be receiving many awards.

Everyone was saying how amazing the show was and the merchandise was great too - I came away with a Jersey Boys tee-shirt and a Rag Doll tee-shirt plus all the CD's that were on sale! I heard someone asking for the CD with "My Mother's Eyes" on for a Mother's Day present which was the following day.

My 12 year old son, Ben, said it was the best show he has ever seen (and he has seen some pretty good ones in London recently like Joseph; The Sound of Music and The Lion King). He said his favourite bits were the swearing and the shooting scene!! Since we have been back home he walks round singing 'Oh What A Night' at the top of his voice Obviously trying to compete with me singing it too! My partner, Andy, said he thought it was better than a 4 Seasons concert because of the great story behind the music.

So congratulations to Bob Gaudio; Frankie Valli and everyone involved with the making of The Jersey Boys – you must be very proud and we thank you for bringing this fantastic show to England. Ray Nichol and I will be there for Opening Night on the 18th March and very much looking forward to meeting Charles Alexander and Martin Wright for what I just know is going to be another fantastic night.

Seasonally,
Lynn

