

Memory 13 sheet Many thanks for the contributions!

From Janet Dutton:-

Linda's comment 'Who would have thought it?' in reference to a performance by Amanda Holden on television recently, reminded me of a similar experience that my son and I had almost 20 years ago.

He was at Reading University from 2000 to 2003 and as rail links to London were very good I often drove up on Thurs and we would go up on Fri morning, in time to be at the theatre box office of our chosen Musical or Play for 10.00am, when they started to sell off the tickets for that evening.

In April 2002 'We will Rock You' was starting the previews before opening in May. However, the day we arrived for the first preview, it was cancelled. Never mind said I, let's get down to the Adelphi and see Denise Van Outen in 'Chicago'. Don't be daft said he, she's on Broadway, but I'd picked up a Metro on the Tube and read that she was back for 6 weeks So, a quick Tube ride from Tottenham Court Road to the Strand. We bought our tickets for seats in 'the gods' for the Matinee and went off for a day wandering, mostly around Covent Garden I should think. We used to love watching the street performers.

When we arrived for the performance we were told we'd been upgraded to the 'Circle' as not enough seats had been sold. Oh goody! Then the show started and Oh my word, did we ever get a surprise!? She was playing Roxy Hart and she was amazing. I only knew of her as a presenter of the 'Late Breakfast' which my offspring used to watch, and only later found out that she had been to the Sylvia Young Theatre School. Boy did it show! In the scene where she had to be a puppet, it was hard to believe she was skin and bone. She was the floppiest person I've ever seen. Her singing and dancing were fantastic and we both saw her in a new light. When a few years later she was a judge/coach on the Andrew Lloyd Webber shows to find the 'Lead' in various Musicals, I thought, take note of what she's saying, she knows what she's talking about".

From Chris Crane:

Amanda and I recently watched "**About Time**" on Netflix and by chance we noticed that much of it was filmed around this area. Porthpean House, Vault Beach, Gorran Haven, Portloe and St Michael Penkival Church all feature in this Richard Curtis directed film released in 2013.

When Tim Lake (Domhnall Gleeson) is 21, his father (Bill Nighy) tells him a secret: The men in their family can travel through time. Although he can't change history, Tim resolves to improve his life by getting a girlfriend. He meets Mary (Rachel McAdams), falls in love and finally wins her heart via time-travel and a little cunning. However, as his unusual life progresses, Tim finds that his special ability can't shield him and those he loves from the problems of ordinary life.

Whilst not a cinematic masterpiece, it is an entertaining film which does have some lovely local scenery.

Continued

From **Sandy and Phil Capelin**:

We have just watched an interesting, sad but true documentary called **Jamie: Drag Queen at 16** on BBC iplayer what a brave boy with an amazing mother. The film of the show about him '**Talking about Jamie**' is on Netflix.

From Linda:

I expect quite a few of you have already watched '**Gentleman Jack**', starring **Suranne Jones**. For anyone who hasn't I can recommend her charismatic and convincing performance in a story based on real-life character, Anne Lister, taken from her coded diaries. Set in 1832 in Yorkshire, Anne is a landowner and industrialist who is determined to save her faded ancestral home, Shibden Hall.

Bucking society's expectations she re-opens the coal mine and charms her way into high society. A "good marriage" would bring in much-needed revenue but Anne has no intention of marrying a man. She dresses head-to-toe in black, is completely energetic and possesses a high level of intelligence and intellect – as well as an 'eye' for the ladies. She evokes a range range of emotions and magnificently captures the 'twinkle' in her eye. An incredible actress.

A second series is planned for this year, continuing Ann's life story. Filming has been taking place near Harrogate in March. It will be an 8-part series on BBC1 – the release date not yet announced.

Suranne started her career on Coronation Street in 1997 as Mandy Phillips (one episode), then took part in almost 500 episodes over 4 years as Karen Phillips/McDonald. The writer for her part in many instances was Sally Wainwright, who went on to write 'Gentleman Jack' and remembered her for her portrayal of a wide range of emotions! Suranne also won a BAFTA in 2016 as Dr Foster, and also participated in 'Vigil', "Scott & Bailey" and "Save Me".

Anyone else have a favourite actor/actress they'd like to mention for next month's message???