

Ron's Wrestling Ramblings

Devereux

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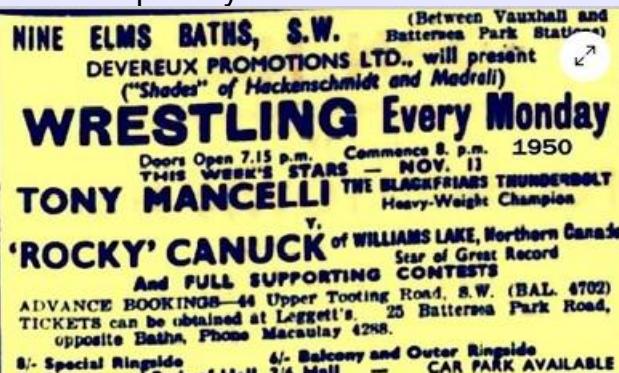
RON HISTORYO....Time Cop

IN 1948 I came across a Dale Martins bill and a report.

Herbert Devereux looked to be a well established pivot in the Dale Martin machine.

Johnny Dale was the M.C., Lou Marco the referee, H. Devereux the timekeeper, and Les Martin the match-maker

The earliest Devereux bills I have ever found were within a couple of years.



Nine Elms Baths had been built in 1901 and by the 1950's was in a dangerous state of repairs. In winter when the baths was closed a sports event could house 1500 people. By 1956 the balconies had to be pulled down and the place demolished in the 1970's.



DEVEREUX PROMOTIONS LTD. will present

WRESTLING EVERY MONDAY

NINE ELMS BATHS, S.W.

Doors Open 7.15 p.m. Commence 8 p.m.
THIS WEEK'S STARS DEC. 4 1950

DAVID ARMSTRONG (of Newcastle)

CHIEF THUNDERBIRD (Official Red Indian Heavyweight Champion of Canada)
and full supporting contests

ADVANCE BOOKINGS—44 Upper Tooting Road, S.W. (BAL 4702).
TICKETS can be obtained at Leggetts, 25 Battersea Park Road,
opposite Baths. Phone Macaulay 4288.

8/- Special Ringside 6/- Balcony and Outer Ringside
4/- Balcony and Body of Hall 2/6 Hall Car Park Available

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NINE ELMS BATHS, S.W.

Doors Open 7.15 p.m. Commence 8 p.m.
THIS WEEK'S STARS DEC. 11 1950

BLACK BUTCHER JOHNSON THE COLOURFUL SENSATION

FRANCIS ST. CLAIR GREGORY Heavyweight Champion of the
Western Area. Former Rugby Star
and full supporting contests

ADVANCE BOOKINGS—44 Upper Tooting Road, S.W. (BAL 4702).
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Doors Open 7.15 p.m. Commence 8 p.m.
THIS WEEK'S STARS DEC. 18 1950

PAT O'REILLY of The Emerald Isle

TONY MANCELLI of Blackfriars
and full supporting contests

ADVANCE BOOKINGS—44 Upper Tooting Road, S.W. (BAL 4702).
TICKETS can be obtained at Leggetts, 25 Battersea Park Road,
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8/- Special Ringside 6/- Balcony and Outer Ringside
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The advertising was only pushing the main bout, but the quality was threatening to be very good.

I leave you with these, like I say the earliest I have ever seen.

Devereaux's split with Dales seems to have been amicable, just maybe this tells us a bit more as to when,

As for why, well I would think Herbert thought he could make more money with his own shows.

And the venue, another one I have never come across before.

mitchel.steve454

Excellent stuff.

The Ost

Really good finds Ron!

Hack

Another fascinating bit of history. Thanks Ron. Another corner of the past that I reckon is worthy of further exploration. We don't seem to know much about Devereux and his later connection with the Joyce family. The earlier ad is at Eastbourne with Devereux employed by Dales. The latter at Nine Elms with Devereux in charge. These were early days with alliances being formed so it might have been seen as a natural development rather than a break. Over the years Devereux did have a mixed relationship with Dales. Most of the time seemed co-operative and using Dales men, but on occasions fiercely proclaiming their independence.

Anglo Italian

Twenty years later another second became timekeeper and then MC. His name was Peter Bates. He just couldn't pronounce properly, a shortcoming for an emcee, and always said BRIANBELT GOLD MAXINE. He was completely lost.

RON HISTORYO....Time Cop

On the Trail of Devereux I find him about a year later (1951) at Wimbledon Palais, but only at the year end.

DEVEREUX PROMOTIONS LTD. present
★ ★ WRESTLING ★ ★
 WIMBLEDON PALAIS, Colliers Wood Tube Station
 THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15, AT 8.00 p.m. Doors open at 7.15.
 The Mighty 19 Stone The French Canadian
 VAN DUTZ v. LA ROUCHE
 Al Sherry v. Len Britton Stan Wurth v. Granville Lawrence
 GEORGE KIDD v. EDDIE CAPELLI
 Ex British Champion
 World Lightweight Champion
 Advance Booking and Tickets: Wimbledon Palais. Phone: WIMBLEDON 8342
 PRICES: 10/- Special Ringside; 8/- Ringside; 6/- Outer Ringside. Body
 of Hall; 3/- Unreserved. 1951 Rights of Admission Reserved.

DEVEREUX PROMOTIONS LTD. present
★ ★ WRESTLING ★ ★
 WIMBLEDON PALAIS, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 20th 1951
 A Stupendous International Heavyweight Contest! 6 Ten-minute rounds.
 3 Falls, Subs, or R.O. Official Southern Area Heavyweight
 "Golden Boy" MIKE Champion TONY
 MARINO v. MANCELLI
 Milan, Italy, winner of European title Blackfriars, the dynamic all-action
 at the Cirque D' Hiver, Paris, in "Thunderbolt" from South London.
 1949. Italian champion 1948. one of the greatest ever.
 A Great Catchweight Contest: JACK QUESICK, Southern Area Welter Champion,
 v. STAN WURTH, Sydney, Australia. A Welterweight Contest: PAT
 KLOKE, Croydon, v. ARTHUR FISHER, Eitham.
 A Super-Sensational Light-Heavyweight Contest introducing:
 GERMARDT DE JAGER v. SONNY WALLIS
 Capetown, Dropkick and flying Hammersmith, one of the greatest
 acrobats expert. Light-Heavyweights in Europe to-day.

The same again in 1952. Other bills during that year did not state Dale Martins or Devereux. It looks a very Dale Martins Roster even Mick McManus on bottom left.

Devereux Promotions Ltd. present 1952
! WRESTLING !
 THURSDAY, 27th NOVEMBER, AND EVERY THURSDAY
 Doors Open 7.15 WIMBLEDON PALAIS Commence 8 p.m.
 Very Special Double-Champion Heavyweight Contest
 Ernest BALDWIN v. Clem LAWRENCE
 Northern Champion - Wakefield Eastern Area Champion - Chelmsford
 Junior Heavy Match Southern Area Welterweight Middleweight Bout
 Chas. FISHER v. Jack QUESICK v. Arthur FISHER v. Ron HARRISON
 Alan WILSON Brixton Champ Eltham Challenger Johnny PETERS
 Tickets and Advance Booking from Wimbledon Palais (Phone: LIB. 8342),
 or from BAL. 4702 Licensed Bar—Refreshments
 Inc. Tax. 10/6, 8/6, 6/6, 5/6, 4/- Car Park.

Devereux Promotions Ltd. present 1952
! WRESTLING !
 THURSDAY, 4th DECEMBER, AND EVERY THURSDAY
 Doors Open 7.15 WIMBLEDON PALAIS Commence 8 p.m.
 The Most Daring and Sensational Heavyweight Clash of the Decade!
 JACK PYE v. PAT O'REILLY
 The World-famed "Doncaster Panther," Wrestling's Greatest Name destroyed all opposition until now.
 Pat KLOKE v. Jackie PALLO Mick McMANUS v. Frank O'DONNELL
 Ireland Highbury British Welter Champion Irish Champion
 Special Added Heavyweight Attraction
 TONY MANCELLI v. DAVID JONES
 Southern Area Champion The Greenwich Adonis just back from Spain
 Tickets and Advance Booking from Wimbledon Palais (Phone: LIB. 8342),
 or from BAL. 4702 Licensed Bar—Refreshments
 Inc. Tax. 10/6, 8/6, 6/6, 5/6, 4/- Car Park.

Devereux Promotions Ltd. present 1952
! WRESTLING !
 THURSDAY, 13th NOVEMBER, AND EVERY THURSDAY
 Doors Open 7.15 WIMBLEDON PALAIS Commence 8 p.m.
 Outstanding Heavyweight Attraction
 CLEM LAWRENCE v. DAVID ARMSTRONG
 (Chelmsford Eastern Area Champion) (Northumbrian 6ft. lin. 11-stone super mat man)
 STARANOFF v. GEORGE KEN MICK McMANUS v.
 DON STEDMAN v. KIDD v. JOYCE v. ARCHER O'BRIEN
 Tickets and Advance Booking from Wimbledon Palais (Phone: LIB. 8342),
 or from BAL. 4702 Licensed Bar—Refreshments
 Inc. Tax. 10/6, 8/6, 6/6, 5/6, 4/- Car Park.

Devereux Promotions Ltd. present 1952
! WRESTLING !
 THURSDAY, 29th NOVEMBER, AND EVERY THURSDAY
 Doors Open 7.15 WIMBLEDON PALAIS Commence 8 p.m.
 Terrific Anglo-Irish Battle of Strength and Skill
 MICK CASEY v. ANACONDA
 Heavyweight Champion of Ireland The English Corner, 2nd. Swedish-German King
 Len Britton Heavyweight Attraction Frank O'Donnell
 v. Mike MARINO v. Chas. SCOTT v. Eddie Capelli
 Norman THOMAS Anglo-Italian Newcastle
 Tickets and Advance Booking from Wimbledon Palais (Phone: LIB. 8342),
 or from BAL. 4702 Licensed Bar—Refreshments
 Inc. Tax. 10/6, 8/6, 6/6, 5/6, 4/- 1952 Car Park.

Peter

There is a clip of a Devereux event in a often repeated 1954 film on Talking Pictures. Just cannot remember the name of the film

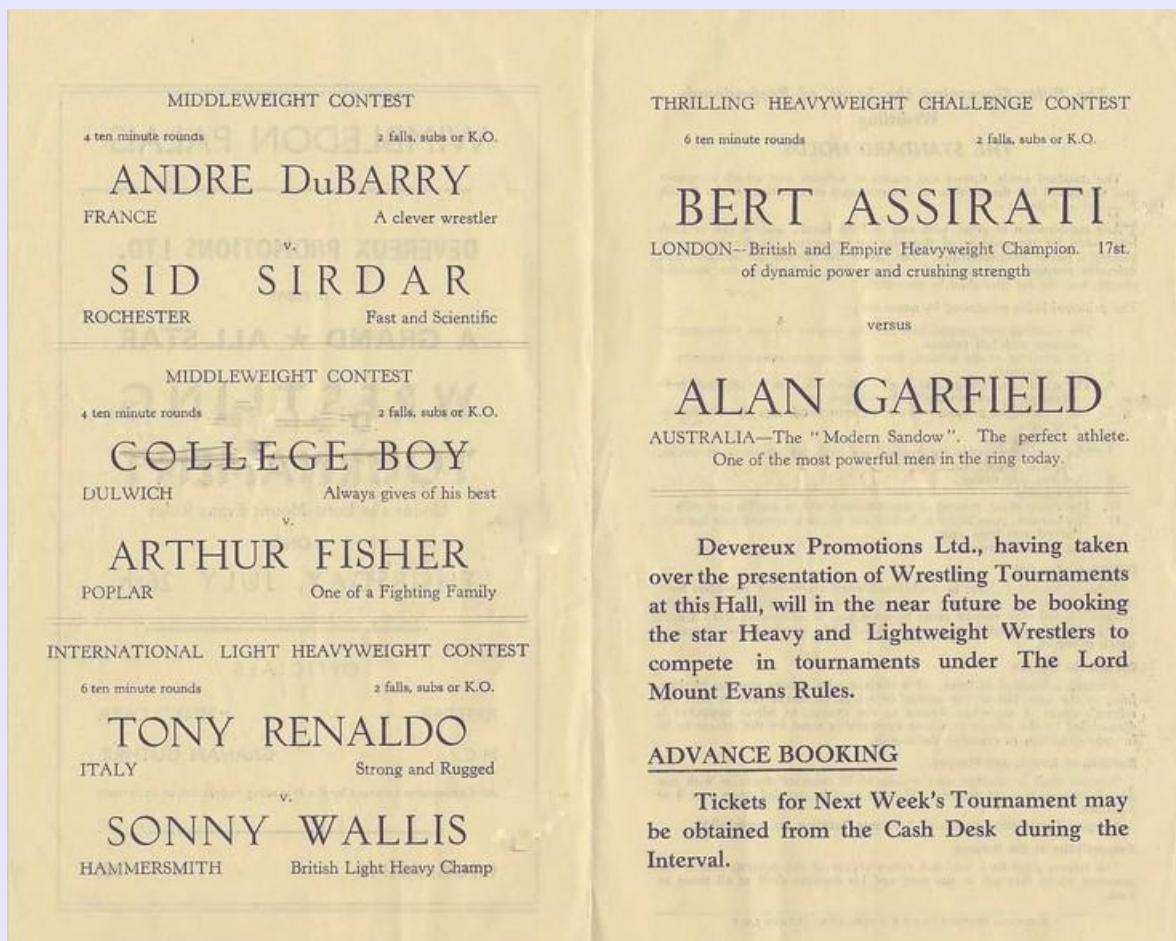
bjh99

Interesting bills for Devereux at Wimbledon.

For 1952, I was surprised to see, what I would call Northern wrestlers like Dave Armstrong, Ernie Baldwin and Jack Pye on these bills.

Hack

It looks like Devereux took over at Wimbledon Palais in July 1951. Here's the programme for 26th July

**mitchel.steve454**

I've got the original programme for that ?

Hack

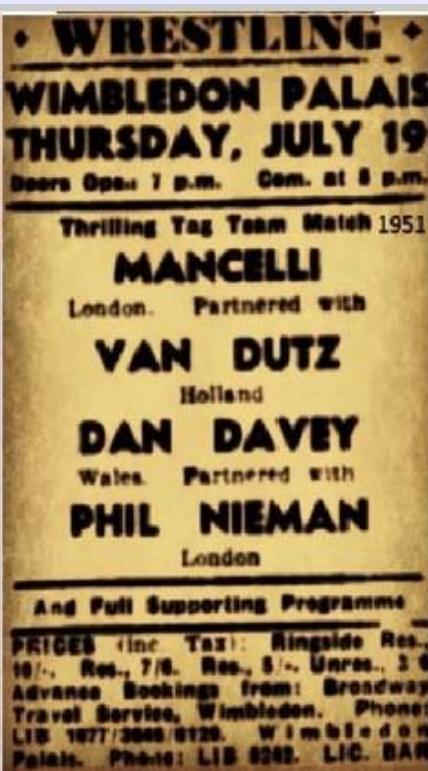
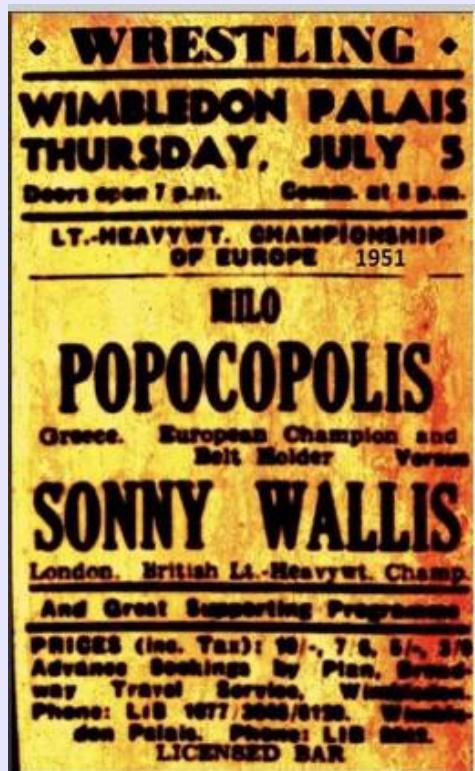
Have you got the previous weeks Steve? Do you know the previous promoter?

mitchel.steve454

All shows before that date are by Maurice Letchford.

RON HISTORYO....Time Cop

Here are the three shows earlier that month. No clue as to the promoter.



Hack

Thanks Steve.

RON HISTORYO....Time Cop

Super info from Steve. We really have captured |Devereux early days.

Origins seem to be in the very heart of London. With Wimbledon and Nine Elms both south of the river. Quite ambitious venues in size.