

Ron's Wrestling Ramblings

Join Ron Historyo and add your comments in the forum

Purley

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<https://heritagedocs.wixsite.com/talkwrestling/forum/memories-of-the-old-days/purley-the-orchid-ballroom>

RON HISTORYO....Time Cop

DALE MARTIN PROMOTIONS LTD. proudly present 1958

WRESTLING

THE ORCHID BALLROOM, PURLEY

<p>★ TWO GREAT TOURNAMENTS ★</p> <p>Tues Nov 25 at 8 o'clock and every Tuesday</p> <p>SPECIAL H.WT. CONTEST</p> <p>DENNIS</p> <h2>MITCHELL</h2> <p>BRADFORD</p> <p>FRANCIS ST. CLAIR</p> <h2>GREGORY</h2> <p>CORNWALL</p> <p>Welter-Weight Match</p> <p>Tony Charles v. O'Donnel</p> <p>Light Heavy-Weight Clash</p> <p>KARL VON BERT</p> <p>CRAMM v. ROYAL</p> <p>Heavy-Weight Contest</p> <p>TONY MANCELLI</p> <p>DAULA SINGH</p>	<p>Sat Nov 29 at 3.15</p> <p>Special TV prog.</p> <p>HEAVY-WT. CONTEST</p> <p>BILLY</p> <h2>JOYCE</h2> <p>2500 CHALLENGE ANY H.WT.</p> <p>GWYNE</p> <h2>DAVIES</h2> <p>WALES</p> <p>Welter-Weight Match</p> <p>Stefan Milla v. McManus</p> <p>Light Heavy-Weight Match</p> <p>JEAN BERT</p> <p>MORANDI v. ROYAL</p> <p>Light Heavy-Weight Match</p> <p>INCA GORI ED</p> <p>PERUANO v. MANGOTICH</p> <p>ON A.T.V. TELEVISION BETWEEN 3.40 and 4.20</p>
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★ COME AND BE TELEVISED! ★

PATRONS ON TUESDAY, NOV. 25, WILL BE GIVEN A FREE VOUCHER FOR THE TELEVISION TOURNAMENT

ALL Advance Bookings from:—

THE ORCHID BALLROOM, Brighton Rd., Purley. Tel.: UPLand 1174/5

Prices: 10/-, 7/6 (numbered & res.), 5/- (seats) & 3/- (seats & standing)

In the late 1950's ITV Wrestling was picking up momentum. Still very early days but in 1958 wrestling was televised from the Orchid Ballroom. Don't remember this venue being mentioned in later years. I have found a newspaper bill from this occasion contrasting with John Listers index which I think the TV Times may have been the

<https://www.itvwrestling.co.uk/58.html>

The following year there were more TV shows there.

The advertising was used to try and get people to come to the show so that they may see themselves on TV.

<https://www.itvwrestling.co.uk/59.html>

DALE MARTIN PROMOTIONS LTD. proudly present 1959

WRESTLING

THE ORCHID BALLROOM, PURLEY

★ TWO GREAT TOURNAMENTS ★

Tues. next Feb. 17 at 8 o'clock and every Tues.

International M Weight Clash
presenting the Gigantic
BIG
BILL VERNA
AUSTRALIAN MAN MOUNTAIN
DAVID
ARMSTRONG
NEWCASTLE

Welter-Weight Match
MICK JACK
McMANUS v. CUNNINGHAM

Li. Heavy-Weight Clash
TONY STEVE
VALLON v. LOGAN

International M Weight Contest
JACK O'REILLY
PORTLAND, OREGON, U.S.A.
JOE CORNELIUS
DAZZLING LONDON STAR

Sat Feb 21 at 3.15
Special TV prog.

Hungary v. Australia Clash
Introducing
The Olympic Games Star
JOSEF
KOVACS
Hungarian M/Wght. Champion
BIG BILL
VERNA
PERTH, AUSTRALIA

Welter-Weight Match
JACKIE BRIAN
PALLO v. BURKE

Catch-Weight Clash
ARCHER CLIFF
O'BRIEN v. BEAUMONT

Anglo-German M/Wght. Clash
AXEL DIETER
BERLIN
BILL HOWES
BRISTOL

★ COME AND BE TELEVISED! ★

PATRONS ON TUESDAY, FEB. 17th, WILL BE GIVEN A FREE VOUCHER FOR THE TELEVISION TOURNAMENT

ALL Advance Bookings from:—
THE ORCHID BALLROOM, Brighton Rd., Purley. Tel.: UPLands 1174/5
Prices: 10/- 7/6 (numbered & res.), 5/- (seats) & 3/- (seats & standing)

DALE MARTIN PROMOTIONS LTD. proudly present 1959

WRESTLING

THE ORCHID BALLROOM, PURLEY

★ TWO GREAT TOURNAMENTS ★

Tues. Next Mar. 24 at 8 o'clock and Every Tuesday

International M Wt. Clash
PRESENTING
ISKA KHAN
THE FABULOUS MONGOLIAN
RAY HUNTER
THE TASMANIAN GIANT

Heavyweight Contest
JOHN VIG
YEARSLEY v. HASSELLE
CARDIFF BOLTON

International Clash
THE GREAT
NCA
PERTH
KID
PITMAN
GLASGOW

Heavyweight Match
JOHN
DA SILVA
ZEALAND
BILL
ROBINSON
MANCHESTER

Easter Mon. Mar. 30 at 3.15
Special T.V. Programme

Anglo-Italian M/Wt. Match
MIKE
MARINO
WRESTLING'S GOLDEN BOY
DENNIS
MITCHELL
BRADFORD

Welterweight Contest
CHICK JOHN
PURVEY v. FOLLEY
DUNDEE WIGAN

International Catch Wt. Clash
THE GREAT TONY
INCA v. VALLON
PERTH MANCHESTER

Heavyweight Contest
DAVID ARMSTRONG
NEWCASTLE
BILLY JOYCE
WIGAN

★ COME AND BE TELEVISED! ★

PATRONS ON TUESDAY, MAR. 24th, WILL BE GIVEN A FREE VOUCHER FOR THE TELEVISION TOURNAMENT

ALL Advance Bookings from:—
THE ORCHID BALLROOM, Brighton Rd., Purley. Tel.: UPLands 1174/5
Prices: 10/- 7/6 (numbered & res.), 5/- (seats) & 3/- (seats & standing)

I found a couple more bills which are the earliest I have ever found with "Local Boy" Bobby Barnes on.

DALE MARTIN PROMOTIONS LTD. proudly present 1958

WRESTLING

THE ORCHID BALLROOM, PURLEY

Doors Open 7 o'clock TUES. NEXT JUNE 17 & Every TUES. Commences 8 o'clock

A Sensational Commonwealth Heavyweight Contest
The Turbulent The Outstanding Springbok Athlete
Alan GARFIELD v. Geoff PORTZ
Sydney, Australia Johannesburg

An Ultra Special Heavyweight Contest
Joe CORNELIUS v. Arthur BEAUMONT
Bermudacy Wigan

A Welterweight Contest
Jack Bobby
CUNNINGHAM v. BARNES
South Africa Sidcup

A Welterweight Contest
Bob Archer Len
O'BRIEN v. WILDING
Chelmsford Brixton

A Sensational International Heavyweight Contest
Royal Albert Hall Tournament Winner The New Indian Sensation
Tiber SZAKACS v. Daula SINGH
Budapest Punjab

ALL Advance Bookings from:—
THE ORCHID BALLROOM, Brighton Rd., Purley. Tel.: UPLands 1174/5
Prices: 10/- 7/6 5/- & 3/-

DALE MARTIN PROMOTIONS LTD. proudly present 1958

WRESTLING

THE ORCHID BALLROOM, PURLEY

Doors Open 7 o'clock TUES. NEXT JULY 8 & Every TUES. Commences 8 o'clock

A Sensational "Battle of Giants"
The Harringay 1957 All Nations Tournament Winner The 21 Stone Australian "Man Mountain"
Ray Hunter v. Big Bill Verna
Hobart, Tasmania Perth, Australia

An Outstanding Light-Heavyweight Contest
Harry Fields v. Arthur Fisher
Dewsbury Luton

A Welterweight Contest
Bobby Barnes v. Eric Sands

A Sensational Light-Heavyweight Contest
LES KELLETT v. STEVE LOGAN
Bradford Walsworth

An Outstanding Anglo-American Heavyweight Contest
The Southern Area Champion The Yankee "Globetrotter"
TONY MANCELLI v. BUDDY CODY
Blackfriars Dallas, U.S.A.

ALL Advance Bookings from:—
THE ORCHID BALLROOM, Brighton Rd., Purley. Tel.: UPLands 1174/5
Prices: 10/- 7/6 5/- & 3/-

The Ost

Thanks for these Ron. I have a few handbills from this venue.

Anglo Italian

COME AND BE TELEVISED remained the slogan well into the seventies. The likelihood of being recognisable was 1%, unless you were a Duchess. So much to pore over there, Ron, especially the timings.

Inca on two of the three tv bills! A final outing for Kid Pitman? And Bill Robinson still right down the bill in 1959.

So clever how they nurtured a full tv crowd via coupons.

RON HISTORYO....Time Cop

A few years later and Top of the Pops was the place to get seen on. Even George Best was caught on film on the dance floor there. I had a cousin always there and she auditioned for Pans People when they put that together.

Enjoy some of Purley 1958. Dale Martins did manage to get plenty of Northerners down to keep a fresh look to the Roster.

The image displays four wrestling handbills arranged in a 2x2 grid, all from Dale Martin Promotions Ltd. for The Orchid Ballroom, Purley, in 1958. Each handbill features a different color scheme and lists various wrestling matches and events.

Top Left Handbill (Black and White):
DALE MARTIN PROMOTIONS LTD. proudly present 1958
WRESTLING
THE ORCHID BALLROOM, PURLEY
Doors Open 7 o'clock TUES. NEXT JULY 1 & Every TUES. Commence 8 o'clock
Introducing the New French Adonis The Canadian "Power House"
Michel Chaisne v. Gordon Nelson
Paris versus St. Boniface
Heavyweight Contest
The Tough Canadian—Gori Ed **MANGOTICH** v. **ROBINSON**
Toronto, Canada Ex-British Amateur Champion
A Welterweight Contest Jackie **CUNNINGHAM** v. **PALLO** Heavyweight Contest Johnny **Yearsley** v. **Czeslaw**
South Africa Highbury Cardiff Cardiff
Anglo-Russian Heavyweight Contest
Introducing Ivan **JOSEF ZARANOFF** v. **GWYN DAVIES**
Leningrad The Young Welsh Giant
Manning
ALL Advance Bookings from:—
THE ORCHID BALLROOM, Brighton Rd., Purley, Tel.: UPLands 1174/5
Prices: 10/- 7/6 5/- 3/-

Top Right Handbill (Yellow):
DALE MARTIN PROMOTIONS LTD. proudly present 1958
WRESTLING
THE ORCHID BALLROOM, PURLEY
Doors Open 7 o'clock TUES. NEXT JULY 15 & Every TUES. Commence 8 o'clock
★ TWO SENSATIONAL MAIN EVENTS ★
Mr. Europe of Wrestling Most Sensational Figure in Wrestling
Robert DURANTON versus **Alan GARFIELD**
Paris versus Australia
Dennis MITCHELL versus **AI HAYES**
Bradford Wrexham
Bantamweight Contest
Black Kwango v. **Jack Cunningham**
West Africa South Africa
Welterweight Contest
Steffan Milla v. **Jeno Horvath**
Anglo-Danish Star Budapest
Heavyweight Contest
The Official Lt-Heavy Champion The Sensational Brander
ERNEIE RILEY (Wigan) v. **EDDIE SAXON** (Late of U.S.A.)
ALL Advance Bookings from:—
THE ORCHID BALLROOM, Brighton Rd., Purley, Tel.: UPLands 1174/5
Prices: 10/- 7/6 5/- 3/-

Bottom Left Handbill (Purple):
1958 DALE MARTIN PROMOTIONS LTD. proudly present
WRESTLING
THE ORCHID BALLROOM, PURLEY
Doors Open 7.15 p.m. TUES. NEXT JUNE 3 & Every TUES. Commence 8 o'clock
A Sensational Commonwealth Heavyweight Contest
The Harbinger 1957 All Nations The Dynamic Welshman
Loughattem Winton
Ray HUNTER v. **Dai SULLIVAN**
Hobart, Tasmania Tonypandy
AN ALL-ACTION WELTERWEIGHT CONTEST
JACKIE PALLO v. **TONY LAWRENCE**
Highbury Dundee
Heavyweight Contest A Sensational Return Contest Heavyweight Contest
Tony Mancoli v. **BERT ROYAL** **Charlie Fisher**
Blackfriars Bolton Eltham
Gene Murphy v. **STEVE LOGAN** 'Judo' **Al Hayes**
Australia London Westminster
ALL Advance Bookings from:—
THE ORCHID BALLROOM, Brighton Rd., Purley, Tel.: UPLands 1174/5
Prices: 11/- 7/6 (members & reserved); 5/- (seats); 3/- (seats & standing)

Bottom Right Handbill (Red):
DALE MARTIN PROMOTIONS LTD. proudly present 1958
WRESTLING
THE ORCHID BALLROOM, PURLEY
Doors Open 7 o'clock TUES. NEXT JUNE 10 & Every TUES. Commence 8 o'clock
£50 A SENSATIONAL HEAVYWEIGHT £50
MONEY MATCH!
A Fight to a Finish! No Rounds! No Time Limit!
Mike MARINO v. **Big Bill VERNA**
The Famous Italian Golden Boy The 100 lb Australian Man Mountain
A Catchweight Contest A Black & White Contest
Harry **FIELDS** v. **COLBECK** **KWANGO** v. **CHURCHILL**
Dewsbury Wakefield West Africa London
A Sensational Anglo-Canadian Contest An Ultra Special Heavyweight Contest
GORI ED MANGOTICH v. **BILL ROBINSON**
Toronto, Canada Manchester
LES KELLETT v. **CHARLIE FISHER**
Bradford Luton
ALL Advance Bookings from:—
THE ORCHID BALLROOM, Brighton Rd., Purley, Tel.: UPLands 1174/5
Prices: 10/- 7/6 5/- 3/-

DALE MARTIN PROMOTIONS LTD. proudly presents 1958

WRESTLING

THE ORCHID BALLROOM, PURLEY

Doors Open 7 o'clock | **TUES. NEXT JUNE 24 & Every TUES.** | Commence 8 o'clock

INTERNATIONAL WRESTLING AT ITS BEST!
A Dynamic Heavyweight Contest
The Dynamic Local Favourite The Fighting Welshman

Mike MARINO v. Dai SULLIVAN
The Popular Anglo-Italian Star The Welshman

Anglo-Irish Contest **Tommy MANN v. Frank O'DONNELL**
Manchester Bolton

Light-Heavywt. Contest STEVE LOGAN London v. ERIC TAYLOR Bradford	Anglo-American Heavyweight Contest The One and Only Charlie FISHER Folham v. "Texas" Buddy CODY Dallas, U.S.A.	Official British Light-Heavy Champion Ernie RILEY Wigan v. The Phenomenal Bert ROYAL Bolton
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ALL Advance Bookings from:
THE ORCHID BALLROOM, Brighton Rd., Purley. Tel.: UPLand 1174/5
Prices: 10/- 7/6 5/- 3/-

DALE MARTIN PROMOTIONS LTD. proudly presents 1958

WRESTLING

THE ORCHID BALLROOM, PURLEY

Doors Open 7 o'clock | **TUES. NEXT MAY 13 & Every TUES.** | Commence 7.45

8 OUTSTANDING INTERNATIONAL CONTESTS 8

SENSATIONAL HEAVY-WEIGHT, K.O. TOURNAMENT
PRELIMINARIES, SEMI-FINALS & FINAL All on this One Great Night

MIKE MARINO ITALY	GORDON NELSON CANADA	NORMAN WALSH MIDDLESBROUGH
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A Special welterweight Contest **Chf Beaumont v. Jackie Palle**

MILO POPOCOPOLIS GREECE	PRIZE MONEY AND TROPHY	ERNIE "KIWI" KINGSTON NEW ZEALAND
JOHNNA CZESLAW POLAND	CHARLIE FISHER LONDON	GEOFF PORTZ SOUTH AFRICA

Tickets and Bookings available from P.M.A. Ltd. (Purley Leisure Centre) & Banstead Rd., Purley, Surrey. Tel.: UPLand 9873 & 6156

10 - 7 6 5 - & 3 -
Numbered and Reserved Seats and Standing

DALE MARTIN PROMOTIONS LTD. proudly presents 1958

WRESTLING

THE ORCHID BALLROOM, PURLEY

Doors Open 7.00 p.m. | **TUES. MAY 20 & Every TUES.** | Commence 7.45 p.m.

A SENSATIONAL ANGLO-ITALIAN HEAVYWEIGHT CONTEST
The Official Heavyweight Champion of Italy The Hottest 1957 All Nations Tournament Winner

MARIO MATASSA v. RAY HUNTER
GENOA TASMANIA

A SENSATIONAL BLACK v. WHITE HEAVYWEIGHT CONTEST
MASAMBULA v. Billy JOYCE
The African "Witchdoctor" GHANA WIDAN

A Black v. White Contest
BLACK KWANGO
West Africa
v.
TOMMY MANN
Manchester

An Anglo-Danish Contest
ARTHUR FISHER
Sitham
v.
STEFFAN MILLA
Anglo-Danish Star

A TENEKSYONAL LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHT CONTEST
The Phenomenal The "Iron-Man"

BERT ROYAL v. STEVE LOGAN
BOLTON LONDON

ALL Advance Bookings from:
THE ORCHID BALLROOM, Brighton Rd., Purley. Tel.: UPLand 1174/5
Prices: 10/-, 7/6 (numbered & reserved), 5/- (seats), 3/- (seats & standing)

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WRESTLING

THE ORCHID BALLROOM, PURLEY

Doors Open 7 o'clock | **TUES. NEXT MAY 27 & Every TUES.** | Commence 8 o'clock

An Outstanding Italian v. Australian Heavyweight Clash

Mike MARINO v. Big Bill VERNA
Winner of the Record H-Weight Tournament at this arena 22 st. Australian Giant

Welter Wt. Clash Mick McMANUS New Cross, London v. AL NICHOLS Nottingham	Light Heavy-Wt. Clash SPENCER CHURCHILL Famous Physicist Oulterist DOUG JOYCE Rushden	Special Welter Classic STEFFAN MILLA Anglo-Danish Star v. Archer O'BRIEN Chelmsford
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Extra Special Hungarian v. Welsh Heavyweight Contest
TIBOR SZAKACS v. GWYN DAVIES
The Great Star from Budapest Master, Wales

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THE ORCHID BALLROOM, Brighton Rd., Purley. Tel.: UPLand 1174/5
Prices: 10/-, 7/6 (numbered & reserved), 5/- (seats), 3/- (seats & standing)

mitchel.steve454

Off the wrestling theme, a very old friend of mine told me The Orchid and Wimbledon Palais were really posh!

Any memories?

big_al_hibbert

Ha Ha, Steve if you "eard" me talk it's the last thing you would call me posh.

Working class.

williamr

Some great bills there.

Hack

48 years is nothing to apologise for. We should all calenarise 2023 for a Heritage celebration.

I was interested to see Dale Martin offering free tickets for the TV show. About 15 years ago I told of Morrell giving free tickets for TV shows.

My sanity was challenged. A tradition that has continued to this day.

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