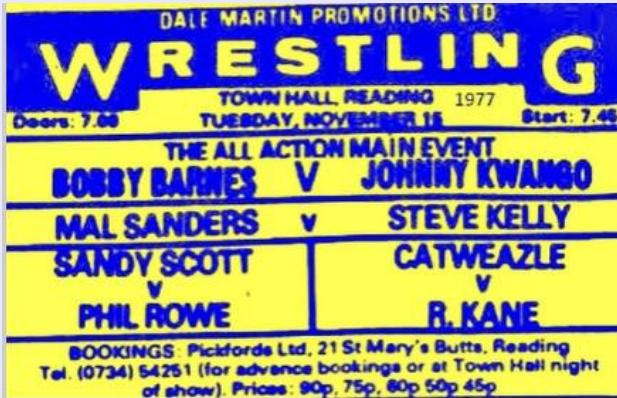


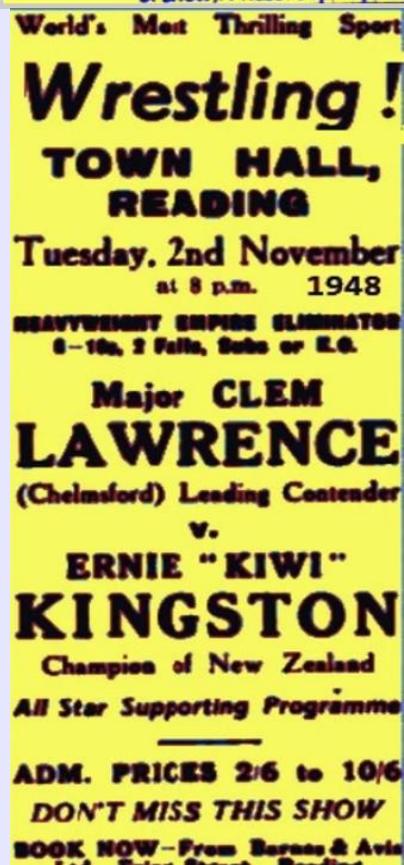
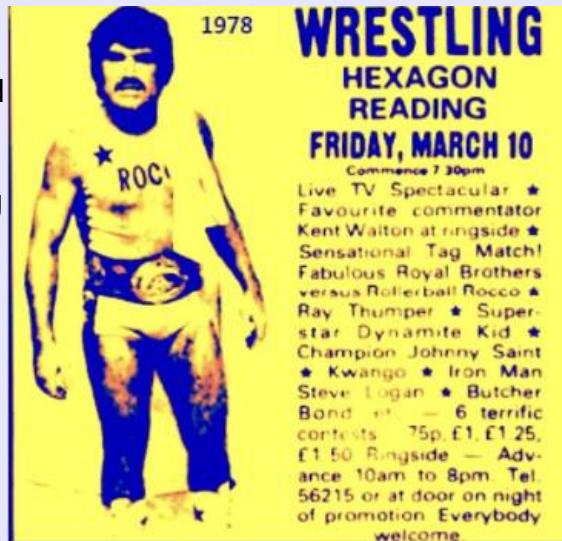
Ron's Wrestling Ramblings

Join Ron Historyo and add your comments in the forum
<https://heritagedocs.wixsite.com/talkwrestling/forum/memories-of-the-old-days/reading-wrestling>

Reading



In December 1977 Reading Town Hall said goodbye to wrestling and a new building the Hexagon was to become its next home.



What was the history of Wrestling in Reading and how long had the Town Hall been used?

Tuesday, 2nd November at 8 p.m. 1948

HEAVYWEIGHT EMPIRE ELIMINATOR 8-10s, 2 Falls, 50s or E.O.

Thus far I have not found any wartime or 1930's wrestling in the town, but I did find in 1948 that Wrestling was frowned upon and there had been a ban on it at the Town Hall.

I don't know if it had been tried or if it had been kept out of the town, but Dale Martins were entrusted to a trial with some nice clean wrestling to attempt to win a lease for regular shows at the Town Hall.

Odd other venues were used sometimes but the Town Hall tenure lasted nearly 30 years. This was the trial show and the earliest wrestling I have found in Reading. Support was Ron Harrison v Babe Quesick, Vic Coleman v Al Jackson, McManus v Capelli, and Alan Garfield gave a weight lifting exhibition.

The Ost

The 1948 one therefore is a new find. Nice one Ron.

Hack

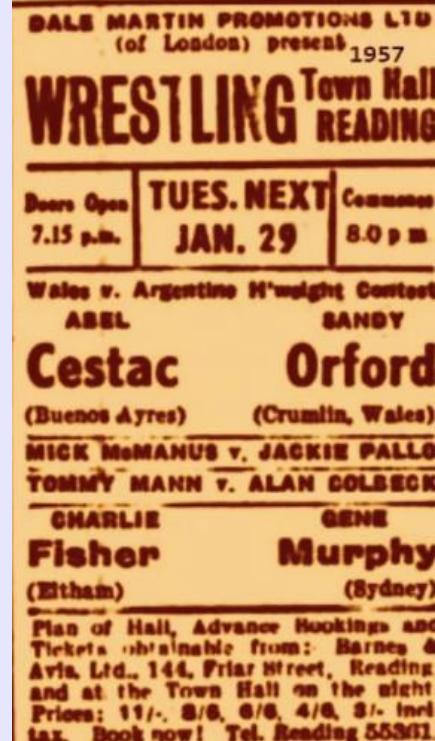
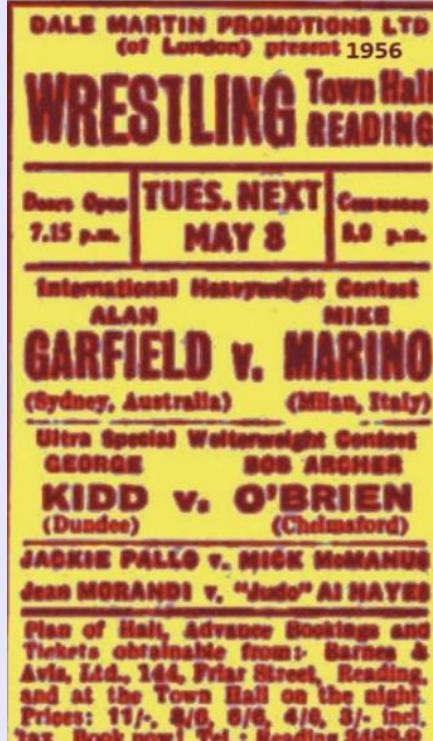
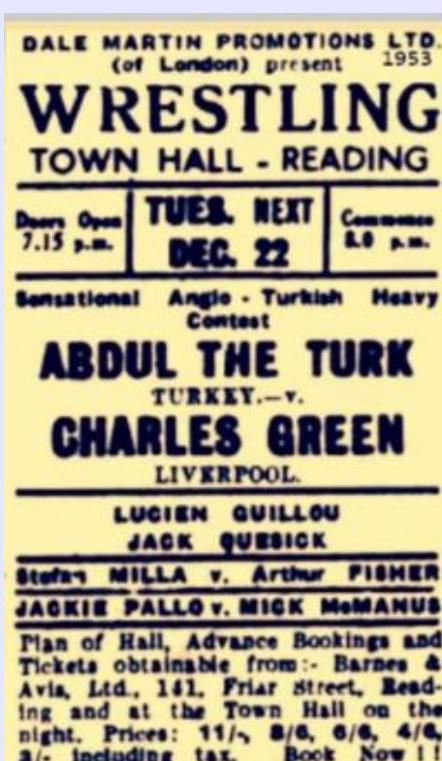
There was definitely a reluctance to stage wrestling in Reading. But there are suggestions wrestling took place before then. Ray Plunkett has his first bill on 6th March, 1935. Where he got that from I've no idea and can find no evidence. The Reading Standard of 2nd October 1936 does say that Bert Howarth is going to stage all-in wrestling at Palm Lodge on 6th October, 1936. Main event Van Dutz v Ray St Bernard, with Fred Unwin v Stan Stone in support. The Reading Standard of 6th November, 1936 said it was unlikely there would be more wrestling at the Palm Lodge, but the Corn Exchange was a possible venue. On 1st January the newspaper reported: "And a bit 'fishy' was the attempt to popularise all-in wrestling. At least we had one sample of it, and that was that. You are left to decide whether Reading disliked wrestling or wrestling disliked Reading."

Ron

A year or more ago we debated the 1950's matches between McManus and Pallo and we even had a list.

I contributed their earliest ever meeting (known) as a December 1952 bout at Bedford. However despite having this bill Jackie Pallo was a substitute. I have found a bill at Reading that I think is the earliest where they are "billed" together. I think so far the only 1953 example.

Examples of their meetings are becoming more and more and I found another two at reading in the 1950's Note they are always undercard.



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International Heavyweight Contest
ERICK **TIBOR**
KOLTSCHA'K versus **SZAKACS**
(Berlin) (Budapest, Hungary)

Buddy Cody v
The Winner of the Steve Logan v
Spencer Churchill Contest on May 20

Harry Kendall v Dennis Dean
(Brixton) (Sydney, Australia)

'Mr. TV' Pallo v Mick McManus
(Highbury) (New Cross)

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Prices: 11/-, 8/6, 6/6, 4/6, 2/-. (inc.
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Super International Heavyweight
Contest

PAT O'REILLY
IRELAND

RAY HUNTER
TASMANIA

Mick McMANUS v. Steve LOGAN
P. O'DONNELL v. J. WILLIAMS
An Anglo-Canadian Heavyweight
Match

JACQUES LA ROUCHE
v. **DON STEDMANN**

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obtainable from Barnes & Avis Ltd.,
141, Friar Street Reading, and at
the Town Hall on the night of the
Show. **5th FEB 1952 BOOK NOW!**

It's the 1960's now and a fourth tear up but still
before their cup final day explosion.

Jackie is now "Mr TV" but still they are propping the
card up.

Just for good measure I also throw in a McManus v
Logan match, very early in 1952.

These meetings were not so frequent.

It seems that for the first four years the Town Hall was not always available. I know that crowds were about 1000 and I don't think the Olympia Dance Hall was any bigger so I am struggling to see any other reason that some shows were done here. These sit side by side with Town Hall bills.

WRESTLING			WRESTLING!			WRESTLING			WRESTLING			WRESTLING		
OLYMPIA BALLROOM. LONDON STREET, READING			Olympia Ballroom London Street - Reading			Olympia Ballroom LONDON STREET, READING			Olympia Ballroom, Reading			Olympia Ballroom READING		
Tuesday, December 13th Doors Open 7.15 Commence 8.0			TUESDAY, MARCH 22nd Doors open 7.15 p.m. Commence 8.0. DALE MARTIN PROMOTIONS LTD. proudly present			TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15th Doors Open 7.15 p.m. Commence 8.0.			TUES., SEPTEMBER 20 Doors open 7.15 Commence 8.0.			TUESDAY, APRIL 18		
Public Demand Heavyweight Contest			Southern Area Light Heavyweight Championship and Other Titles Sanctioned by Southern Wrestling Board of Control.			Transvaal Heavyweight International BILLET			Great Heavyweight Attraction: Tony MANOELLI Ex-King's Sergeant, R.A.F. - The Blackman Thunderbolt.			AT LAST BY PUBLIC DEMAND! Sensational Heavyweight Challenge Match, promising		
PAT O'REILLY (Ireland). The toughest man in the ring.			SONNY WALLIS KAMMERMUTH - R. Area Champion v. CHAS. FISHER POPLAR - Pride of London's East End.			BLACK BUTCH JOHNSON World-Famed Exponent of "La Brute."			Ken DAVIES (Wales). One of the strongest Wrestlers in the Ring.			PATRICK O'REILLY		
ERNEST "KIWI" KINGSTON Heavyweight champion of New Zealand.			ARCHER O'BRIEN v. KID PITTMAN London Middleweight Challenge Match For 10 minute Rounds.			TONY MANN v. SLIPP MEANING KID PITTMAN v. STAN STONE			EDMUND PITTMAN v. ARTHUR FISHER Ex-R.A.F. Sailor, Poplar, One of the R.E. Family.			Ireland. 17st. Irish Heavyweight and Challenger for the British Heavyweight Title. Has met and defeated some of the world's greatest wrestling talent. Specially built to meet Austral.		
'College Boy' v. KID PITTMAN			JACK DALE British Middleweight Champion v. HARRY FIELDS Bradford.			DAI SULLIVAN v. MIKE MARINO			ALF CADMUS v. BEN HARRISON Wrestler, Fox and Fifer.			BEARDED KEN DAVIES		
Jack Dempsey v. Steve Logan Stan Stone v. Lee Britton			Special Heavyweight Contest MIKE MARINO v. DAVID DAVY Italy Wales			ADMISSION (including tax): 5/- 6/- 6/6, 7/- Tickets 10/6, 8/-, 6/-, 4/-, 3/-, from Barnes & Avis Ltd., 141, Frier St., Reading, or from Olympia on night of tournament. 1949			Stanley WALLIS v. SWANSON Transvaal Heavyweight Champion.			Wales. 1714lb. of dynamic power and crushing strength. A wrestler with an international reputation and a great record.		
Book now at Barnes and Avis Ltd., 141, Frier Street, Reading. Prices of Admission: 10/6, 8/-, 6/-, 4/- and 3/- (including tax). 1949			ADMISSION (including tax): 5/- 6/- 6/6, 7/- Tickets 10/6, 8/-, 6/-, 4/-, 3/-, from Barnes & Avis Ltd., 141, Frier St., Reading. (Telephone 3449).			HELP THE BOYS WHO SAVED THE WORLD. 1949			Don't Miss This Great Contest! USUAL ALL-STAR SUPPORTING PROGRAMME 1950			Don't Miss This Great Contest! USUAL ALL-STAR SUPPORTING PROGRAMME 1950		
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CHAS. GREENE PAT O'REILLY Ireland, the well-known strong boy			FRANCIS ST. CLAIR GREGORY Secretary, Committee, Official Western Area Champion.			DAVID Armstrong Wrestler. A superb exponent of Heavyweight.			MIKE MARINO NAPLES, ITALY.			GIANT ANACONDA The English Cossack (700 lbs. 19 stone).		
BEN CHEMOL Frankfurt, Germany.			Jack McNAMEE v. Johnny PETERS E. LAWRENCE v. George KIDD Sonny WALLIS v. Bob HARRISON			Ken JOYCE v. GUY BEAUMONT Mike MARINO v. Jim ANDERSON Lee BRITTON v. Nat RABIN			JACQUES LA ROUCHE QUEBEC, CANADA.			Bob Arthur O'BRIEN v. Pat SLOANE Bob HARRISON v. Stan STONE		
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Prices of Admission: 10/-, 7/6, 6/-

5/- reserved. Grand Stand 5/6.

unreserved. Book now at Barnes

& Avis, 140, Frier Street, Read-
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Prices of Admission: 10/-, 7/6, 6/-

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& Avis, 14

Have a look at Garfield in Reading.

WRESTLING
TOWN HALL, READING

Doors Open 7.15 p.m.	TUES. NEXT FEB. 3	Commence 8.00 p.m.
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Sensational All-Action Heavy
Contact
ALAN
GARFIELD
AUSTRALIA v.
PATRICK
O'REILLY
IRELAND.

Jackie PORTZ v. Bob ROBINSON
Tony Quarmby v. Bob A. O'Brien
Dennis DEMPSEY v. Bertie SMITH

PRICES: 11/-, 8/6, 6/6, 4/6, 2/-
(including tax).

Plan of Hall, Advance Bookings and
Tickets obtainable from: Barnes &
Avis, Ltd., 144, Friar Street, Reading,
and at the Town Hall on the night.
Prices: 11/-, 8/6, 6/6, 4/6, 2/-
(including tax). Book now! Tel.: Reading 348811.

DALE MARTIN PROMOTIONS LTD
(of London) present 1958

WRESTLING Town Hall READING

Doors Open 7.15 p.m.	TUES. NEXT JAN. 14	Commence 8 p.m.
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Commonwealth Heavyweight Contest

DALE MARTIN PROMOTIONS LTD
(of London) present 1958

WRESTLING Town Hall READING

Doors Open 7.15 p.m.	TUES. NEXT APRIL 21	Commence 8.00 p.m.
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A Sensational "Clash of Giants"

DALE MARTIN PROMOTIONS LTD
(of London) present 1959

WRESTLING Town Hall READING

Doors Open 7.15 p.m.	TUES. NEXT FEB. 10	Commence 8.00 p.m.
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DALE MARTIN PROMOTIONS LTD
(of London) present 1959

WRESTLING Town Hall READING

Doors Open 7.15 p.m.	TUES. NEXT JAN. 26	Commence 8.00 p.m.
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An Ultra Special Heavyweight Contest

DALE MARTIN PROMOTIONS LTD
(of London) present 1960

WRESTLING Town Hall READING

Doors Open 7.15 p.m.	TUES. NEXT JUN. 28	Commence 8 p.m.
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A Sensational Heavyweight Contest

DALE MARTIN PROMOTIONS LTD
(of London) present 1960

WRESTLING Town Hall READING

Doors Open 7.15 p.m.	TUESDAY NOV. 29	Comm. 8 p.m.
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International Wrestling at its best

DALE MARTIN PROMOTIONS LTD
(of London) proudly present 1961

WRESTLING Town Hall READING

Doors Open 7.15 p.m.	TUESDAY AUGUST 8	Comm. 8 p.m.
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Outstanding Light-heavyweight contest

DALE MARTIN PROMOTIONS LTD
(of London) proudly present 1961

WRESTLING Town Hall READING

Doors Open 7.15 p.m.	TUESDAY AUGUST 8	Comm. 8 p.m.
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International Wrestling at its best

DALE MARTIN PROMOTIONS LTD
(of London) proudly present 1961

WRESTLING Town Hall READING

Doors Open 7.15 p.m.	TUESDAY AUGUST 8	Comm. 8 p.m.
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Outstanding Light-heavyweight contest

DALE MARTIN PROMOTIONS LTD
(of London) proudly present 1961

WRESTLING Town Hall READING

Doors Open 7.15 p.m.	TUESDAY AUGUST 8	Comm. 8 p.m.
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International Wrestling at its best

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(of London) proudly present 1961

WRESTLING Town Hall READING

Doors Open 7.15 p.m.	TUESDAY AUGUST 8	Comm. 8 p.m.
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Outstanding Light-heavyweight contest

DALE MARTIN PROMOTIONS LTD
(of London) proudly present 1961

WRESTLING Town Hall READING

Doors Open 7.15 p.m.	TUESDAY AUGUST 8	Comm. 8 p.m.
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International Wrestling at its best

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(of London) proudly present 1961

WRESTLING Town Hall READING

Doors Open 7.15 p.m.	TUESDAY AUGUST 8	Comm. 8 p.m.
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Outstanding Light-heavyweight contest

DALE MARTIN PROMOTIONS LTD
(of London) proudly present 1961

WRESTLING Town Hall READING

Doors Open 7.15 p.m.	TUESDAY AUGUST 8	Comm. 8 p.m.
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International Wrestling at its best

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(of London) proudly present 1961

WRESTLING Town Hall READING

Doors Open 7.15 p.m.	TUESDAY AUGUST 8	Comm. 8 p.m.
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Outstanding Light-heavyweight contest

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(of London) proudly present 1961

WRESTLING Town Hall READING

Doors Open 7.15 p.m.	TUESDAY AUGUST 8	Comm. 8 p.m.
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International Wrestling at its best

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WRESTLING Town Hall READING

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Outstanding Light-heavyweight contest

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(of London) proudly present 1961

WRESTLING Town Hall READING

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International Wrestling at its best

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WRESTLING Town Hall READING

Doors Open 7.15 p.m.	TUESDAY AUGUST 8	Comm. 8 p.m.
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Outstanding Light-heavyweight contest

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WRESTLING Town Hall READING

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Doors Open 7.15 p.m.	TUESDAY AUGUST 8	Comm. 8 p.m.
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Outstanding Light-heavyweight contest

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WRESTLING Town Hall READING

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Outstanding Light-heavyweight contest

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WRESTLING Town Hall READING

Doors Open 7.15 p.m.	TUESDAY AUGUST 8	Comm. 8 p.m.
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International Wrestling at its best

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WRESTLING Town Hall READING

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Outstanding Light-heavyweight contest

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WRESTLING Town Hall READING

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WRESTLING Town Hall READING

Doors Open 7.15 p.m.	TUESDAY AUGUST 8	Comm. 8 p.m.
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Outstanding Light-heavyweight contest

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WRESTLING Town Hall READING

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International Wrestling at its best

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Outstanding Light-heavyweight contest

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WRESTLING Town Hall READING

Doors Open 7.15 p.m.	TUESDAY AUGUST 8	Comm. 8 p.m.
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International Wrestling at its best

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WRESTLING Town Hall READING

Doors Open 7.15 p.m.	TUESDAY AUGUST 8	Comm. 8 p.m.
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Outstanding Light-heavyweight contest

DALE MARTIN PROMOTIONS LTD
(of London) proudly present 1961

WRESTLING Town Hall READING

j_shelvey

Great research Ron. I think I could revert to being a kid again, if I woke up on Christmas morning and there was a Christmas stocking with a half a dozen (of those old bills stuffed in it!

Anglo Italian

Talking of Garfield, let's remember our much loved and departed forum maestro Old David who once recalled seeing Garfield v Marino in Kent on a Tuesday. The next day he found himself in Reading and went blind to the wrestling, not knowing who was on. Wasn't it only Garfield v Marino again! Skeptical, Old David expected to see the same bout rehashed, but saw a completely different contest. He was very impressed. I see Marino and Gafield at it in Reading even 15 years before Old David saw them. Otherwise, someone was watching Garfield's Reading opponents with great care as there are no repeats and big names like Dara Singh and Georges Gordienko. Between January and June 1960 we can see Garfield's billing switch from Sydney to London. Must have been when he started his backchat with his London accent. Always scope to ponder a new name, though: Jimmy Munlack opposing Steve Logan? Odd name. Must have been real!

SaxonWolf

For me, at least, this only goes to deepen the Garfield mystery. A main eventer for many years who just never made it into the TV era properly. Do we really believe it was because he somehow upset Kent Walton?

Anglo Italian

We don't really know, Saxonwolf, but it's the only story we have and has to be the history at this point. It's rather fun, so no harm going with it in my opinion. Joined at the hip to Geo Kidd at that time. Kidd was a monkey, seemed to run with the fox and hunt with the hounds. Was never blackballed and commanded all the work (and Scottish venues) he wanted.

SaxonWolf

Actually Anglo, just a thought, but when Wrestling first appeared on TV, it was (of course) presented as a real sporting contest, were there any "villains" on TV in the late 50's and early 60's?, would Alan Garfield have come across as "too pantomime" at that point? I am clutching at straws I guess, because I just don't see why the promoters wouldn't have pushed him heavily on TV in the early days, with him being a prominent name, usually at the top of bill, who should have been well known to anyone who went to watch a live show.

Anglo Italian

Mmmm. True, he was clearly very well known. Should really have had more tv exposure than McManus and Pallo combined. Given that it was ALLLLLLL a work in spite of what we like to (pretend to) believe, the most rational and boring theory is that Garfield wanted it like this. They were all up to all sorts of shenanigans, Garfiled perhaps selling motors illegally? Some didn't want to be seen.

SaxonWolf

Not sure why Alan Garfield wouldn't want to be seen on TV? If you look at how many shows he headlined over the years, there must have been hundreds (thousands?) of people who saw his face on a weekly basis?

Ron

Maybe Garfield was never forgiven for working for Lincoln before his second tour. Not so with Capelli, but Garfield probably did what suited him and at that time Dale Martins were last.....Payback

Fast forward to 1960, through the 50's Dale Martins had no opposition in Reading, but the Olympia Ballroom was snatched for a few shows.

Now we have talked about a relationship with Dales and Devereux before. But had not some of these guys left Joint by 1960.

And even more controversial I am claiming a "find". Has anyone ever seen Paul Lincoln billed under his own name in 1960 or beyond?

I did a thread on his debut and anytime in the late 1950's we thought there was an odd sighting , but we did not know if it was Lincoln. Ost , I think managed a few shows in January 1960 for Doctor Death and if you look here in January 18th I am showing you a bill that I believe could be the only physical bill where we see Paul Lincoln as himself.

So comments welcome on what Devereaux were doing and Paul Lincoln as himself this late. Is this history.

OLYMPIA BALLROOM WRESTLING		
DOORS OPEN 7 P.M.	MONDAY, FEB. 1	COMMENCE 7.45 P.M.
An outstanding Heavyweight Contest BUTCHER		JOHNNY
JOHNSON	v.	PETERS
Grand Heavyweight Contest: RON HARRISON v. ROBERT TAYLOR		AE action Catchweight Contest: KEN SHAW v. RON KNIGHT
AMERICAN STYLE TAG TEAM MATCH KEN JOYCE v. EDDIE CAPELLI NORMAN THOMAS v. LINDY GAULDERS		
PRICES : 14/6 8/6 5/6 4/6 2/- Tickets and Advance Bookings from : OLYMPIA BALLROOM, 78, London Street, Reading. Phone 36667.		1960
OLYMPIA BALLROOM, READING Dovercourt Promotions Ltd., presents		
WRESTLING		
DOORS OPEN 7 P.M.	MONDAY, FEB. 15	COMMENCE 7.45 P.M.
7 GREAT BOUTS	SENSATIONAL E.B. TOURNAMENT	7 GREAT BOUTS
KEN SHAW (Bermondsey)	PAT KLOKE (Dublin)	BENNY VANDEN BURG (South Africa)
REG. TROOD (Kensington)	SILVER CUP to be presented to the winner	JACKIE MARTIN (Canada)
FRANKIE HUGHES (Sydenham)	MIKE SHANAHAN (Ireland)	TONY LORD (Lancashire)
PRICES : 14/6 8/6 5/6 4/6 2/- Tickets and Advance Bookings from : OLYMPIA BALLROOM, 78, London Street, Reading. Phone 36667.		1960

PROFESSIONAL WRESTLING	
at the OLYMPIA BALLROOM, READING	
DOORS OPEN 7 P.M.	MONDAY, JAN. 18
COMMENCE 7.30 P.M.	
THE GREAT KUMALI v. SCOTT	CHARLIE SCOTT
(West Africa) The Famous Heavyweight Show Card Champ	Terminated A. Strong and Tough Wrestler
JEN JOYCE	ROY LA RUE
(London) The European Heavyweight Champion	(West Africa) A. Fast and clever Wrestler
LESLO BAIKO	TERRY GIBBS
(Romania) Heavyweight Champion of Hungary	(London)
GEORGE KIDD	PAUL LINCOLN
(London) The World's Lightweight Champion	(London) Champion Spared with 14-11
PRICES : 7/6 5/6 3/6 1/- 1/-	1960
Address: 1000 DEVEREUX BROWNSWOOD, READING OLYMPIA BALLROOM, 75, LONDON STREET, READING, PH 3888.	
OLYMPIA BALLROOM, READING	
DEVEREUX PROMOTIONS LTD. present	
WRESTLING	
DOORS OPEN 7 P.M.	MONDAY, MARCH 14
COMMENCE 7.30 P.M.	
Butcher JOHNSON v.	The Great BULA
(West Indies) The Renowned Coloured Ace of the Ring	The Mystery Man
TONY LORD	VAN DEN BURG
(Lancashire)	(South Africa)
FRANKIE HUGHES	LINDY CAWLDERS
(Sydenham)	(West Indies)
THE COLLEGE BOY	RON HARRISON
(Cambridge)	(Queen's Park)
PRICES : 10/6 8/6 6/6 4/6 2/-	1960
Address: 1000 DEVEREUX BROWNSWOOD, READING, PH 3888.	

Ron

Finally a variety from the Town Hall

WHITE-MARTIN PROFESSIONAL LTD. 1951
WRESTLING
TOWN HALL, READING
TICKETS 25/- EACH
TUESDAY JAN. 9
Opposite 7 p.m.
The Mighty Reddick returns
CHIEF
THUNDERBIRD
Champion of Canada
MIKE BYRNES
Country Knavy, 2000.
Eddie GAFELLI v. Young SPAN
Harry FIELDS v. Jag WIRASO
Gordon SMITH v. John WILLIAMS
All male bookings.
Prince of Wales Auditorium, Reading
Mon., 1951, 85-95-105-125-145-165
Price of each ticket £1.00, including
admission, room charge &
tax. Box, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th
rows and at the door, 5/-

DALE-MARTIN Promotions Ltd. present
WRESTLING
TOWN HALL, READING

Doors Open 7.15 p.m.	TUESDAY SEPT. 16	1962
		Comments 100 p.m.

An International Wallermatch
 Contests
ROLAND
DECONNICK
 v.
GEORGE KIDD

THE BLACK PANTHER
 v. **DON STEPHAN**

Steve LOGAN v. **Steve MUGGINS**
Paul LINCOLN v. **Kid PITTMAN**

PRICES: 15/-, 25/-, 35/-, 45/-, 5/-
 (including tax) all seats reserved
 Plus of Hall. Advance Bookings
 and Tickets obtainable from
 Barnes & Avis Ltd., 141, Four
 Street, Reading, and at the Town
 Hall on the night. **BOOK NOW**

DALE MARTIN PROMOTIONS LTD.
(of London) presents 1954

WRESTLING

TOWN HALL - READING

Doors Open
7.15 p.m. **TUES. NEXT** **JUNE 22** **Com-**
7.30 p.m.

ABDUL THE TURK **TURKEY**

v. MIKE MARINO **MILAN, ITALY**

Pat O'RILEY v. **Scratch** **Opposition**
(Dublin) **(West Indies)**

Jim LEWIS v. **Miss HEDDLE**
(Manchester) **(London)**

Spencer SHIREHILL v. **J. PETERS**
(London) **(Bodmin, Middlesex)**

Plan of Hall, Advance Bookings and
Tickets obtainable from: **DALM** a
Avia, Ltd., 143, Friar Street, Reading
and at the Town Hall on the
night. Prices: 5/-, 7/-, 10/-, 15/-.

SALE MARTIN PROMOTIONS LTD. Tel. London 1-3966		
WRESTLING Town Hall READING		
Doors Open 3.15 p.m.	TUES. NEXT FEB. 12	Commence 8.00 p.m.
Super International Heavyweight Contest GEORGES MIKE		
Gorolenko Marino (Ukraine) (Italy)		
SAT. FEB. 13 FRANKIE HUGHES SEST ROYAL T. LEE EDWARDS		
MASAHIBA BUDDY BUDY (Gold Coast) (U.S.A.)		
Plan of Hall, Adverse Bookings and Tickets obtainable from:- Barnes & Sons, Ltd., 244, Friar Street, Reading, and at the Town Hall on the night of the show. Tel. 4-1525, 4-1526, 4-1527, 4-1528, 4-1529, 4-1530.		

DALE MARTIN PROMOTIONS LTD
601 LONDON STREET 1957

WRESTLING Town Hall
READING

Doors Open
7.15 p.m. **TUES. NEXT** **Commemorative**
MAR. 26 **ROSE**

International Heavyweight Contest

GEORGES **ERNIE**
GORDIENKO BALDWIN

ERIC TAYLOR v. STEVE LOGGIN
KEN JOYCE v. JEAN MORANDI

International Welterweight Contest

DEMPSEY v. **MAHEAUFAUK**

Plan of Hall, Address Bookings and
Tickets obtainable from: Harters &
Avis, Ltd., 144, Finsbury Street, Reading
and at the Town Hall on the night
Prices: 1/-, 2/-, 3/-, 4/-, 5/-, 6/-

DALE MARTIN PROMOTIONS, LTD.
(of London) present 1959
WRESTLING Town Hall
READING

Doors Open 1.15 p.m.	TUES. NEXT SEPT. 22	Competitors H. L. J. P. H.
Contest for Official Light-Heavyweight Championship of Great Britain		
ERNIE	BILLY	
RILEY v. HOWES		
(Wigan)	(Bristol)	
Antonio Mueller v. Black Kwango		
Peter Sanders v. Arthur O'Brien		
JUDO AL	BILLY	
Hayes v. Robinson		
(Wrexham)	(Manchester)	
Place of hall, advance bookings and tickets obtainable from: Barnes & Avis, Ltd., 346, Frier Street, Reading, and at the Town Hall on the night		

SALE MARTIN PROMOTIONS, LTD. (of London) present		1962
WRESTLING		Town Hall READING
Starts	TUES NEXT	Commence
7 p.m.	APRIL 5	7.45 p.m.
Commonwealth Heavyweight Contest		
" JUDO " AL		GEORGES
HAYES v. GORDIENKO		
(Westminster)		(Winnipeg)
PETER SZAKACS v. CECIL O'MONROE		
JACKIE PALLO v. ALAN COLBECK		
KURT		BILLY
WENZEL v. RAWLINGS		
(Vienna, Austria)		(Dewsbury)
Plan of hall, advance bookings and tickets obtainable from: Barnes & Avis, LTD., 164, Friar Street, Reading, and at the Town Hall on the night.		

DALE MARTIN PROMOTIONS, LTD.	
proudly present 1961	
WRESTLING	Town Hall
READING	
Doors Open 7.15 pm	TUESDAY JUNE 27
	Comm. 8 pm
International Wrestling at its best	
GEORGES	GWYN
GORDIENKO	DAVIES
(Winnipeg, Canada) (Maeysteg, Wales)	
Melvyn Riss v. Julian Morice	
(Buchdale)	(Towynside)
Bob Anthony v. Brian Trevors	
(Chepstow)	(Keighley)
Johnny Yearsley v.	
Cardiff	Charlie Fisher
Plan of Hall, advance bookings and	Elliott
tickets obtainable from: Barnes &	
Avie, Ltd., 144 Friar Street, Reading,	
and at the Town Hall on the night.	

DALE MARTIN PROMOTIONS, LTD.	
proudly present 1961	
WRESTLING	Town Hall
READING	
Doors Open 7.15 pm	TUESDAY MAY 30
	Chairs. 8 pm
Angle-Friendly Showmanship Contest	
BILLY	MIKE
ROBINSON	HARINO
(Manchester)	(Milan, Italy)
Johnny Folley v Peter Sankacev	
(Leigh, Lancs)	(Budapest)
Bobby Steele v Al Noland	
(Manchester)	(Nottingham)
Steve Leggs v Spencer Churchill	
(Birmingham)	(Epsom, Surrey)
Plus of heat, advance bookings and tickets obtainable from Barnes & Avis, Ltd., 144 Friar Street, Reading, and at the Town Hall on the night.	
Prices: 2/14, 2/8, 2/6, 1/10, 5/-, 2/-, 1/-.	

Anglo Italian

Garfield. The Caswell Martin syndrome before his time?

SaxonWolf

Not sure what the Caswell Martin syndrome is, and not sure why Alan Garfield wouldn't want to be seen on TV?

Anglo Italian

Caswell Martin was brilliant. Could have had it all. Heaven knows what his real name was. But he worked the German tourneys and elsewhere and had several lives, not always wanting to be identified. All sorts of reasons. Hence my Garfield idea about the cars, but only an idea. Let's face it, if you're the taxman, in 1960 or 1970 how could you keep up with these guys?

Thing is, Garfield was so big, he replaced Assirati. Headlined all over the country. But unknown. He was unknown to most on here when I said he was my fave wrestler in 2004. And I only saw him in his twilight years ... but he was still mesmerising.

And yes Ron, the history of what was going on 60 years ago in the dressing rooms is slipping away from us. The Lincoln rise, trade unions, strikes, threats --- all within a relatively small pool of wrestlers. Most seemed to be forgiven instantly. But there must have been bad blood at the time.

I have Garfield, the employee, firmly in mind as someone who didn't care. He had his Bentleys.

But who knows?

SaxonWolf

Was he related to George Burgess? Brothers? Facialy, both very similar looking.

I know we joked about wrestlers having a "wrestling name" to fool the tax man, in the past, but this could have been the real reason of course.

Were Wrestlers ever paid in anything other than cash?

Join Ron Historyo and add your comments in the forum

<https://heritagedocs.wixsite.com/talkwrestling/forum/memories-of-the-old-days/reading-wrestling>