

# Ron's Wrestling Ramblings

## Redruth

**Join Ron Historyo and add your comments in the forum**

**<https://heritagedocs.wixsite.com/talkwrestling/forum/memories-of-the-old-days/kendo-in-redruth-1966>**

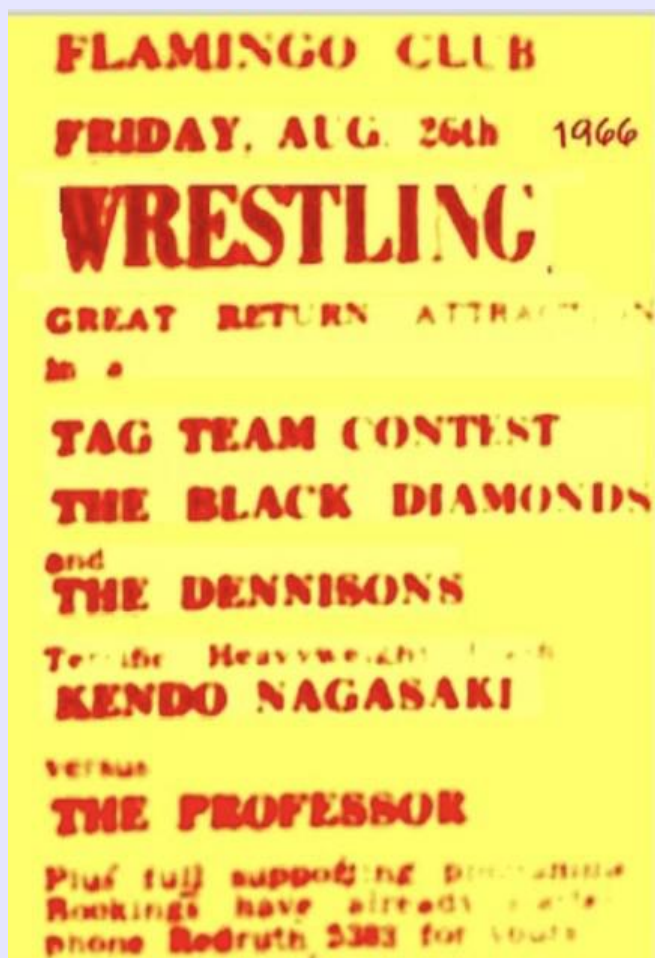
**FLAMINGO CLUB**  
Friday, April 22nd 1966  
**WRESTLING**  
Doors open 7 p.m. Start 7.45 p.m.  
**American-style  
TAG-TEAM  
WRESTLING**  
50 mins. Best of 3 falls, submissions,  
or knock-outs.  
**THE DENNISONS**  
Alan Dennison (Denholme),  
Sid Cooper (Bradford).  
These two have upset the Royals,  
versus  
**JOHNNY EAGLES**  
and  
**MIKE EAGERS**  
International Heavyweight Classic.  
**KENDO NAGASAKI**  
Unmasks when defeated. Has never  
had a fall scored against him,  
versus  
**PAT ROACH**  
16-stone. Has defeated all the top  
men.  
Advance bookings phone Redruth  
5383.

**RON HISTORYO....Time Cop**

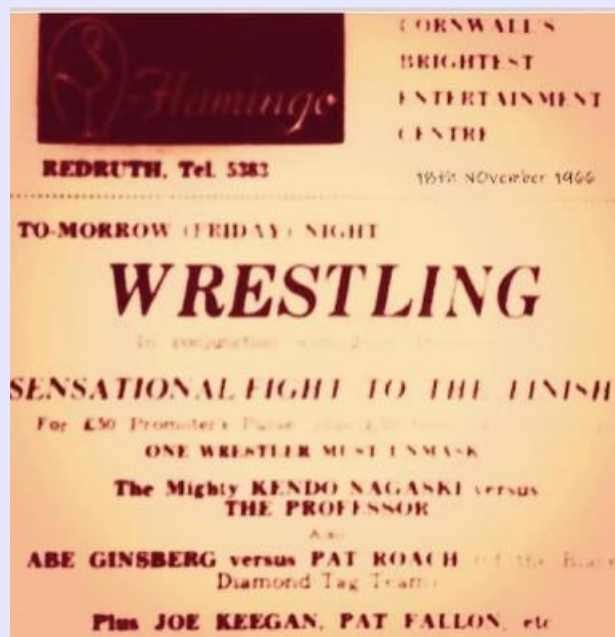
Just a glimpse of Kendo visiting Redruth the year he unmasked Bartelli

In 1966 I doubt if many in the audience knew of him unmasking Bartelli. In fact many may never have heard of Bartelli.

In fact only 18 months into his career it may have been Redruth's first taste of Kendo Nagasaki.



Having unmasked Bartelli in 66 it looks to me as though another unmasking was set up in Redruth. A two match grudge series I suppose and I can only imagine the Professor unmasked in the second contest looking at the stipulations.



**adrianpollard.shangri-la**

Hi RON!!-In PETER's Book-If you Remember- He Recalls a 'Notorious' Meeting at MALVERN Between KENDO NAGASAKI and THE PROFESSOR!! In PETER's Own Words-In The 'Early Days'- He was 'Very Robust'with KENDO's Offence and Apparently-This Bout did NOT 'Go to Plan'!

The PROFESSOR-Who is Described as 'Portly' was Aggressively Thrown Out of The Ring and Landed in an Unceremonious Heap on The Floor!! And....Didn't Move!-The Referee Who- I Seem to Recall was STAN RYLANDS- Began his Count!-Still The PROFESSOR Did NOT Move!-KENDO Remonstrated with him Interrupting The Count which was Stopped and Started again at least 3!!! Times!!-It would Seem The PROFESSOR Had been Knocked Unconscious...FOR REAL!!- Apparently The Crowd went Berserk at KENDO's 'Violence' On One of Their Favourites as he was Stretched Behind The Scenes by 'Medical' People-Probably St. John's Ambulance Folk!!

PETER States that because of the Enormous 'Heat' Generated by KENDO That Nite!-NAGASAKI Never Wrestled at MALVERN again for Many Years After!! This Could All Be TRUE you Know RON!???

**RON HISTORYO....Time Cop**

A bit of a mystery is that Cyril Morris is in the A-Z strongly tipped as The Prof , but he died before that second grudge bout. I had wondered if the second bout was a tribute to him. But the guy you are telling us about was much bigger. So who was the Professor and were there more than one. Was the Cyril Morris rumour wrong?

## **Hack**

That's an interesting find Ron. As you say that couldn't have been Cyril Morris and from what Main Mask says it sounds like it wouldn't have been anyway. Might well have been someone just put in place for the unmasking. Do we know the promoter?

## **bkendo1**

It's a Wryton promotion more to follow.

## **RON HISTORYO**

Fantastic Paul , so many of these end up frustratingly tantalising .

There is a real history here in this fun. Kendo, it seems may have taken a second scalp in 1966. If he did wonder if he did it in a few places like he did The White Angel unmaskings in the 1970's.

A great push you would think for Kendo and yet where would the news have actually traveled to.

Mouthwatering stuff Paul

## **ianwpringle**

Just another twist to the Nagasaki V Professor bout at Redruth 26th August 1966. Three days earlier on Tuesday 23rd August 1966 at Edinburgh Professor met STEVE BEST believe or not. Surely yet another Professor.



## **adrianpollard.shangri-la**

SO!!-WHICH PROFESSOR is This Then??- He DOES look a bit 'Portly'?!

## **bkendo1**

Firstly Steve Best's opponent there was an Artist in name changes. Now I wonder if this helps remenising a while back I mentioned mask v mask bouts and my mate said was this one before your time, Wryton put on in the midlands a bout they thought had legs namely the Strangler versus the Professor but it ended in mayhem and was deemed to have no future. The Strangler was Hans Streiger the Professor was Jack Rowlands.

## **adrianpollard.shangri-la**

I've just Re-Checked PETER's Book On This!-Firstly he States he Went to REDRUTH. Twice-The 1ST Time Being '6 Weeks or so' after he Started Wrestling!

Next he Obviously Thought That 'The Controversy at MALVERN'-The Chapter's 11 Page Title was So Significant in KENDO's Early Career that it Merited a WHOLE Chapter in the Book!- i got The Referee Wrong for This MASK versus MASK Contest-NOT STAN RYLANDS bit in fact-JACK ATHERTON-Who was also Promoting This Show!

I Suspect That The Match 'Verdict'-although not mentioned-was a NO CONTEST!-As there is also No Mention of THE PROFESSOR Being Unmasked-as would Normally have happened if he Failed to Beat The Ref's Count of Ten!

Apparently The PROFESSOR was 'Revived' in The Dressing Room-'Not Knowing what had Happened!'

It Seems ATHERTON Tried to Cash-In on The 'Sensationalism' of This Nite by Publicising in MALVERN that THE PROFESSOR had Subsequently DIED as a Result of Injuries Sustained at The Hands of KENDO NAGASAKI!!!!

So as a Matter of Personal Safety he did not Wrestle in MALVERN again between 1965 and 1969!.....4!!!! Years!!

#### **bkendo1**

Interesting Adrian I have the book but I haven't fully read it. I find the death of a wrestler stunt very unlike Jack Atherton and as an associate promoter with Wryton Joint it would be dangerous for future co operation. It would also if it did indeed keep Nagasaki off Malvern bills end a revenue stream.Plus DM would pounce on this at monthly Kirkgate meeting as bringing the game in to disrepute very odd indeed.

#### **adrianpollard.shangri-la**

Yet PAUL-This is What PETER Writes in his Book-Chapter 13! I Agree On First Impression it DOES Sound 'Questionable'- but if He States This-I-For One-Won't be Contradicting him Next Time I See KENDO!! He Does Say that This 'Publicity' was 'Localised' to MALVERN Only-So Perhaps WRYTON Didn't get Wind of it-It was The Mid 1960's!!

#### **RON HISTORYO....Time Cop**

Looking at Jack Rowlands , I get the feeling he was not with "Joint" until 1967. More to the Professor than meets the eye.

#### **bkendo1**

I get what you mean about localised to Malvern but in my experience everything got back.I remember an incident in Hanley being discussed in the dressing room at Hanley. Ron Jack did bits earlier for Jack Atherton and Wryton he was that rarity a worker who left reappeared left again.Jack was far better known abroad than in England. The lighter weight Professor wasn't on joint bills exclusively but always used education based names.

#### **adrianpollard.shangri-la**

Of Course you would Know Better than Myself as to What Happened 'Behind The Scenes' PAUL-i Can;t Quite 'get' Why PETER would be That Bothered if KENDO had Never Wrestled in MALVERN Ever Again!-Unless If This Story Was Accurate it Would Harm his Future Career as far as Bookings were Concerned and he would end up like ASSIRATI- with No-One Willing to Go in with him!!

#### **Riot Squad**

Bkendo1, did Rowlands work as Professor whilst Morris was around or only after his death. Did he do much as Professor or just the sporadic ones we now know about?

#### **Anglo Italian**

I keep coming back to Hack's question as to who the Redruth promoter was? Very northern bias, in fact not a southerner in sight. Redruth is synonymous with the St-Clairs and they are Manchester - but no sign of them, either. The differences within JPs are clear. Jack Atherton, even refereeing, could dictate how each bill went. Dale Martin bills were just churned out without any personal touch. We have all become so used to not believing anything that we now haven't a clue ☺



## Hack

bkendo1 slipped in yesterday this was Wryton show, and it does have the look. This is why the dates of Rowlands as a Professor matter. Were Wryton using two Professors simultaneously or was Rowlands brought in as a short term serial unmasked after Morris died. Neither would be the professionalism we would hope for.

As for the lightweight Professor, was it College Boy Roger Green. Though a bit far north for him. Maybe he was checking out colleges before settling on Leeds.

## RON HISTORYO....Time Cop

Just a bit of history on Redruth specifically. After the war Francis St Clair Gregory did many shows there, but in those days The Drill Hall. He was still going 1958 but by then The Flamingo Club was the place to be with a 2000 capacity. I believe it was eventually converted to a Morrisons and pulled down a few years ago.

Earlier bills show the promotional set up but the 1958 bill shows the Wryton Influence with Conroy there as ref. Such was the pull of the Gregory's Roy and Tony took over Dad's popularity there. See Tony Gregory on the 1967 bill.

Through the 1960's Dale Martins did a few but leaned towards regular shows at St Austell. Paul Lincoln was there and even early Brian Dixon with the Girls.

Other Independents as well.

It seems to me that the Entertainment Centre could provide a window for any wrestling promoter to put a show on. In other words "room for all."

**ALL-IN WRESTLING**  
**DRILL HALL, REDRUTH**  
**THURSDAY, NOV. 28** 1946  
Doors open at 6.15 p.m. Commence  
at 7.30 p.m.  
Promoter and Matchmaker:  
**JOEY SIMPSON** (Liverpool)  
Referee: **LES EASTLICK** (Plymouth)  
Star bout! Six 10-min. Rounds.  
2 falls, 2 submissions, or 1 k.o.  
**FRANCIS GREGORY**  
(Champion of Cornwall)  
v.  
**"BULLDOG" BILL GARNON**  
(Champion of Wales)  
**Sgt. P.T.L. TED HERESFORD**  
(The Army).  
v.  
**BERT COLLINS**  
(Huddersfield)  
Needle Match  
**LEW ROSEBY** (Manchester)  
v.  
**Sgt. "CAR" CASHFORD**  
(Bolton)  
**JACKIE HARRIS** (Plymouth)  
v.  
**YOUNG WESTWORTH** (Canada)  
Book your seats to avoid disappoint-  
ment from: C. M. Bradley, Red Lion  
Hotel, Redruth (Phone 348); B. Ben-  
nett, West End, Redruth (Phone  
225); C. H. Simpson, Car Mart, Cam-  
borne (Phone: Camborne 3201, Red-  
ruth 513).  
**ADMISSION: 10/6 and 7/6** (Singleside  
and Reserved).  
**5/-** Block Reservation, and **3/-**.  
Proceeds for Redruth St. John

**ALL-IN**  
**WRESTLING**  
**DRILL HALL, REDRUTH**  
**Friday, January 17** 1947  
Promoter: **CHARLIE SIMPSON**.  
Referee: **LES EASTLAKE**  
(Plymouth).  
Another Great All-Star Show at  
Great Expense.  
Remember: **BOOK EARLY** to avoid  
disappointment.  
1. **GREAT STAR CONTEST.**  
Six 10-min. 2 Fall, 1 K.O.  
**ERNEST BALDWIN,**  
15 st. (Dewsbury).  
Heavyweight Champion of Yorkshire.  
One of the finest wrestlers in the  
country today, has been defeating all  
comers.  
v.  
**YOUR LOCAL CHAMPION,**  
**FRANCIS GREGORY,**  
14 st. (of All Cornwall and  
Brittany).  
Now in great form. This should be  
a great contest.

**ANOTHER GREAT CONTEST.**  
**HEG. TRUDEAX,**  
13 st. (Canada).  
A classy wrestler, having wrestled  
all over the world and taken some  
beating.  
v.  
**VAL CERINO,**  
13 st. (Malta).  
A Gentleman of the Ring, but can  
give and take with the toughest.  
This will be a fight of thrills.  
3. Six 10-min. 2 Fall, 2 Sub. 1 K.O.  
**AL FULLER,**  
13 st. (Canada).  
A tough nut to crack for any man,  
and a real villain.  
v.  
**BILL HUNTER**  
(of America). 13 st.  
Just arrived in this country and full  
of pep from the word "Go"!  
Can this bout last the distance?  
4. Six 10 min. 2 Fall, 2 Sub. 1 K.O.  
**JOE REID,**  
12 st. (Wigan).  
This boy is one of the cleverest in the  
game and a real box of tricks.  
v.  
**JIMMY JOHNSTON**  
(of Bolton).  
Another born wrestler and a great  
sportsman.  
This bout will be remembered  
for a long time.  
Prices: 10/6, 7/6, 5/- and a  
limited number at 3/-.



<p><b>ALL-IN 1958</b>  <b>WRESTLING</b>          at the  <b>FLAMINGO</b>  <b>Friday, December 19th</b>          DOORS OPEN 6.30. COMMENCE          7.30 p.m.</p> <p><b>FRANCIS GREGORY</b>          (Eight times Champion of Cornwall)          versus  <b>LE MASQUE</b>          France. A sensational wrestler.</p> <p><b>BILL HOWES</b>          The Bolton Thunderbolt          versus  <b>JOHNNY CZEZLAW</b>          Poland          And full supporting Bouts</p> <p>Admission: Ringside 10/-, 7/6 and 5/-          Referee: MARTIN CONBOY.          M.C.: Mr. Kessell.          Timekeeper: Mr. Laposta.          Tickets obtainable:          Simpson's Motors, Redruth 473.          Camborne 3201.</p>	<p><b>FLAMINGO BALLROOM</b>  <b>ILLOGAN, Redruth</b>          Tel. REDRUTH 5383</p> <p>The          Entertainment          Centre          Of          Cornwall          presents 7th Oct 1966  <b>TOMORROW (Fri.) NIGHT</b>  <b>ALL-STAR</b>  <b>WRESTLING</b>          Sensational Return Contest  <b>TONY CHARLES</b>          (now at and will versus  <b>ROY ST. CLAIR GREGORY</b>          (Cornwall)          KAZAR PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS WORLDWIDE CHAMP          SHIP THE WRESTLER</p> <p>Super International Heavy-          weight Match  <b>ERIC LIEDERMAN</b>          (First time here) versus  <b>PAUL DUYAL</b>          (Jamaica)          FULL SUPPORTING BOUTS          TICKETS BOOKABLE—  <b>Phone REDRUTH 5383</b>          Seats must be taken by 7.30 p.m.          SHOW STARTS 7.45 p.m.</p>	<p><b>FLAMINGO BALLROOM</b>          POOL, REDRUTH Tel. 5383  <b>Friday, November 24th 1967</b>  <b>International Wrestling</b>          Great Star programme          featuring</p> <p>Two—  <b>BORG TWINS v. BLACK DIAMONDS</b>          plus—  <b>PENZECOFF, HOLTON, HEATH and TONY GREGORY (Redruth)</b></p> <p>ALL PATRONS—Please Note:          Bookings commence  <b>Monday, November 13th</b>          All 10 seats are individual          bookable 7/6 male, 5/6 female          (all) by phone—Redruth 5383          (all) by post—send remittance          and 1/6          (all) at booking office 12 to 2.45          3 to 6 on November 24th          20th 14th</p> <p>2 - tickets available from book-          ing office and at the door. See          the plan in on view at the          Flamingo Ball Booking Office.          All booked seats must be          claimed and paid for by          7.30, November 24th          Take advantage of pre-bookings          and avoid having to queue          at the night</p>	<p><b>Flamingo Ballroom</b>  <b>Redruth 5383</b> 28th Nov 1969  <b>Tomorrow (Friday)</b>  <b>ALL-IN WRESTLING</b></p> <p><b>SABU (India) v. BOB HEMMS (B'ham)</b>  <b>AL MARTIN (Wales) v. ROY ST. CLARE (Cornwall)</b>  <b>HONEY BOY ZIMBA (Africa) v. STEVE WRIGHT (Warrington)</b>  <b>NIKE POWERS v. BARRY DOUGLAS (Leeds)</b>          Doors open 7, start 7.45          Prices 10 - , 7/6, 5 -</p>
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## Anglo Italian

Ron, you have discovered a microcosm!

In Darwinian terms, where life began.

But it didn't begin, just flourished.

A Great Cornish Barrier Wreaf of Restling.

## RON HISTORYO....Time Cop

Francis Gregory had been a multi Cornish champ and local celeb due to Rugby as well. Cornish wrestling had thousand of followers as it was put on sparsely.

To enchant enough of these spectators it probably needed Francis Gregory otherwise I believe it could have failed.

Logistically it was hard but time has proved that wrestling went to Redruth, Truro , St Austell , Penzance , Newquay , Bodmin and Falmouth. Almost like North Wales, it had a good presence. Look at this effort to promote in Cornwall in 1934.

**SENSATIONAL ATTRACTION—ALL-IN WRESTLING.**  
**PUBLIC ROOMS, ST. AUSTELL—THIS SATURDAY, APRIL 21st.**  
**DOORS OPEN 7 p.m. COMMENCE 8 p.m. Sharp. 1934**

**Great 1 hour (60 mins.) 2 falls or knock-out Contest:**  
**FRANCIS GREGORY v. HERBIE ROSENBERG**  
 The Cornish Champion. U.S.A. Height 6ft. Weight 210lbs.

**Special 1 hour (60 mins.) 2 falls or knock-out Contest:**  
**JACK BICE v. JACK BURNS**  
 Liskeard, Cornwall. London.

**Sensational International 1 hour (60 mins.) 2 falls or knock-out Contest:**  
**HIRAM MAXIN (Wales) v. GEORGE O'BRIEN (Dublin, Ireland).**  
 Come and see this new sport which has been thrilling thousands at Plymouth.

**Prices of Admission—3/6, 2/6, 1/10 and 1/3. Boys 7d.**  
**Seats booked and plan of hall at J. Kellow, 5a, Church St., St. Austell. Phone 279.**  
**Promoter—BOB LEWIS.**



**CHYANDOUR.**  
**ALL-IN-WRESTLING**  
*LONDON'S LATEST CRAZE*  
 3 - 60 Minute Contests.  
 2 Falls, 2 Subs or 2 K O's.  
 60 MINUTE CONTEST  
**F. GREGORY**  
 CORNWALL  
 v.  
**C. ATTERNBORROW**  
 LONDON  
 60 MINUTE CONTEST  
**TIGER JAMES**  
 MARAZION  
 v.  
**JACK BICE.**  
 LISKEARD  
 60 MINUTE CONTEST  
**T. HARVEY**  
 NEWLYN  
 v.  
**M. HACKENSMIDT**  
 THE WHITE PANTHER  
**NEXT SATURDAY, Aug. 4th 1934**  
 Doors open 7.0 p m Commence 7.30  
 Further details see posters.  
 GEO. FORD: Promoter.  
 819

**ALL-IN WRESTLING & BOXING**  
 PUBLIC ROOMS, ST. AUSTELL,  
 THIS SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8th.  
 Doors Open 7 p.m. Commence 8 p.m.  
**THE BLUE MASKED MARVEL v EM MACK**  
 (London). (New Zealand).  
**FRANCIS GREGORY v. THE BLACK PANTHER**  
 (Coloured South American).  
**DICK ALLEN v. JACK JARVIS.**  
**GEORGE WILLIAMS v. HANNIBAL WILLIAMS**  
 Book your Seats early at J. KELLOW,  
 5a, Church Street, St. Austell.  
 Phone 279.

**BOB LEWIS' PROMOTIONS.**  
**ALL-IN WRESTLING AND BOXING 1934**  
 PUBLIC ROOMS, ST. AUSTELL.  
 THIS SATURDAY, DECEMBER 22nd.  
 Doors open 7 p.m. Commence 8 p.m.  
**THE FIGHT OF THE YEAR FOR £20 A SIDE.**  
**BERT MANSFIELD**  
 The most feared fighter in England.  
 v.  
**FRANCIS GREGORY**  
 Cornwall.  
**RICHARD WILLS v. ERN MACK.**  
**DICK ALLEN v. COCK HANNINGS.**  
**NIPPER WILDE v. CHARLIE ANDREW.**  
 Prices of Admission: Ringside, 3/-; Balcony, 2/6; Body of Hall, 2/6, 1/10 and 1/3; Boys, 7d.

### Anglo Italian

And Francis is on every single bill! No doubt who was pulling the Cornish strings. So he's there with Riley, del Rel, Morrell, Dale, Atherton and all the rest. Yet his name doesn't appear in JP terms.

But his sons got the biggest pushes, each with their own titles. Often makes me see similarity with Vic Hesse. Was he also a local promoter?

### bkendo1

Couple of points Hack Jack was doing stuff prior to 65 with Joint it seems. The Rowlands professor was after the original version though the bonnet and out fit had been used earlier but not as the Professor. The reason I questioned the story of wrestler dying and Kendo not returning were, just not what Jack Atherton would use as publicity at this time public halls monitored at the gates and by reputation death wasn't a good selling point. Joint would have got wind it never ceased to amaze me what info Dales and especially Morrell would garner and sometimes they were fed what now would be called fake news. Nagasaki at this time needed to proceed cautiously too vicious a rep would limit

opportunities and Geoff knew exactly the pitfalls his lad faced. The professor Jack didn't go on to be the big draw but this was largely due to the meeting with the Strangler Streiger it was brutal. Roger did a series of fights with Steve at this time and used the professor tag. Now Anglo your question about Vic Hesselle yes he was involved in promotion but I'm in midst of tracking that down so I'll update soon.

### **RON HISTORYO....Time Cop**

Rowlands as the Professor is a great Heritage discovery. It's what I call fun history.

Trivial but Niche and over the years this site has collected enough to be the premier place to read , enjoy and learn.

Many thanks Bkendo1

### **Anglo Italian**

Yes Ron. Bkendo is providing the most incredible input. Presumably he was swatting for mock O-Levels at the time and it was well before his debut. Tremendous to have an open wrestler-fan on here.

I believe most wrestlers were fans (well, not Viedor) but they generally get a bit precious about the punters. Nagasaki's book holds back at every corner.

We have to respect Paul because he, like the rest, feels shackled by the omerta. Not easy to open up.

With all the deaths, this is the last place to keep it all

Hack and I were invited for tea with Mick McManus and his porcelain, unfortunately it all fell apart and he was dead three months later. RIP dear Mick.

### **The Ost**

Always interested in reading anything pertaining to Francis St Clair Gregory and Vic Hesselle so this is really interesting, thanks!

## **Join Ron Historyo and add your comments in the forum**

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