

Ron's Wrestling Ramblings

Rutland

Join Ron Historyo and add your comments in the forum

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

RON HISTORYO....Time Cop



I always knew as a kid that Rutland was the smallest County in England. I like the old traditional counties before the 1974 changes that have done their best to rub out history.

Apparently Rutland has only two towns as compared to villages. Oakham and Uppington. It came as no surprise to me that the Joint promoters probably had decided it was not worth bothering.

On the Spalding and District thread I revealed that in the early 1960's Jack Taylor was the promoter at Spalding and also did shows at Bourne and Stamford. Stamford sits right next to the boundary of Rutland just in Lincoln. So it is no real shock that Jack Taylor promoted at Oakham in Rutland.

The Victoria Hall does not look very big to me. I am struggling to see more than 300 spectators in there. Amazing how they made it pay.



VICTORIA HALL, OAKHAM. Special Pre Xmas Tournament
INTERNATIONAL 1961

WRESTLING

WEDNESDAY, 20th DECEMBER
at 7.45 p.m.

Don't miss this eye-opener. Wrestling at its very best.

DOCTOR DEATH

U.S.A. versus
GYORGY CSELKO
Hungary.

Return Challenge £25 aside

SPIKE HARRY
O'REILLY v. YARDLEY
Ireland Birmingham

British Lt. Hvywt. Champ'n
FRANK PRICE (London)
v. ERIC CHARLES,
of Yarmouth

Australia's Dick RICHARDS
v. JOHN HOWARD, of
Leicester.

BOOKING ARRANGEMENTS NOW in hand at Roberts
of Oakham, 20, Catmose Street. BOOK EARLY. S15-12

Victoria Hall, OAKHAM * MONDAY, 4th NOV., at 7.45
ALL-STAR INTERNATIONAL 1963

WRESTLING

* Another Gigantic Attraction. Thrills and More Thrills *

American Style Tag Match

England's
KNOWLES JACK
PETERS & TAYLOR
Leeds Accrington

Four Man Tournament

REG GYORGY
RAY CSELKO
England Hungary
* JACKIE ROSS.
WENSBY DIAMOND
Chelsea Canada

BOOK EARLY. Advance Booking NOW at Roberts of
OAKHAM, Catmose Street. Remember, a Booked Seat
is a sure seat.

OAKHAM, Victoria Hall * MONDAY, OCT. 7th, at 7.45
ALL-STAR INTERNATIONAL 1963

WRESTLING

* A Wrestling Extravaganza out of this World *

Presenting the Scottish Ace — the 6' 5" 241 st colossus
ANGUS CAMPBELL v. THE MONSTER

Fife, Scotland

Matto Cross, S. America

Judo v. Welter Clash

JUDO PAT ROACH
Birmingham

v. YOUNG VULCAN
Midland Hvywt. challenger

BILLY YUKON
Canada v.
Col. McDONALD
Scotland

IKE WILLIAMS
U.S.A. v.
RIC. CHARLES
Yarmouth

BOOKING NOW at ROBERTS of OAKHAM, Catmose St.
A reserved seat is a rare seat — Secure yours Now

ALL STAR **WRESTLING** at Victoria Hall, Oakham
TUES. 8th NOV. 7.45 p.m.
* Ultra Special Thriller Featuring Tag Match * 1962

— 60 Minute No Bounds Tag Match —
DWIGHT J. JACK HARRY PEDRO
INGLEBURGH & TAYLOR v. BENNETT & the GYPSY
U.S.A. Accrington Sheffield ???

6 Ed. Contest between
STOKER BROOKS
R. Navy versus
IMRE CSAK
Hungarian Hungarian
TAG CAPTAINS

ADVANCE BOOKING NOW at ROBERTS of OAKHAM, 20
Catmose St, OAKHAM. Get in early for your ticket.

ALL-STAR INTERNATIONAL 1963

WRESTLING

at Victoria Hall, OAKHAM : MON., 28th NOV., at 8 p.m.
& Rutland's only Wrestling Presentation. Thrills & Spills *

Presenting the
American Mat Phenomenal

DOCTOR DEATH
H. Ford, U.S.A. v.
TONY ANCILL

Leeds the Southern Star.

DAVID BAKJO, Hungary
v. BILLY YUKON, Canada

Advance Booking NOW at ROBERTS of OAKHAM, Catmose St, OAKHAM. Another Great Programme. BOOK
EARLY NOW.

Special Midweek clash :

ROY LA RUE
S. Africa v.
KEN DAVIES
Cardiff.

Schoolboy International
MICK JOHN
COLLINS v. JENKINS
Leicester Wales

ALL STAR INTERNATIONAL 1964

WRESTLING

at Victoria Hall, Oakham : Next Monday, 6th April, at 8 p.m.
★ Thrills—Spills. Secure your seats for this sensational

Drama *

One wrestler versus TWO
THE MONSTER

Matto Cross, 24st. v.

JACK YOUNG
TAYLOR & RAYMOND

Accrington Clayton

Scotland v. Hungary
Special

IAN ANDRES
ST. JOHN v. SVAJIK

Fife Budapest

LOUIS PIERRE-DUBARRY
Monte Marte, France v.
LENO LARAZZI

Milan, Italy.

ADVANCE BOOKING over the week-end at Roberts of
OAKHAM, Catmose Street. Tickets also available at the
Hall on the night.

grahambrookjazz

My first promotion was in my home town at The Public Hall, Wilmslow, in January 1976 financed from my first pay packet as a teacher but my first planned promotion which never saw the light of day was at Oakham Town Hall, Rutland, back in 1975. I was studying at Leicester at the time and attending shows all over the area (both De Montfort and Granby in Leicester, Corn Exchange in Melton Mowbray, Jack Taylor's smaller shows in some of the Leicestershire villages, Ice Rink and Victoria Baths in Nottingham etc) and felt sure that, with some of my fellow drama students, that we could mount a wrestling show. My best friend at the time was a lad called Bill Tong who was raised in Oakham and came from a boxing family so it was decided to stage the show there. I felt that I could work out a bout with Bill, two of the lads on the P.E. course were up for putting a bout together and two of the girls on the dance course also felt that they could put together a workable bout.

I approached Jack Mawdesley about hiring two professional wrestlers to top the bill and he managed to obtain the services of Eddie Rose and Ian Wilson. I knew Jack for his work as a second

at Belle Vue and M.C. for Jack Atherton.

It came to working out a date to give to Jack and when my fellow students realised that I intended to put this on for a paying public rather than just for fellow students they got cold feet and the whole thing disintegrated. Although students were treated with greater respect than they seem to be now (there were no tuition fees and we got grants), I still didn't have the money to hire a bill consisting totally of professionals so had to give the idea up until I got my first job. I told Jack that I had to cancel the provisional booking of Rose and Wilson and he was furious. From that day on he blanked me whenever we met until his death.

Of course, as mentioned at the beginning of my contribution, I did indeed promote my first show at Wilmslow Public Hall the following year. Abe Ginsberg booked the show for me and, indeed, who should feature on that show but Eddie Rose versus Ian Wilson. It's no wonder Jack was furious. Ginsberg did no favours but, even so, I was paying him a third of the amount for them that Jack was asking. How much of that amount would have actually worked its way down to the two wrestlers I'm not sure!

RON HISTORYO....Time Cop

Thanks Graham, but here is a big Question. Roughly, what was the minimum attendance you could tolerate before making a loss, on average. I know the rent for Halls and Ring might vary and I also assume wrestlers on fairly cheap wages. Or do you plump for a big star to ensure the gate.

grahambrookjazz

Of course, the outlay needed for hire of the hall, ring and advertising (posters and newspapers) is a fixed amount whatever the bill. This is also a considerable percentage of your outlay so I think overall that forking out for a big name such as Pallo, Kellett, Street or Bartelli tended to be more successful for me than attempting to promote shows featuring local wrestlers as Doctor Death and such gimmicks. Especially if you wanted to build the hall and put on several shows there rather than just promoting a one-off.

Peter

There is an event in Oakham 29 October 2021

Mad Mac



Messrs. St. John and Svajik on the bill yet again.....

Hack

Another great collection Ron with all the Taylor regulars. Like Paul Lincoln Taylor used the same wrestlers over and over yet still managed to make his bills look fresh.

County Cinema, Oakham

INTERNATIONAL WRESTLING PROMOTIONS

Proudly Presents

1965

WRESTLING

Doors open 7.00 p.m.

Commence 8.15 p.m.

WEDNESDAY 20th OCTOBER

For the first time ever. You've read about them, now see them in action, the Fabulous Girls' Wrestling.

10 x 3 min. Rds. H/Weight Contest

DR. DEATH

One of wrestling's all time Greats. Hollywood. U.S.A.

Girls! Girls! Girls!

COWBOY CASSIDY

Now on a world tour. Calgary. Canada.

Naughty Nancy HAYES

60 min. duration American Tag-Team Contest

The Blonde Bombshell

JOHNNY ALLEN & ANDROS SUJIC

LU-LU

IAN ST. JOHN & LENI ROBAIR

HUNTER

This should be one of the most exciting bouts of the year.

DON'T MISS THESE GIRLS OF THE RING!

Plus Captains' Team Match

Prices 10/6, 8/6, 7/6, 5/-

Bookable in advance, from County Cinema, Oakham.

RON HISTORYO....Time Cop

Somewhat I think I was right about the capacity of the Victoria Hall at Oakham, and the country had gone through a boom through TV Exposure in the early 1960's.

By 1965 a bigger venue was used and Girls were introduced. Dr Death v Cassidy should have been a great night with the boom of Jack's guns, then the girls and the Tag match keeping the cost's down with a further match from the tag captains. Well balanced and a good strategy.

But a complete move out of Oakham, six miles to Uppingham and the Rutland Cinema proved to be the next stage for this business. Hard to say what capacity this Cinema had but I know the Wryton held a thousand or so.

I am sure it would more than doubled the Victoria Hall,



maybe even trebled.

RUTLAND CINEMA, UPPINGHAM
WEDNESDAY, 10th AUGUST, at 8 p.m.
ALL-STAR INTERNATIONAL

WRESTLING

★ A SENSATIONAL GRAND OPENING SPECTACULAR ★

International Lightwt. 8x5
CLIFFE MILLA

Denmark.

European Champion
TONY CORTEZ
Tough Londoner.

England v. Scotland clash!
JACK TAYLOR

Accrington v.
JIM McLaren

Fife.

Direct from Madison Square —
KLONDIKE BILL

Alaska. 38 st. Yankees v.
BIG JIM ARMSTRONG
Leeds. British & Empire
Hvywt. Champion.

Extra Special Catchweight
TAFFY v. MICK
JENKINS & COLLINS
Tonypandy v. Belfast

Popular Prices: 10/-, 7/6, 5/-. Seating Limited. Book Early at the Cinema and at the Central Garage, Uppingham.

RUTLAND CINEMA, UPPINGHAM 1966
NEXT WEDNESDAY, 30th NOVEMBER, 8 p.m.
ALL-STAR INTERNATIONAL

WRESTLING

★ Extravaganza ★ Thrills & Spills ★ First Class Bill ★

Tag-Team Thrills : 40min. Striker
JACK TAYLOR & BOBBIE BIERNE
Accrington. Tops Co. Roscommon
TV fame

VERSUS
MAX KRAUSER &
ADOLF DABROWSKI
Bremen v. Poland

DOCTOR DEATH v.
HEINZ VON SCHULTZ
Hollywood U.S.A. German mat ace

Tickets available this weekend from Mrs. Flood at the Cinema. Don't miss this Star-Studded Presentation.

Local Flavour
Challenge
DEREK PERKINS
Elton v.
MIKE LA-ROACH
Canada

Ireland v. Scotland
TONY v. JIM
KELLY v. McLaren
Co Mayo v. Dumferline

ALL-STAR INTERNATIONAL 1966

WRESTLING

at the RUTLAND, UPPINGHAM
WEDNESDAY, 30th OCTOBER, 8 p.m.

★ Another tip-top International Presentation ★

Sensational Hvywt. Challenge

THE OUTLAW

Challenging all-comers v.

ED. WENBOR

Channel Isles. 16 stone.

BILL RAWLINS of York v.
LEGS. VALENTINE

BOOK with every confidence NOW at the Rutland Cinema with Mr. FLOOD. Don't Delay. Book today!

Tag-Match Spectacular

BOBBIE v. JACK

BIERNE & TAYLOR

Ireland v. England

VERSUS

RORY MADCAP v. JOHN

CAMPBELL & RONILO

Scotland v. Latin America

MIR ZEPAREL M. Pakistan
v. ERIC SMITH. Bradford

THE RUTLAND — UPPINGHAM 1966

NEXT WEDNESDAY, 7th NOV., at 8 p.m.

ALL-STAR INTERNATIONAL

WRESTLING

★ DON'T MISS THIS OUTSTANDING SPECTACULAR ★

Ultra Special All-Girls' Clash
Naughty v.
NOLA GOLDSMITH

London. Black-haired

beauty v.

THE LADY CAROLINE

Oxford's gal grapper

DAVID BELL

Canada v.

MEL. CAMERON

Scotland.

International Heavyweight

DOCTOR DEATH

Hollywood U.S.A. v.

ADOLF DABROWSKI

the Polish Hercules

MICK DALBY

Loughborough v.

MIKE GAGE

Wigston.

Popular Prices. ALL SEATS BOOKABLE in Advance at the RUTLAND CINEMA. Plenty of Car Parking. Refreshments.

RUTLAND CINEMA 1967
 Wednesday, 13th Feb., 8 p.m.
WRESTLING
 Don't Miss This!!!
 European Heavyweight Champion—
SHIRLEY CRABTREE
 Halifax, 25 stone v.
GIANT HILLBILLY
 18 stone tough Farmer.

LEMBAR SINGH v.
 India **MICK DALBY**
 Loughboro'

JACK BONE
 Stamford Popular v.
ADOLF DABROWSKI
 Poland.

 Tag Team Wrestling
Jack TAYLOR & Tag JENKINS
 versus
CHRIS McMANUS & SKULL MURPHY
 London Cork

 Adv. Booking with Mrs. Flood
 at the Cinema Booking Office.

Wednesday, January 18th
8 p.m. 1967
BIG-TIME
INTERNATIONAL
WRESTLING
Four Terrific Contests
Cowboy Jack
CASSIDY
Calgary Plains v.
Farmer RAYMOND
Sensational K.O. exponent
Can the Girl beat the Male?
Naughty NOLA
GOLDSMITH
London ex-model v.
KAMIKAZE
Japanese ex-suicide expert
Local Boy makes debut...
NEIL KEMP of Bilsden v.
LEGS VALENTINE
Australian Bushwacker

Mick Collins v.
Michael La-Roach
Advanced booking at the
Cinema ... You can tele-
phone Mrs. Flood.

The Rutland Cinema, Nottingham.

1967, interesting that Shirley was still about and still touted as European Champion.

And tucked away there is Naughty Neil Kemp.

Anglo Italian

I just love Graham's contributions. All the things that can go wrong, fizzle out, human frailties ...and consequences and sulks that can last a lifetime.

RON HISTORIO...Time Cop

I believe by 1968 wrestling had passed that peak.

Colour TV's, though could have made it more popular to stay at home and watch the small screen rather than go out to a wrestling hall.

screen rather than go out to a wrestling hall. Whatever and I am only guessing, but it seems wrestling went back to Oakham.

BIG TIME :: ALL STAR :: INTERNATIONAL 1968		
WRESTLING		
VICTORIA HALL, OAKHAM		WEDNESDAY
Commence		24th JANUARY
Super Star Spangled Extravaganza		
Fifteen Round contest for The Canadian Death Lightweight Championship		
JACK TAYLOR v. JAGER SINGH		
Accrington, Britain's own Triple Champion		The Indian Champion from the Punjab
Additional Star Contest		
MISTER X v		8x5
Celebrated Northants star		PLoughboy
Middleweight thriller		From Beccles in Suffolk
8x5 Welterweight sizzler		8x5
MEL CAMERON v		Gentleman
Dundee		JIM LEWIS v
VINCENZO		Manches v.
AURALIO		MANUEL
Italy		GONZALES
Mexico		
Prices 10/-, 7/-, 5/- Advance booking at Roberts of Oakham, 20 Catmose Street, Oakham Tel. 2097 Book early.		

1968

NEW YEAR ATTRACTION
VICTORIA HALL — OAKHAM
BIG-TIME • ALL-STAR • INTERNATIONAL

WRESTLING

WEDNESDAY, 3rd JANUARY, Commencing 8 p.m.

Don't miss this! Get your tickets early.

Sensational Mixed Tag Match Thriller!!!!

The one and only

LADY CAROLINE with SNOOTY MONK
 Exton's own grapple

LORD
VERSUS
ROG LADAIRE & BRITT VARTZO
 the Hereford aristocrat
 the Anglo/Italian ace

Blonde Swedish sizzler

BIG TIME :: ALL STAR :: INTERNATIONAL

WRESTLING

VICTORIA HALL, OAKHAM

FRIDAY, 16th FEBRUARY, 8 p.m.

Thrills! Spills! Excitement!

Sensational Heavyweight Topper 10/-

GIANT JUMBO 30 stone American currently touring the U.K. v.

KAMIKAZE Jap suicide exponent v.

PANCHO GONZALES Mexico

COBBER HARPER Australian 18 stone star from Down Under

BOB RAE Stamford v.

Lord Snooty MONK Hereford

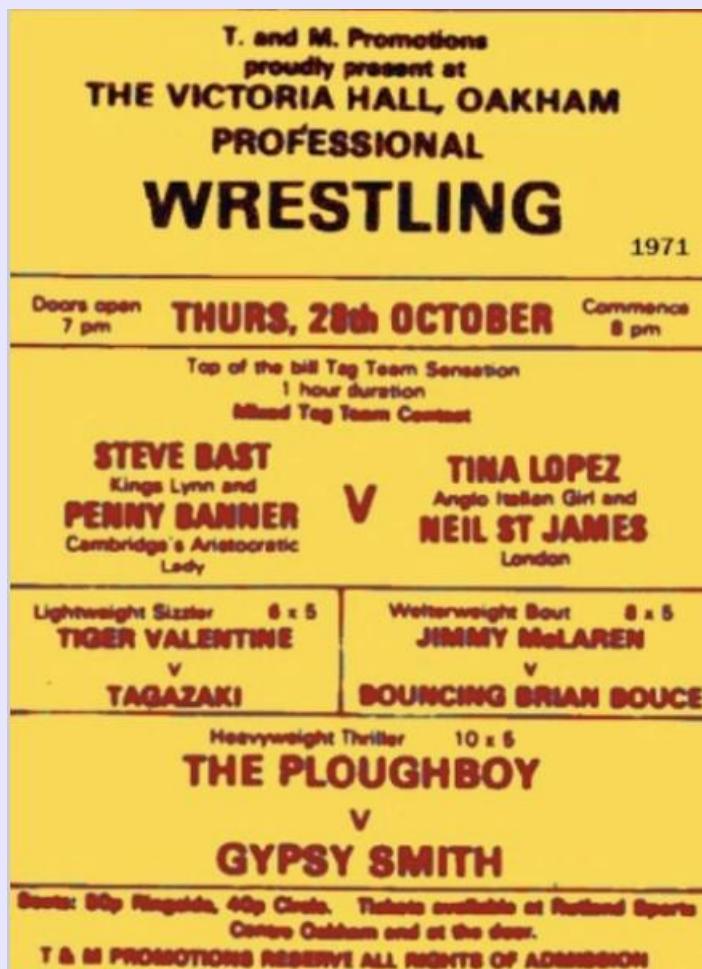
Plus Mixed Tag Team Sizzler Cambridge's Penny Banner with Dave Chapman v. Michael La-Roach and Sweden's Britt Vartzo

Price 10 - 7.6. 5 - Advance booking NOW at Roberts' of Oakham, 20-22 Catmose Street, Oakham. Tel. 2097.

1968

RON HISTORYO....Time Cop

By 1971 it was T and M Promotions. Maybe Hack can help me on that one.



Also here this one looks a very local sort of effort.

Who were these guys?



Hack

T & M I've no idea. I know they also promoted in Retford. Forced to guess I'd say Terry Goodrum. His wife was also a wrestler and her name was Margaret.

RON HISTORYO....Time Cop

In the 1970's some of these relatively unknown wrestlers were on here and not just in the two towns but also the village of Market Overton. Maybe someone can confirm for me that Gypsy Smith was the same as Gypsy Joe Roman or Romario who was the many times unmasked White Angel who worked with Nagasaki. Or am I dreaming. Also I have little knowledge of Klondyke Jim, is he even in the A-Z although I appreciate Main Mask has put a photo of him on the Forum in the recent past. Even the Undertakers pop up.

PROFESSIONAL WRESTLING

Victoria Hall, Oakham

Thursday, December 6th 1973
at 8.0 pm

Top of the bill by special arrangement — Spectacular Tag Match
KLONDIKE JIM AND THE RED SCORPION
versus
BIG DAVE BRYSON AND GYPSY JOE SMITH
Also full supporting programme
Tickets 60p, 50p and 40p obtainable at the door or Tel. Oakham 3912 and book now.

PROFESSIONAL WRESTLING

MARKET OVERTON VILLAGE HALL, SAT, APRIL 27 1974

Doors open 7 pm. Commences 8 pm.

SENSATIONAL HEAVYWEIGHT TOP OF THE BILL

The famous MASKED OUTLAW v
Big local boy MAL DAVES

Also full supporting programme.

Prices are 50p stage, 40p ringside, 30p children and old age pensioners. Tickets available at the door.

Professional Wrestling

Victoria Hall, Oakham

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21st 1974
at 8.0 pm

TOP OF THE BILL

Sensational Championship Title Contest between the reigning champion

CHRIS McMANUS

versus a worthy challenger

MICK COLLINS

ALSO FULL SUPPORTING PROGRAMME

TICKETS 60p, 50p and 40p available at the door or ring OAKHAM 3912 and book now.

PROFESSIONAL WRESTLING

at Victoria Hall, OAKHAM

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 9, at 8 pm 1973

ALL STAR BILL

**KLONDIKE JIM v
GYPSY JOE SMITH**

also full supporting programme

TICKETS 60p, 50p, 40p

PROFESSIONAL WRESTLING

MARKET OVERTON VILLAGE HALL 1974

Saturday, March 30. Doors open 7 pm, commences 7.45 pm

Top of the bill — a sensational tag match

White Angels v your local tag team, Red Arrows

Klondyke Jim v Little Brain

ALSO FULL SUPPORTING PROGRAMME

Prices 50p & 40p. Available at the door or ring Oakham 3912 and book now.

ALL STAR PROFESSIONAL

WRESTLING

at the

VICTORIA HALL, OAKHAM

on

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 22 1974

Double Top of the Bill

No 1 SPECTACULAR HEAVY CLASH

FAMOUS WILD MAN OF BORNEO

v

Your Own Favourite Giant

LITTLE BRINN

No 2 SPECIAL CHALLENGE MATCH

NATHANIEL of the UNDERTAKERS

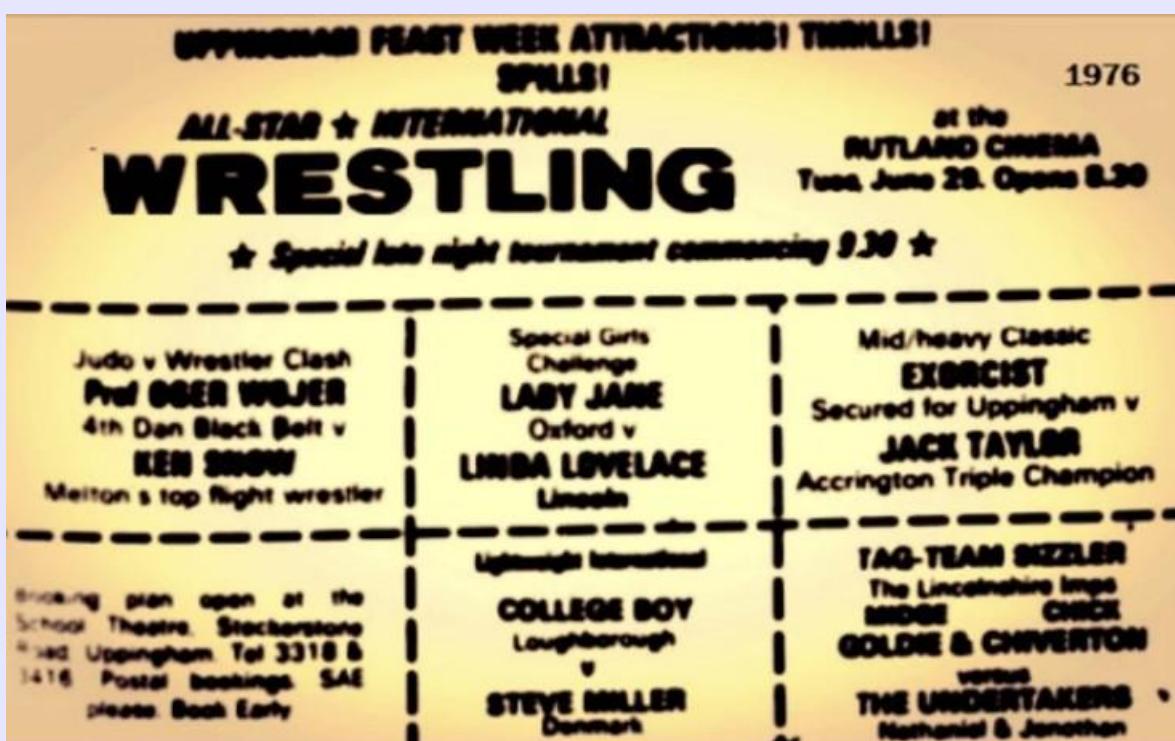
v

DAKTARI

Full Supporting Programme. Licensed Bar. Prices
Ringside 75p. Remaining 60p & 50p

Tel OAKHAM 3912

By 1976 Jack Taylor was still about seen here in Uppingham



Klondyke Jim here in 1977 in the Village of Langham.

Seems the Independents had Rutland all to themselves.

grahambrookjazz

I used Klondyke Jim (I have no idea of his real name) on several occasions as he came with Bill Clarke's carful which would often include a young lad who wrestled as Marcel Carpenter, Rick Wiseman (Ace Ricardo) and his two midgets. Although I never promoted it, he had a good bout with Clarke. I recall a Cassidy show at The Houldsworth Hall, Deansgate, Manchester, in which, before the interval, Klondyke Jim faced a blue-eyed Abe Ginsberg in a wild bout which spilled over into the top of the bill bout after the interval which was "Bronco" Jack Cassidy versus Doctor Death. On the

next show, Cassidy and Ginsberg joined forces as a blue-eyed tag team to face Jim and Death (Bill Clarke). I also recall timekeeping for Brian Dixon in a show at The Champness Hall in Rochdale in which blue-eyed Dangermen (Haggetty and Joynson) faced the combination of Klondyke Jim and Klondyke Bill.

I won't go into details as I have mentioned it before in contributions, but when I promoted at The Parr Hall in Warrington I staged an eight team K.O. tournament which was won by The Lincolnshire Poachers (Bill and Rick Clarke (Wiseman)) who returned on the next show to face an unusual blue-eye combination of Klondyke Jim and Lee Sharron.

He had limited mobility and moves but did have quite an imposing presence and was a quietly-spoken, easygoing nice guy.

grahambrookjazz

Further to my initial posting, I recall Abe Ginsberg doing a show for me a few days after his tag encounter (alongside Jack Cassidy) against Clarke and Jim and his back was playing up. The impressive end to the tag match saw Ginsberg hoisting the massive Klondyke Jim off his feet and pinning him. The secret of course was for the big man to relax so that Abe would find it comparatively easy to lift and pin him. However, Jim was so stiff that it was hard work for Ginsberg and he paid the price afterwards. I recall him saying that the money was better on the independents (though, of course, telling me that I was one of the meanest payers, which I knew to be untrue) but that you were far more likely to be injured by clumsy wrestlers who did not really know what they were doing.

RON HISTORYO....Time Cop

Keep em coming Graham. What great stories.