

Ron's Wrestling Ramblings

Stafford

Join Ron Historyo and add your comments in the forum

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HOLIDAY WEEK 1943

BOXING TOURNAMENT

On the E.E. STYCHFIELDS GROUND
MONDAY, JULY 12th, at 7 p.m.

PAT HALEY v. TOMMY (Kid) HARLOW

STOKE—Northern Area
Welter Weight Champion

Who has met HARRY MUZZLER
FRANK DUFFY, etc.

10—3 minute rounds at 11 stone.

LEN DAVIES v. BILL BLYTHING

STOKE—who has been doing well at the Liverpool Stadium lately.

W'NTON — Western Command Army Champion—has met Jack Hyams, Bryn Morris, etc.

8—3 minute rounds at 12 stone.

Dennis (Kid) BYRNE v. Alf COTTRELL

IRISH TO THE BACKBONE.
The leading contender for the light-weight title of Ireland, now held by Jimmie Smith.

WOLVERHAMPTON
This boy has been anxious to meet the Irish Laddie, so look out for thrills

8—3 minute rounds at 9 stone 9lbs.

Two other contests will be published later.

and more THRILLS, more EXCITEMENT

Wednesday, July 19th, on E.E. Stythfields Ground, at 7 p.m.

ALL-IN WRESTLING TOURNAMENT

● FIRST TIME IN STAFFORD. GET YOUR TICKETS NOW!

PRICES : 2s. 3s. 5s only reserved.
Tickets obtainable from HOLIDAY BUREAU,
Gas Showrooms

RON HISTORYO...Time Cop

1943, I found a claim that this is the first pro wrestling as we know it in Stafford Town. Love these county towns, tea and toast here, with the bread cut two inches thick dripping in butter. They call the slices "Doorsteps"

Gran was from a Staffordshire Town and that was just how she cut her bread.

Might be inclined to think a boxing promoter put this show on as it's a duel advert. No wrestlers advertised on it but I can tell you that Dave Armstrong beat Francis Gregory, Van Wurden beat Bill McDonald, Dick Wills beat Hussey, and Pat Madden beat Bill Ogden.

Promoter could have been Jack Callaghan.

By the end of the 1940's Wrestling was on regular in the Market Hall. Not long though before The Borough Hall took over and continued through to the 1980's. The promoters though seemed to come and go. Here are my examples.

By the end of the 1950's the picture changes but I will save that for another post.

★ ALL STAR WRESTLING ★
MARKET HALL, STAFFORD

WEDNESDAY EVE, OCTOBER 27th

Doors open 6-45 Commence 7-30

Under the personal supervision of MR. GEORGE CALLAGHAN

IN AID OF THE ARMY BENEVOLENT FUND

GRAND CHALLENGE MATCH 60 Minutes

THE COLLEGE BOY

Leading contender for Title, is confident of de-throning the Champion

JACK DALE

Official Middleweight Champion of Gt. Britain

Light-Heavy classic 40 mins.

NAT RABIN

The Pocket Hercules v.

BILL BRENNAN

The Irish Bombshell of the Mat

Middleweight Bout 40 mins'

STAN STONE

The Blonde Tiger v.

NORMAN THOMAS

The Welsh Cyclone

LIGHTHEAVYWEIGHT THRILLER 60 Minutes

FRED UNWIN v. LEN BRITTON

Physical perfection a great grappler Has met and beaten the best

PRICES (inc. Tax) 2/- 4/- 6/- BOOK NOW

Sets can be booked and Tickets obtained at E. F. ALLEN and SON LTD, 44, GREENGATE ST., STAFFORD

★ It's A CALLAGHAN PROMOTION ★

NORMAN MORRELL (LONDON), LTD., Presents— 1951

WRESTLING

BOROUGH HALL, STAFFORD

WEDNESDAY, 7th FEBRUARY, 7.30 p.m. Doors Open 6-45 p.m.
HEAVYWEIGHT CONTEST

WALLY SEDDON v. WILSON SHEPPARD

CRUISERWEIGHT CONTEST

JACK RATCLIFFE v. JIMMY MUNLACK

CATCHWEIGHT CONTEST

JACK CUNNINGHAM v. BERNARD MURRAY

CATCHWEIGHT CONTEST

JIM BOYLE v. TONY LAWRENCE

PRICES 6s. (Ringside), 4s./8d., 3s. 6d. and 2s. 6d. (Standing)

It's got me thinking. Have we got a Dale Martins logo Bill as far North as this. Nothing on these but suspiciously Dale Martins.

★ WRESTLING ★

MARKET HALL, STAFFORD

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1st, 1948

Doors open 6-30

Commence 7-30

SUPER HEAVYWEIGHT BOUT. 6 (10 minute) rounds

BERT ASSIRATI

Official Heavyweight Champion of Gt. Britain. Open Challenge to any Heavyweight in the Country.

CHICK KNIGHT

Recently returned from successful tour of U.S.A.

SUPPORTING BOUTS

KEN WILSON v. AL JACKSON

— v.

MICK McMANUS v. NORMAN THOMAS

ARTHUR FISHER v. JOHNNY WILLIAMS

PRICES (inc. Tax) 2/- 3/- 4/- BOOK NOW
Standing Unres. Ringside

Advanced Bookings from:—E. F. ALLEN & SON, LTD.,
44, GREENGATE ST., STAFFORD

DALE MARTIN PROMOTIONS LTD. (of London) Present—

WRESTLING!

Borough Hall, Stafford 1950

Doors open 7.30 p.m. WEDNESDAY NEXT, NOVEMBER 22nd 7.45 p.m.

FOUR STAR INTERNATIONAL HEAVYWEIGHT BOUT
8 ten minute rounds 1 Falls, Submissions or R.O.

BLACK BUTCHER

JOHNSON

The Coloured Colourful Sensation. Famed and feared for his "La Savate"—The Toxin of Three Continents.

PAT CURRY

BOSTON, MASS. U.S.A.—Wrestling's most Spectacular Heavyweight. Tops all popularity poll. The most popular Irish-American in Europe.

Welterweight Clash Middleweight Bout Heavyweight Match

MICK HARRY JACK

McMANUS FIELDS ATHERTON

IRELAND—All Areas Star v. BEWDURY—No. 1 Contender WIGAN—One of the best v. DON

JACK RUSS BISHOP STEDMANN

QUESICK N. ZEALAND—Title Challenger LONDON—Bay Wonder

TICKETS and Advance Bookings from Messrs. E. F. ALLEN & SONS, LTD.,

MUSIC and Radio Dealers, 41, Greengate Street, STAFFORD (Tel. STAFFORD 34)

8/- RINGSIDE 6/- OUTERS-RINGS FRONT 4/- BODY OF HALL 2/6 UNRESERVED SEATS

ROWS Balcony & Stags

8/- RINGSIDE 6/- OUTERS-RINGS FRONT 4/- BODY OF HALL 2/6 UNRESERVED SEATS

ROWS Balcony & Stags

CLOVE PROMOTIONS present

★ WRESTLING ★

BOROUGH HALL, STAFFORD

WEDNESDAY, 7th MARCH, 1951

Commencing 7.30 p.m. Doors Open 6-45 p.m.

TREMENDOUS ATTRACTION

JACK PYE (Doncaster)

Senior member of a famous family

v. DAVID JONS (London)

Southern Area Heavyweight Champion

RAB HANNAN v. FRED WOOLLEY

BILLY GALLOWAY v. PAT BRENNAN

NORMAN CARTER v. GEORGE WADE

Prices (inc. Tax) 6/- 4/- 3/- Standing 2/-

★ WRESTLING ★

MARKET HALL, STAFFORD

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15th, 1948

Doors open 6-45

Commence 7-45

Two Sensational Heavyweight Thrillers.

Grand Xmas Programme

HEAVYWEIGHT THRILLER.

6 (10 minute) rounds

CHICK KNIGHT

The American 'Ace' v.

BILL GARNON

Champion of Wales—First Appearance ever

HEAVYWEIGHT CLASH.

6 (10 minute) rounds

TONY MANCELLI v. HARRY BROOKS

The Famous "Blackfriars Thunderbolt" —First Appearance

MIC McMANUS

SONNY WALLIS

v.

DANNY FLYNN

v.

DAN DAVEY

PRICES (inc. Tax) 2/- 3/- 4/- BOOK NOW

Standing Unres. Ringside

Advanced Bookings from:—E. F. ALLEN & SON, LTD.,

44, GREENGATE ST., STAFFORD

Hack

Well that's more than a bit of odd change Ron. Three of who would shortly become Joint members in a town that would seem ripe for Wryton. Well you've certainly got Dale Martin in 1950, so 1948 looks likely, and that Callaghan bill seems to have the prints of Dale all over it. Then we have Morrell and Beresford within a month of each other in 1951. We know all 3 were Co ordinating at this time, maybe this is the early signs of trading prior to Joints formation the following year. Intriguing.

Mad Mac

"EE" would have been English Electric, a big employer in Stafford.

The Ost

Yeah that October '48 Callaghan bill is very interesting.

RON HISTORYO....Time Cop

By 1959 the Borough Hall was still going, but Joint Promotions seems to have gone. In the last 12 months I have found a shed load of Twentieth Century Bills. We often talk about Lincoln rivaling Joint but Jack Taylor had quite a big venture and it is clear that Max Crabtree was also running something pretty big. Max spared no expense on advertising. These two also collaborated. Enjoy a few from 1959, Notice the Stafford Challenge Trophy below.

★★ TWENTIETH CENTURY PROMOTIONS present... ★★

WRESTLING

THE BOROUGH HALL — STAFFORD
MONDAY, NOV. 9th, at 7-30 p.m.

STAFFORD CHALLENGE TROPHY

ROY LA RUE	CLIVE BROWN
South Africa	England
BILLY STERLING	JOHAN DATUS
Spain	Germany
STEFAN BOLLA	GEORGE SCOTT
Hungary	Newcastle
AL BENNISTON	LASLO BAKJO
Birmingham	Hungary
ZOLTAN BOSCHIK	ERNIE COATES
Hungary	Nottingham

Ref. AL TARSETY

A grand knock-out competition ensuing in the presentation of the Stafford Challenge Trophy to the winner. The fee for the first round will be 10/-, 7/6, 5/-, 3/-.

10 - 7 6 5 - 3 - 1959

Bookable from Harold Parkes, The Music House, Stafford

YOU ARE ADVISED TO BOOK AT ONCE

★★ TWENTIETH CENTURY PROMOTIONS present... ★★

WRESTLING

THE BOROUGH HALL — STAFFORD
THURSDAY OCT. 29th at 7-30 p.m.

A TREMENDOUS BILL 1959

Max CRABTREE

HALIFAX. Four Handing for Honours. Comes from famous wrestling family.

v. Dwight INGLEBORG

U.S.A. Former Marine. Great Wrestler with great reputation.

Light Heavyweight Contest	Middleweight Contest
MICK JOHNSON	JIM STEELE
NEWCASTLE	BOLTON
v. DEAN MERCER	v. BRETT WILLIAMS
LIVERPOOL	CARDIFF

International Catchweight Contest

JACK TAYLOR v. JOHAN DATUS

LEICESTER GERMANY

10/- 7/6 5/- 3/-

Bookable from Harold Parkes, The Music House, Stafford

★★ TWENTIETH CENTURY PROMOTIONS present... ★★ 1959

WRESTLING

Borough Hall, Stafford, Wednesday, Sept. 9th, 7-30 p.m.

SHIRLEY CRABTREE

Master, British and European Heavyweight Champion. 17 stone 8 lbs. 46.2m. Shirley's logical claimant for World Honours.

v.

WOLFGANG HACK

Germany. The powerful German star from Dresden. Just returned from Far Eastern tour.

LASZLO BAKJO	JOHN DATUS	ERNIE COATES
Hungary	Germany	Nottingham
LITTLE SCOTT	JACK TAYLOR	STEFAN BOLLA
Nottingham	Leicester	Hungary

10/- 7/6 5/- 3/-

Bookable at Harold Parkes, The Music House, Stafford

1960

★★ TWENTIETH CENTURY PROMOTIONS present... ★★

WRESTLING

THE BOROUGH HALL, STAFFORD
THURSDAY, APRIL 14th, 1960, 7-30 p.m.

ONE OF THE GREATEST BILLS ever presented in the Midlands

TARZAN

Afro. The son of the Continent

v.
IVOR MARTINSON

Denmark. Former Heavyweight Champion of the World. One of the mightiest figures of modern wrestling

GREAT SUPPORTING BILL

ZOLTAN BOSCHIK	BILLY STIRLING
Hungary	Scotland
YOUNG McALLISTER	ERIC SANDS
Scotsman	Bradford
LINDY CAULDER	v. KURT VON HESS
West Indies	Germany

10/-, 7/6, 5/-, 3/-

All Seats Bookable from Harold Parkes, The Music House, Stafford.

YOU ARE ADVISED TO BOOK AT ONCE

★★ TWENTIETH CENTURY PROMOTIONS present... ★★

WRESTLING 1960

THE BOROUGH HALL, STAFFORD
THURSDAY, FEB. 11th, Commence 7-30 p.m.

FRIENDS, ROMANS, COUNTRYMEN, LEND ME YOUR SARS, I

CRASSUS CALVA

The Mighty Copper from Rome, will honour the Stafford People with my presence and will wrestle in the true traditions of my forefathers.

v.
BRITAIN'S BERT CRADDOCK

Big, Powerful Heavyweight, who will not let the old country down

FIST WELTERWEIGHT CONTEST	A GOOD IRISH CONTEST
Bulgaria's IVOR PENBERTH	Connacht's KID MIDY
v. Scotsman's YOUNG McALLISTER	v. Wessex's DANNY FLYNN
IRELAND	IRELAND
KNOWLES PETERS	DANNY FLYNN
New determined to get to the top	A fine figure of a man

BOOK NOW FOR THE MOST EXCITING SPORT IN THE WORLD

10/-, 7/6, 5/-, 3/-

at the door on the night. Seats Bookable from Harold Parkes, The Music House, Stafford.

★★ TWENTIETH CENTURY PROMOTIONS present... ★★

WRESTLING

THE BOROUGH HALL, STAFFORD
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12th, 7-30 p.m. 1960

GIGANTIC! MASKED! PLATED! UNDEFEATED! £1,000 for anyone who can unmask him

SOUTH AMERICA'S 24 stone 6lb. MONSTER

v.
AUSTRALIA'S LEON ARRAS

Rough, tough male who says he will kick him and take the £1,000

TERRIFIC WELTERWEIGHT CLASH

Yorkshire's BUTCHER GOODMAN v. RON (Boy) HINCLIFFE

GREAT LIGHT-HEAVY CONTEST

Germany's KURT VON HESS v. BON KNIGHT

— STRENGTH v. ROUGHNESS

West Indies LONET CALLISTER v. JOHN MURPHY

One of the strongest Wrestlers in the world. All action Grappler

Don't delay, go along and see Harold Parkes, The Music Shop. He will see you up with a good seat.

10/- 7/6 5/- 3/- (at the door on the night)

1961 Dr Death well before "peak" Dr Death with Al Hayes and bottom right, a very early Andy Robbin in small print.

TWENTIETH CENTURY PROMOTIONS present . . .

WRESTLING
BOROUGH HALL, STAFFORD
THURSDAY, APRIL 20th, 1961, 7.30 p.m.

INTERNATIONAL HEAVYWEIGHT CONTEST
BRITISH AND EUROPEAN HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION

SHIRLEY CRABTREE
Defeated Felix Milner, Palais De Sports, Brussels; Ivor Hardman, Grimsby Hall, Leicester; Vic Bill Verna, Harringay Arena, London. Assisted the World over.
v. BRITAIN'S

BIG BOY SCOTT
The Newcastle Destroyer, "Declares" "I will kick Crabtree easy!"

INTERNATIONAL WELTERWEIGHT CONTEST
Britain's JACK TAYLOR v. Denmark's CLIFF MILLA

INTERNATIONAL MIDDLEWEIGHT CONTEST
Hungary's LASLO BAKJO v. Britain's BOB SHERRY

INTERNATIONAL HEAVYWEIGHT CONTEST
26 Stone M. & inc. THE MONSTER v. Ghana's PRINCE KUMALI
with Beautiful Bookends

10/-, 7/6, 5/-, 3/-
Same Bookable at Harold Parkes, The Music House, Stafford. 2/- at the door.
Don't delay Book Now. It is advisable to arrange permanent Bookings.

1961
TWENTIETH CENTURY
PROMOTIONS present . . .
WRESTLING
Borough Hall, Stafford, Thurs., Aug. 17th — 7.30 p.m.

INTERNATIONAL HEAVYWEIGHT CONTEST

BRONCO JACK CASSIDY
CALGARY, CANADA 6 ft. 1 in. 18 stone 11 lbs.
v.

BIG BILL COVERDALE
AUSTRALIA 6 ft. 1 in. 23 stone 4 lbs.

LIGHTWEIGHT CONTEST
ZOLTAN BOSCIK v. YOUNG CORTEZ
Hungary London

WELTERWEIGHT CONTEST
HARRY RHODES v. CLIFF MILLA
Bradford Denmark

INTERNATIONAL MIDDLEWEIGHT CONTEST
BOB SHERRY v. MIKE MURA
Bolton Poland

10/-, 7/6, 5/-, 3/- Same Bookable at Harold Parkes, The Music House, Stafford.

TWENTIETH CENTURY PROMOTIONS present . . .

WRESTLING
BOROUGH HALL, STAFFORD
THURSDAY, APRIL 27th, 1961, 7.30 p.m.

THE ONLY APPEARANCE IN STAFFORD THIS SEASON OF—HANG ON TO
YOUR SEATS—IT'S THE FABULOUS

DOCTOR DEATH
From Hollywood, U.S.A. the most controversial Wrestler in the world
v. Wiganian, London

JUDO AL HAYES
The Finest exponent of Judo in England. Winner of the Albert Hall Tournament.

INTERNATIONAL MIDDLEWEIGHT CONTEST
Portugal's MACHICO-CANTILLION v. Britain's BILL TURNER

INTERNATIONAL WELTERWEIGHT CONTEST
Hungary's ZOLTAN BOSCIK v. Bulgaria's BAKIO LALIO

INTERNATIONAL MIDDLEWEIGHT CONTEST
Germany's ERNST VON HESS v. Britain's BOB SHERRY
The German Ruler A Great Wrestler

10/-, 7/6, 5/-
Same Bookable at Harold Parkes, The Music House, Stafford.
DON'T FORGET NEXT THURSDAY—BOOK NOW. 2/- at the door.

TWENTIETH CENTURY PROMOTIONS present . . .

WRESTLING
BOROUGH HALL, STAFFORD
THURSDAY, FEB. 16th, 1961, 7.30 p.m.

GREAT CHALLENGE CONTEST

THE RED SCORPION
() v.
KURT VON HESS
(Germany)

CREAT SUPPORTING BILL

JIM BELL (Glasgow) v. GEORGE PASILAKIS (Greece)

ANDY ROBBINS (Stafford) v. ERIC SANDS (Brentford)

GUNBOAT SMITH (Plymouth) v. DON STEADMAN (London)

10/-, 7/6, 5/-, 3/-
Same Bookable at Harold Parkes, The Music House, Stafford. YOU ARE ADVISED
TO ARRIVE AT DOORS

Enjoy these and stay with me because the promotional web and plot thickens.

grahambrookjazz

The most frightening night of my life occurred at The Borough Hall, Stafford, in the late 1970s when promoter Stuart ("Big Boy") Miller engaged me to be the "crooked manager" of Doctor Blood (Bill Clarke). I had previously been M.C. for Stuart and, fools going where angels fear to tread, I fully embraced the role of crooked manager and decided to play to the prejudices of the good Stafford folk by addressing the audience (just like George Gillette) but being blatantly homosexual. I forgot my actual words but I do recall going on about seeing Doctor Blood's bottom in the showers and what a beautiful bottom it was to the boos of the crowd.

As the bout progressed I was to produce a block of wood from under my jacket which I handed to Doctor Blood to use on his opponent (Harry Palin). No sooner I had passed the block to Blood than a large West Indian man on the front row jumped up and punched me in the face. Harry Palin saw the incident and jumped from the ring to forearm smash me (protect me) all the way back to the dressing room. He then returned to the ring to be smashed over the head by the block of wood whilst referee Miller took his eye off what was happening in the ring to appeal to the crowd to resume their seats. He turned round to see Blood covering a "knocked out" Palin making it another win for the evil doctor.

Back in the dressing-room I was shaking as a mischievous Ian Wilson was trying to persuade me to go back out again ("You've got them in the palm of your hand."). Plans were afoot to attack me after the show by waiting at the dressing-room door for me to come out. The West Indian had a walking cane and had snapped it in two and was sharpening one of the broken ends to a fine point using a bowie knife he just happened to have with him. Al Miquet helped me to escape by lending me one of his kung fu masks. I also switched tops with Stuart Miller and managed to walk past the baying group outside and into the car without being recognised.

Stuart thought the whole thing was a huge success and employed me to be Sir. Percival Pinkwhistle (that was my "crooked manager" persona) a month or so later for a show he was doing for Preston North End football club in their social club but I bottled it and did a comedy gay persona with a silly high voice which caused the punters to laugh at me but did not inspire the hatred which I had drummed up in Stafford.

I remember "Hellcat" Haggetty being on the show (wrestling her sister Lolita Loren) and telling off both Stuart and myself for my performance saying that we were flushing the image of professional wrestling down the toilet (although not expressed quite so gracefully).

I only have a vague recollection of the hall but it was certainly bigger than the halls Stuart and I were using at the time such as Memorial Hall, Northwich, Civic Hall, Nantwich, Public Hall, Wilmslow and Civic Hall, Bollington. Perhaps the wrestling was upstairs. I have a vague recollection of there being a difficulty with setting up the ring. Incidentally, the bill-topper in the show I have recalled was Abe Ginsberg versus Mike Dallas.

adrianpollard.shangri-la

I've Told GRAHAM-He should Write a Book!-It Would be a Big Seller!!

RON HISTORYO....Time Cop

What an absolute super yarn Graham and we have squeezed that memory out of you just because I started a Stafford Thread. Maybe you can tell us roughly the capacity of the Borough Hall. was the wrestling upstairs. Moving on to 1962 Twentieth century still seem pretty much a Max Rota. Bit did wonder at Ernie Riley in there. here is the start of the year.

Shirley and Max still starring. devils and Scorpions typical of Max's imagination.

1962 TWENTIETH CENTURY PROMOTIONS present... **WRESTLING**
Borough Hall, Stafford, Thurs., Feb. 22nd — 7.30 p.m.

HEAVYWEIGHT CONTEST
GUNBOAT

SMITH
Portsmouth. Ex Royal Marine Commando. 6ft. 5ins. 21st. 11th.
v.
ROY 'BULL'
DAVIES
Redruth, Heavyweight Champion of Cornwall

STRONG SUPPORTING BILL

BARNETT KNIGHT Hull v. **BILLY STIRLING** Scotland
FRANK HAYLOR (Walsall) v. **DAVE SHILLITO** Huddersfield

HEAVYWEIGHT CONTEST
HARRY BENNETT v. **BARRY DOUGLAS** (Lancs.)

10/-, 7/6, 5/-, Seats Bookable from Harold Parkes, The Music House, Stafford. 3/- at the door on night only.

1962 TWENTIETH CENTURY PROMOTIONS present... **WRESTLING**
Borough Hall, Stafford, Thurs., Mar. 22nd — 7.30 p.m.

BY PUBLIC DEMAND. SPECIAL EXTRAORDINARY TAG TEAM CONTEST

SHIRLEY & MAX CRABTREE v.
THE RED DEVIL AND **THE RED SCORPION**

This contest was asked for by the Red Scorpion to avenge his defeat by Max Crabtree

FRANK O'DONNELL Ireland v. HARRY WALKER Manchester	ERNIE RILEY Wigan v. RED WRAY Wakefield
--	---

LIGHTWEIGHT CONTEST
BERNARD MURRAY (Bradford) v. **TERRY NYLAND** (Bristol)

10/-, 7/6, 5/-, Seats Bookable from Harold Parkes, The Music House, Stafford. 3/- at the door on night only.
It is advisable to Book early for this programme.

1962 TWENTIETH CENTURY PROMOTIONS present... **WRESTLING**
Borough Hall, Stafford, TUES., April 17th — 7.30 p.m.

INTERNATIONAL HEAVYWEIGHT CONTEST
COUNT

BARTELLI
Great Masked Star of the Mat
v.
SAYAD

SHAH
Pakistan Outstanding Eastern Heavyweight

STRONG SUPPORTING BILL

JIM ARMSTRONG (Leeds) v. **ALAN DENNISON** (Keighley)
BILL RAWLINGS (Dewsbury) v. **PETE GINSBERG** (Manchester)
NORMAN COOPER (Stafford) v. **RAY ST. CLAIR** (Redruth)

10/-, 7/6, 5/-, Seats Bookable from Harold Parkes, The Music House, Stafford. 3/- at the door on night only.

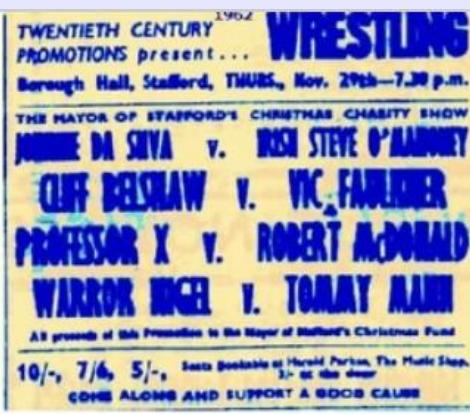
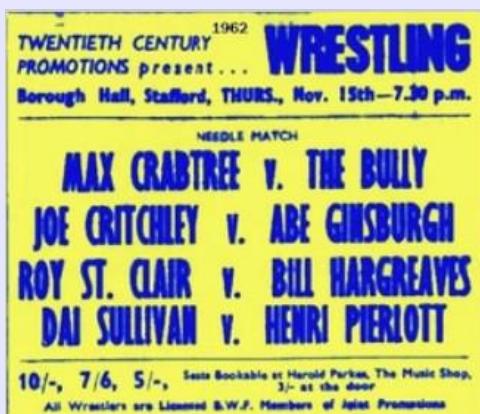
But then I was taken aback by this bill.

Suddenly these are "Joint" men.

Bartelli was Wryton and if you think about 1962 Pete Ginsberg and Roy StClair were just starting out, often found cutting their teeth in the Russell Club in Hulme for Wryton. The Yorkshire men were Morrell.

Is this a one off?

Later in the year it was pretty regular, Young Vic Faulkner, Mann, Martinelli, a right mixed Roster. Could it be that Twentieth Century were doing work for Joint.



Look at the bottom of this bill. All Wrestlers are members of Joint.

Why would Joint advertise Shirley as British and European Champion?

Well Hack, I think you wrote Men In Suits. Any ideas what this is all about?

Hack

Yes I can explain Ron. At the beginning of 1962 agreement was reached between Joint and a group of independent promoters - Kidd, D'Orazio, Devereux, Conrad Davis, Max's 20th Century and I think Frankie Price, but I would need to check if Price was later. There was talk of Paul Lincoln being included but he didn't join them, maybe he still had hopes for TV. Exactly what the deal was I don't know but those opposition promoters began working with Joint, so in 1962 these would be Joint shows. There was one reunification title match, Capelli v Dempsey, that being the only one I've heard of.

Max always had a complex relationship with Joint. He mostly seemed to work as Relwyskow's rep in Scotland but always seemed to have the right to put on his own shows, using Joint men, as 20th Century or Combat Promotions.

RON HISTORYO....Time Cop

1963, Shirley, Max and even Brian are still there working with Joint people.

Still the Brand is Twentieth Century.

It's a right mix. Midge Cowan Cropped up recently, not sure if we thought he never worked for Joint. Can't remember. Warrior Nigel became Zimba. Cadman and Colbeck in there. Elrington and Campbell.

1963
TWENTIETH CENTURY
PROMOTIONS present...
Borough Hall, Stafford, THURS., Jan. 10th—7.30 p.m.

WILD MAN IAN CAMPBELL
THE LEGIONAIRE
EL. GRECO v. MONTY SWANN
BARRY DOUGLAS v. CARI DANE
BRONCO JACK CASSIDY v. BIG BILL COVERDALE

10/-, 7/6, 5/-, Seats Bookable at Harold Parkes, The Music Shop, Staffs.
3/- at the door. Please book early.

1963
TWENTIETH CENTURY
PROMOTIONS present...
Borough Hall, Stafford, THURSDAY, MAY 2nd—7.30 p.m.

TAG CONTRACT BY PUBLIC DEMAND
SHIRLEY CRABTREE v. **MAX CRABTREE**
YURI MOLOTOV v. **ACHMEND THE TURK**
MIDGE COWAN v. TERRY NYLANDS
BOB SWEENEY v. **JIM ARMSTRONG**
PROFESSOR X v. **ALF CADMAN**

10/-, 7/6, 5/-, Bookable at Harold Parkes, Music Shop, Stafford
3/- at the door.

1963
TWENTIETH CENTURY 1963
PROMOTIONS present...
Borough Hall, Stafford, THURS., 7th MAR.—7.30 p.m.

INTERNATIONAL HEAVYWEIGHT TAG MATCH
Achmend The Turk v. **Shirley Crabtree**
Big Steve O'Mahoney v. **Max Crabtree**
JIM ARMSTRONG v. **DON BRANCH**
BARRIE CANNON v. **MIDGE COWAN**
STEVE BELL v. **FRANK O'DONNELL**

10/-, 7/6, 5/-, Seats Bookable at Harold Parkes, The Music Shop, Staffs.
3/- at the door. Please book early.

1963
TWENTIETH CENTURY
PROMOTIONS present...
Borough Hall, Stafford, THURSDAY, MAY 16th—7.30 p.m.

JIM RETURN CONTRACT
JIM WESSEY v. **MASSEN ALI DRY**
JIM MELLOR v. **TERRY NYLANDS**
JACK JOWETT v. **WARRIOR BAA**
ROY ST. CLAIR v. **FRANK O'DONNELL**
VIC FAULKNER v. **TOMMY MANN**

10/-, 7/6, 5/-, Bookable at Harold Parkes, Music Shop, Stafford
3/- at the door.

1963
TWENTIETH CENTURY
PROMOTIONS present...
Borough Hall, Stafford, THURS., 21st MAR.—7.30 p.m.

THE LEGIONAIRE v. **BRUNO ELLINGTON**
ALAN COLBECK v. **MICK McMICHAEL**
MICKY GOLD v. **JOE KEEGAN**
JOHNNIE CRAZY HORSE v. **JIM MELLOR**

10/-, 7/6, 5/-, Bookable at Harold Parkes, Music Shop, Stafford
3/- at the door. Please book early.

1963
TWENTIETH CENTURY
PROMOTIONS present...
Borough Hall, Stafford, THURSDAY, MAY 30th 7.30 p.m.

NEEDLE MATCH FIGHT TO THE FINISH, ONE MUST EMERGE
WINNERS—TAG MATCH
SHIRLEY CRABTREE v. **MAX CRABTREE**
YURI MOLOTOV v. **ACHMEND THE TURK**
BOB SWEENEY v. **GAMA OF INDIA**
WARRIOR BAA v. **ELARKO HART**
BRIAN CRABTREE v. **CHUCK PURVET**

10/-, 7/6, 5/-, Bookable at Harold Parkes, Music Shop, Stafford
3/- at the door.

RON HISTORYO....Time Cop

I was not quite sure of my facts but it was certainly looking that way and as I work the timeline you can see slight changes of branding illustrating Hack's explanation. 1964/1965 now.

THE MOST THRILLING & SENSATIONAL OF ALL SPORTS
TWENTIETH CENTURY COMBAT 1964
WRESTLING
BOROUGH HALL, Stafford, Thur., 10th Dec.
COMMENCE 7.30 p.m.
In Aid of the Mayor of Stafford's Appeal for O.A.P.
SENSATIONAL INTERNATIONAL HEAVYWEIGHT CONTEST
BILLY JOYCE
WIGAN Recently regained the British Heavyweight title from Geoff Power

IVAN JOSEF ZARANOFF
LENINGRAD The Brilliant Russian Fine General

ALAN DENNISON v. **ERIC CUTLER**
Denholme v. Sheffield

COLIN JOYNSON v. **BARRY CANNON**
Manchester v. Yorkshire

LEB KELLETT v. **ROY ST. CLAIR**
BRADFORD A rough tough manman who needs no introduction v. CORNWALL A leading side condande

TERRIFIC LIGHTHEAVYWEIGHT CONTEST
PRICES : 10/-, 8/-, 6/-, 4/-
Permanent Bookings Available

1964
TWENTIETH CENTURY
MANAGEMENTS present...
FRIDAY, OCT. 23rd, Borough Hall, Stafford, 7.30 p.m.

The Rough-House Boys v. The Coloured Boys
ALF CADMAN
AND
KEN CADMAN
The T.V. Toughguys v.
THE BLACK PANTHER
BOBBIE AND
LINDY CAULDER
That Fine Wrestling Team
JACK CUNNINGHAM v. **TERRY NYLAND**
DON MITCHELL v. **PADDY O'DONNELL**
ACHMEND THE TURK v. **JESS HODGSON**

10/-, 8/-, 6/- Seats Bookable at Harold Parkes, Music Shop, Stafford. All Bookable.



A third Variant on the left and a Rare picture of Young Mal Kirk and Joint promotions below.



Shirley still about in 1966 with Brian. And some of the earliest Lady wrestlers since the short 1930's failed venture.



Hack

Brilliant finds Ron.

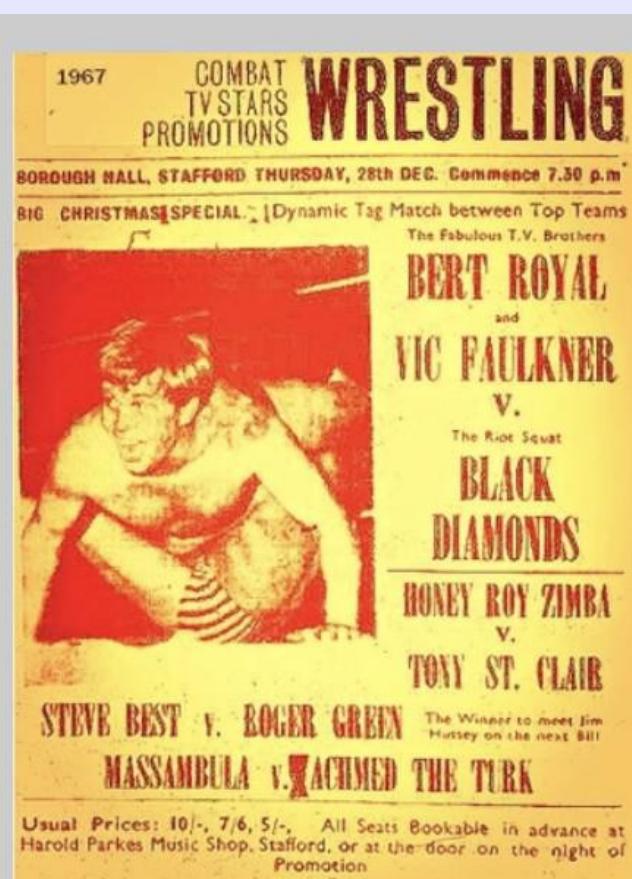
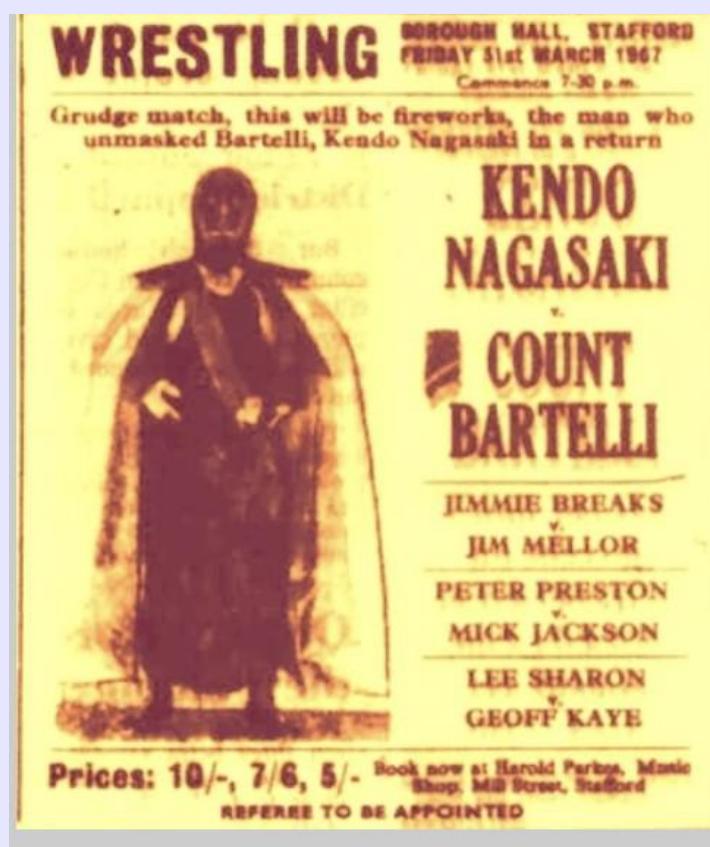
August and September 1965 are in the wrong order which is a shame.

Put them in the right order and you see August Max has put on a Joint bill, as I said from 1962. But one month later he's using independent wrestlers and no mention of Joint Promotions.

What happened in the summer of 1965?

RON HISTORYO....Time Cop

Combat were still about in 1967, but not on all the bills. One year on they were to do Bartelli attempted revenge over Naggers that sold well for many years. That photo of Kendo was still very common in 1972, I have a signed one somewhere.



One unrelated intruder to the Borough Hall is this one. No idea on this, just someone got a slot and had a go?????

Have we heard of this promoter.

Maybe some of these can go on that 1960's "Little Known" List

RISS-DALLAN (WRESTLING) PROMOTIONS PRESENTS

WRESTLING 1967

BOROUGH HALL, STAFFORD

THURSDAY, MAY 18th at 7.45 p.m. Doors 7.0 p.m.

MAIN EVENT 8 x 5 Minute Round Contest

TERRIFIC Masked Star. Victor of many contests

The MAD MONK
Rough—Tough—Rugged

V. POWERFUL man 6'6", 171 Stone

"Handsome" JACK LITTLE

Specially contracted—Little has asked for this contest to clear up previous disputed decision

6 x 5 Minute Round Middleweight Bout

Excellent all action Star Fast and Furious

FRANK MORLEY v. **BILLY NORMAN**

A great favourite everywhere says Morley hasn't a chance that he's in such terrific form

8 x 5 min. Lightweight contest Drop Kick Specialist

BRIAN SPENCER v. **MORRIS MILLWARD**

Fine Young Wrestler and a Worthy opponent to Spencer

6 x 5 min. Catchweight match Very Classical Wrestler

TREVOR WARDEL v. **MICK BRADSHAW**

A Real Handful for Wardel

PRICES 10/-, 7/6, 5/- BOOK EARLY BOOK NOW!

Booking Agent: Harold Parkes (Music Shop), Mill St., Stafford. Tel. 2715 Tickets obtainable on the night

DON'T MISS THIS SPECIAL ATTRACTION

TONIGHT COMBAT JOINT PROMOTIONS BOROUGH HALL, STAFFORD

WRESTLING Commencing 7.30 p.m.

Official Match Referee: Max Marks

Les Kelle Kanner Bradford's Brawniest enough Legend challenge

Steve Logan Miss McMahan's Top Person for Being Tough

TONY ST CLAIR

DAVE BARIE

ALLAN DENNISON

MIKE EAGERS

STEVE CLEMENTS

THE RED SCORPION

29th Sep 1967

★TELEVISION WRESTLING STARS★

BOROUGH HALL, STAFFORD — SAT. JUNE 13th — 8 p.m.

1970

STEVE LOGAN J. LONDON V.

ADRIAN STREET

WALES The Blonde Headed Nature Boy will forearm smash him out of the ring states Logan.

COME, ENJOY A GOOD NIGHT OUT EVERYBODY WELCOME

The Manchester Bully. All-Action **JIM HUSSEY** v. **MARK ROCCO**

Scotland's **IAN ST. JOHN** v. Poland's **ANTON SWASJICK**

Brilliant Lightweight

MICK McMICHAEL v. **TONY SAINT CLAIR**

Super Wrestling Clash — THE BEST

Prices: Ringside 12/-, 10/-, 8/-, 5/- All seats are bookable in advance from Harold Parkes (Music Shop), Mill Street, Stafford or at the door on night of promotion.

Hack

It gets better Ron. The only constant in all this is the fella that owns the music shop selling the tickets.

Riss Dallan Promotions is a new one. My first thought was Mel Riss. But he was still working for Joint in 1967 so I doubt he would put his name to a bill. Anyway he would surely have connections to put on a more enticing show than this.

Jim Armstrong wrestled as a masked Mad Monk at that time. Jack Little was a Jack Taylor wrestler. And the rest?

I can't see that pulling them in.

Combat T.V. Stars Promotions 1968

WRESTLING BOROUGH HALL STAFFORD Friday 29th November commencing 7.30 pm

Open Heavyweight Knockout Tournament for the British Gold Medal

7 Contests to the winner Some of the names competing:

Negro Champ. of the world USA

DORY DIXON **TONY ST. CLAIR**

JUMPING **JIM HUSSEY** **MIKE POWERS**

BILL CONNERS **MICK DALLAS**

DIRTY LEE SHARRON **PETER STEWART**

Ringside 10/-, 7/6, 5/-

Harold Parkes Music Shop, Stafford Book Now!

★TELEVISION WRESTLING STARS★

BOROUGH HALL, STAFFORD — SAT. OCT. 10th — 7.30 pm

SUPER TAG TEAM OF TELEVISION STARS 1970 THE CLASSY

JOHNNY EAGLES & PETER STEWART Versus **RIOT SQUAD**

CAPTAIN COLIN JOHNSON — TWICE PICKED FOR JAPAN

COME AND ENJOY A GOOD NIGHT OUT. EVERYBODY WELCOME

A Great Stafford Favorite

JOHNNY SAINT v. **RAY STEVENS** "The College Boy"

Return Match. Brilliant Wrestling.

Ian St. John v. **Andreas Swasjick**

SCOTLAND HUNGARY

Having a Good Season

Mick McMichael v. **Jack Martin**

DONCASTER FIERY SCOUSE

Usual Prices: Ringside 12/-, 10/-, 8/-, 5/- All seats are bookable in advance from Harold Parkes (Music Shop), Mill Street, Stafford or at the door on night of promotion.

RON HISTORYO....Time Cop

Pushing ahead now for a few more years, astonished that Wryton Promotions never get their name on this venue despite having Hanley and Willenhall and Crewe amongst others. That word "Combat" prevails and we have learned that Max could either promote his own show or run one with Joint Wrestlers or even the most unexpected mixture of the two that I have ever seen. Combat finally goes missing and it's just TV Stars. Rocco v Hussey in Marks earliest days. That popular StJohn V Svasjick match they did a hundred times or more.

But this was not the final Promotional name to capture this venue. The expansion of Brian Dixon, whose partner I believe was Monty Swan until Kendo came in in 1974 meant yet another taste of wrestling presentation for Stafford fans.

Below bottom right, Saints, Wonderboys, Hells Angels, Judokas, all could claim to be copies of better known ones if you ask me. Some not even named. Bartelli top left lending his name to Wrestling federation of Great Britain. Are all of the for below even Dixon, You tell me.

WRESTLING FEDERATION OF GREAT BRITAIN
Doors 7 pm present 1970 Start 8 pm

WRESTLING

BOROUGH HALL STAFFORD - FRIDAY 16th OCTOBER

SENSATIONAL HEAVYWEIGHT CHALLENGE MATCH Commonwealth Heavyweight Champ—A great favourite in this area

COUNT BARTELLI vs **THE OUTLAW**

£1.000 CHALLENGE TO ANY MAN! Will have to be on his guard tonight

WELTERWEIGHT THRILLER

IAN MCKENZIE v. JOHNNIE PALANCE

HEAVYWEIGHT BATTLE

GORDON CORBETT v. Birmingham Mid-Heavyweight Champion

ROUGHOUSE ALF CADMAN
Buy a 'Ring Man' needs no introducing

INTERNATIONAL HEAVYWEIGHT THRILLER

KLONDYKE JAKE v. ORIG WILLIAMS
24 stone one man Riot Squad
Dynamic all-action Welshman

Prices: 5/- 6/- 8/- 10/- Advance booking from Harold Parkes Music Shop, Mill Street, Stafford.

WRESTLING
BOROUGH HALL, STAFFORD
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 3rd at 7.45 pm 1971
Doors Open 7 p.m.

£200 ASIDE SENNSATIONAL RETURN TAG MATCH £200 ASIDE
American Rules, Unlimited Time, No Disqualification, Right to a Pinfall

HELLS ANGELS v. **ED HAMILL**
Belfast Judo Star AND **MIKE DALLAS**
Warrington

MIDDLEWEIGHT THRILLER

ROMEO JOE CRITCHLEY v. MELVYN RISS
With Joe in the Ring anything can and will happen!

Former British L/W Champ

TOP HEAVYWEIGHTS MEET!

ROY BULL DAVIS v. **MONTY SWAN**
TV's Rule-bending Ruthless Heavy
Popular Young Elesmere Port Star

REBEL ORIG WILLIAMS v. **BOB 'VEIDOR' BELL**
Dynamic All-action Welshman All out for Victory Golden Boy of TV Fame from Wirral, Cheshire

Seats: 55p 45p 35p. Book early at Harold Parkes Music Shop, Mill Street, Stafford (Tel. 2710); or at the door on evening of promotion.

WRESTLING FEDERATION OF GREAT BRITAIN
present 1971

WRESTLING

BOROUGH HALL STAFFORD - THUR 10 NOV. at 7.45 pm

HEAVYWEIGHT CHALLENGE TAG MATCHES—24 stone. Duration

The RIOT SQUAD
HANS STRICKER and ROY 'BULL' DAVIS
Budapest, Angie Germany, Plymouth

WELSH WIZARDS
GWYN SULLIVAN and JACK BOWLANDS
Fest & Clever Young Heavyweight Popular Welshmen—recently returned from Germany

HEAVYWEIGHT CLASSIC!

TONY BARRY v. JOHNNIE PALANCE
10-year-old Wresdorfer HEAVYWEIGHT BATTLE The King of Punks

WILDMAN of BORNEO
Accompanied by his 1000lb second. Once, first came in England.

MIKE DALLAS
Dynamic all action star seen on TV many times

Prices: 10/- 8/- 7/- ADVANCE BOOKING: Harold Parkes Music Shop, Mill Street, Stafford.

WRESTLING
BOROUGH HALL, STAFFORD
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 4th at 7.45 p.m. 1971
Doors Open 7 p.m.

THURSDAY NIGHT IS WRESTLING NIGHT

TERRIFIC TAG TEAM TOURNAMENT FOUR TEAMS TAKING PART

£100 CHALLENGE TROPHY

The Arrogant Blonde Dynamites

HELLS ANGELS v. **THE JUDOKAS**
Brilliant Team of Ring Villains. Determined to win the tournament.

THE WONDERBOYS v. **THE SAINTS**
TONY BARRY, COLIN RICE Up and coming young team of schoolboys IAN ST. JOHN, RAY STUART Popular pair — have beaten the best

Winners of the above v. Winners of the above

DON'T MISS THIS WRESTLING SPECTACULAR
3 TAG MATCHES ON THE SAME NIGHT

PLUS — British Welterweight Title Clash 15 x 15 — PLUS

THE CHAMPION **JACK DEMPSEY** v. **SEAN DOIL** THE CHALLENGER
Wigan Ireland

Seats: 55p 45p 35p. Advance booking from H. E. Parkes, Mill Street, Stafford, or at the door on evening of promotion.

Hack

I don't think we can assume these were Brian's. They might be as they have the style of his earlier bills and he was using Bartelli, Wildman, and Orig from the start of his promoting. The first is in October 1970 which was when Brian started, but not sure of the date in Marple. The early shows I saw of Brian's were all Wrestling Enterprises of Birkenhead, including the first I saw in October 1970.

Wrestling Federation of Great Britain was an umbrella name for a dozen or so independents in the 1960s. Although I remember the promoters using their own name and stating they were members of WFGB I don't recall this title alone being used by an individual promoter.

So not ruling Brian out, but I think Orig Williams another likely contender.

RON HISTORYO....Time Cop

Yes I sort of expected to see girls on the Dixon stuff, very evident on the next set in 73/74 and of course Kendo was co promoter in 1974 selling that unmasking of the White Angel bout that he did at Belle Vue, Houldsworth and probably dozens of other places. He was a very poor effort, one of the most disappointing bouts I ever saw.

So the Borough Hall all the way from 1950 and certainly still finding them in 1985. Just a little bit of History about Stafford Wrestling. Unfortunately I have about 130 bills but the galleries are not accepting new stuff.

STAFFORD BOROUGH HALL STAR STUDED BILL

INTERNATIONAL WRESTLING

THURSDAY, 14th NOVEMBER, 1985 at 7.45pm

Mr TV British Lightweight Champion
BOBBY BARNES versus **MEL SANDERS**

Eighteen Stone Spiderman British Lightweight Champion
TARANTULA versus **JOHNNY FOSTER**

The Clown Prince of Wrestling The Fun King
JIMMY HAGAN versus **DENNY KING**

Stone Headed Spanish Champion
MEL STUART versus **MIGUEL SANDOS**

Mr Quicksilver Local Boy
CHRIS McNEIL versus **KID BRANNIGAN**

Tickets £2.75 Concessions £2.00 BOX OFFICE OPENS TODAY

Box Office Tel. (0785) 54653

STAFFORD BOROUGH HALL STAR STUDED BILL

INTERNATIONAL WRESTLING

THURSDAY, 28th NOVEMBER, 1985 at 7.45pm

LADIES BOUT
TRUDY SAFFRON versus **RED KELLY**

Stone Headed Pretty Boy
MEL STUART versus **JOHN SAINT**

Eighteen Stone Spiderman
TARANTULA versus **BIG JOHN COWASAY**

PLUS TWO LIGHTWEIGHT CONTESTS

Tickets £2.75 Concessions £2.00 BOX OFFICE OPENS TODAY

Box Office Tel. (0785) 54653

Hack

Looking back at your 4 1970/71 adverts Ron I wonder if the two labelled WFGB could be different promoters from the other two, with the other two being Dixon and WFGB Williams or Corbett. I only saw Bob Bell billed as Vedor Bell once, and that was for Dixon. Dempsey v Doyle was another Dixon favourite.

Of course we will never know, it's all trivial but it's fun.

Another to add to the pot. Years ago I was going through the Wolverhampton papers for Ray and the promoters were Bartelli and Jack Oatley. Must have been in the seventies.

grahambrookjazz

My final shows in 1986/7 were staged at Walsall Football Club's social club and Pete Evans provided the ring for me and also provided some wrestlers. Chris Mc.Neil was one (I put him on with Ezra who was surprised to arrive at the venue and find he was billed as Banana Bill) and there was a brother and sister with the surname Fitzhenry (I think) who wrestled as Kid Brannigan and Trudy Saturn respectively. Trudy Saturn is not a million miles from Trudy Saffron so I detect a Pete Evans influence here.

RON HISTORYO....Time Cop

Wonderful info Graham You make a great contribution.

bkendo1

Graham you made me chuckle with the big Kath memory she obviously was unaware of irony. Stafford illustrates the wars within joint. Hopefully I'll be able to shed further when I come near to completing my Wryton investigations, funny at the time I didn't care I got paid. Mel did indeed promote using independent lads mainly put on shows at Blackpool Albert rd and Morecambe, Crabtree is another ballgame different when Berry was involved by that I mean better. The associate

member of joints was a minefield ,Dales hated it and wanted it stopped, Norman had meetings at the pack horse Bolton with Wryton re the use of their guys on comission for associates. Mick was on house percentage four others wanted it. This together with Ernie loftouse asking northern lads what dales were paying ,ooops standard pay on joints.

RON HISTORYO...Time Cop

My Gosh, What a tangled web, Stafford, it turns out, has a history that reveals a bit more about promoting than most places have.

Hack

Fascinating Bkendo1. We look forward to learning more. Sam Betts always says Max was okay to work for when he was with Norman Berry but later hasn't a good word to say for him.

THE SANDONIA SANDON RD., STAFFORD
Tel. Stafford 51388
VIC KENDRICK OF M.E.A. presents

WRESTLING
SPECTACULAR

TUESDAY, 2nd FEBRUARY, at 8-0 p.m.

TERRIFIC HEAVYWEIGHT MAIN EVENT

REBEL'RAY HUNTER
Sydney, Australia, 6ft. 4ins., 18 stone. British Empire Heavyweight Champion
v.

WAYNE BRIDGES
Gillingham, England, 6ft. 2ins., 17 stone. Former Amateur Champion. 24 year old Heavyweight Challenger

Middleweight Contest
Handsome
ROGER GREEN
Havant
v.
KIM KENDO
Kensington

Catchweight Contest
GIPSY JOE SMITH
Former bare knuckle fighter
v.
WEE BRIAN SPARKS
Scotland

A SPECIAL HEAVYWEIGHT SUPPORTING CONTEST
SUGAR RAY v. **HARD BOILED**
DO DO v. **HAGGETTY**
A Zulu Warrior Roughneck Irish Canadian

Ringside 10/6 (Reserved & Unreserved). Centre Stalls 7/6, Rear Stalls and Balcony 5/- (children half price). Box Office open nightly, Sundays from 6 p.m.

SaxonWolf

Great stuff. None of this matters to the vast majority of the British public, but to us on here, this is gold dust. Working out who was promoting, and who was helping or turning a blind eye. Who cares? We do!

Hack

Another venue and another promoter for Stafford. The Sandonia was a one time cinema that had already turned to bingo when it was bought by the Midland Entertainment Agency in 1964, owned by Vic Kendrick. The same year he took over Dudley Hippodrome from Jerry Jeary.

Join Ron Historyo and add your comments in the forum

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