

Ron Historyo goes where no man has been before

Nooks and Crannies

Bedlington

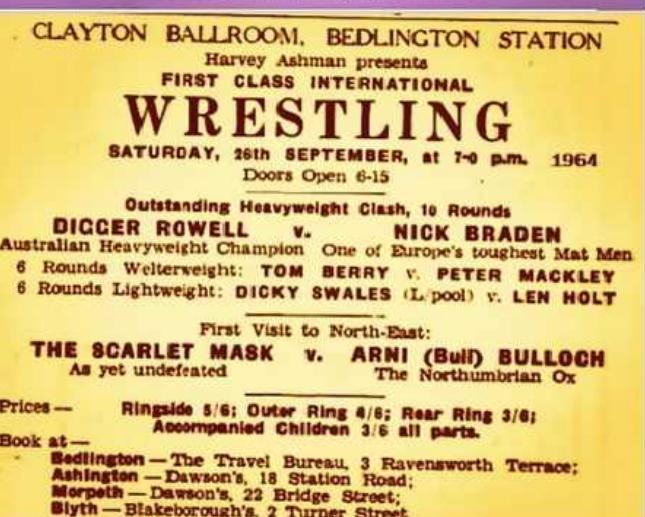
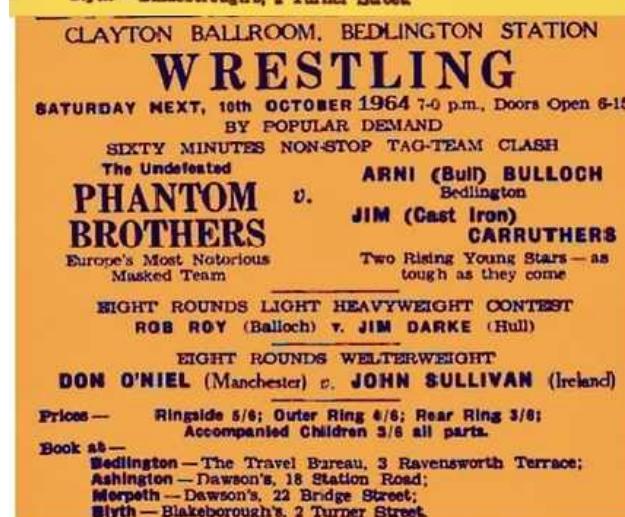
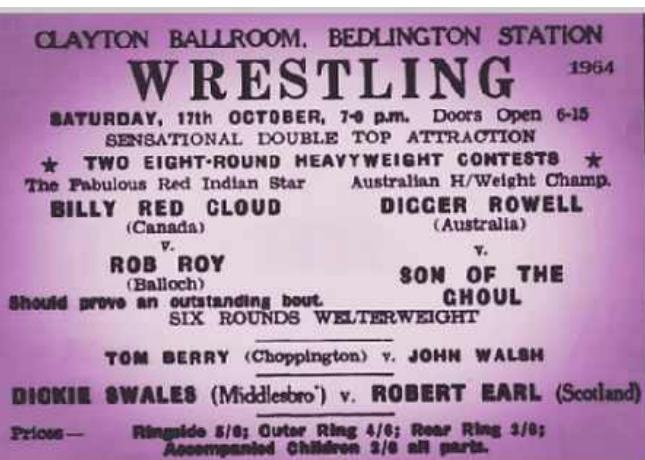
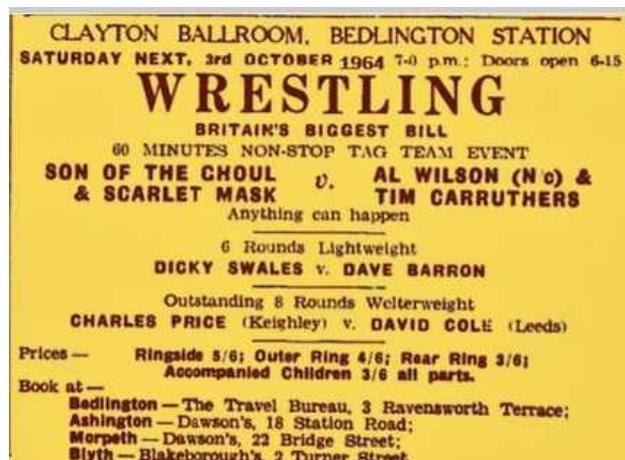
<https://heritagedocs.wixsite.com/talkwrestling/forum/memories-of-the-old-days/nooks-and-crannies-bedlington>

RON HISTORYO....Time Cop

Some crazy bills here from 60 years ago. Bedlington Station ironically closed in 1964 and had a nearby ballroom that sometimes doubled as a Roller Rink.

Who some of the wrestlers were, maybe Hack knows from his North east Contacts.

Arnie Bulloch has cropped up before and of course Dicky Swales. Just enjoy the nostalgia. Looks reasonably priced after a quick look round 1964.



Hack

Nice one Ron. I'd not heard of Bedlington let alone most of these names.

Already in the A-Z are

Dickie Swales

Billy Red Cloud, an Hungarian, Julian Gurgris

Rob Roy, listed as Rob Roy McGregor and Jim McCombie

Digger Rowell

John Walsh, listed as Lord Bertie Sinclair

Arni Bullough

RON HISTORYO....Time Cop

Gosh , I am tied up in knotts at that lot.

Nooks and Crannies all over the country. Wrestling got everywhere.

Who would have promoted this imaginative stuff. Who is Harvey Ashman. (sep 26)

Powerlock

He doesn't appear anywhere online, I wonder if he was a local business man or even manager of the dance hall who bought in the show from another promotion.

The Clayton Ballroom has come up before when we had a thread on Arni Bulloch I believe there's a photo of the Clayton on that thread, I believe the building is now a medical centre.

RON HISTORYO....Time Cop

Yes I think owner or manager , I did find an advert where he was after someone to run a function. So it is likely when presenting wrestling he would have been acting as MC. Someone would have laid on the wrestlers.

Powerlock

You had regular shows in Whitley Bay, Tynemouth and South Shields (Bolingbroke Hall), and other venues in the area I would imagine the promoters at these venues would have been these gents who provided the ring and line up for the shows.

Hack

We are not alone in our ignorance.

Word went out and asked Pete Ross, Jim McCormack, Les Prest, Lord Bertie Sinclair, Sean McNeil if they had heard of

Al Wilson
Tim Carruthers
Jim Carruthers
Dave Barron
Charles Price
The masked Phantom Brothers
Jim Darke
John Sullivan
Don O'Neil
Tom Berry
Robert Earl
Nick Braden
Peter Mackley
Len Holt
Son of The Ghoul
David Cole
Scarlet Mask
Promoter Harvey Ashman.
They hadn't. (Muttered something about being too young).

williamr

This was in my heyday as a wrestling fan and the only name I recognise is Digger Rowell, who appeared once or twice at Morecambe around that time.

Hack

I've managed to find out a bit about Harvey Ashman, who it was said presented the Bedlington shows.

In 1959 it was reported that he had been appointed manager of the Essoldo Cinema in Gateshead. It was said he had been a singer, actor and now theatre and cinema manager. His first post as cinema manager was at the Picture House in Whitley Bay and went on to manage a cinema in Minden, Germany and later Hamburg. Back in Britain he was at the Newcastle Essoldo prior to Gateshead in 1959. In 1962 he went on to manage the Theatre

Royal in Blyth and two years later we find him at Bedlington.

There doesn't seem to be any wrestling connection, so I guess he bought the shows in. Seems to have been born in Tynemouth in 1925, died 1999.

Powerlock

The Theatre Royal in Blyth was ran at the turn of the century by Arthur Jefferson the father of Stan Laurel

Dave Sutherland6d

I wasn't previously aware that there had been wrestling in Bedlington at this time but in the early sixties there were several events advertised around the North East featuring names quite unknown to local wrestling enthusiasts.

The only name that stands out here is Digger Rowell who was a regular name at Newcastle from 1959 to mid 1963. I never got to see him live as I didn't start going to St James until November of that year but interestingly enough it was only a year later that he appears on these promotions as a bill topper; quite an elevation from his Joint Promotion days!

Continue the discussion

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