

RON'S WRESTLING RAMBLINGS

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THE PARR HALL, WARRINGTON

<https://wrestlingheritage.forumotion.com/t269-early-days-parr-hall-warrington>

RON HISTORYO....Time Cop

A well known Hall but not the first venue in Warrington.

That title probably goes to the Baths Hall which for sure was doing wrestling in 1939.

However, there to be beaten, I believe I have a set of the first bills for the Parr Hall and during the war at that.

Promoter Jack Cullen and he did some pretty good shows. Many future promoters actually wrestled on his shows. I can only show you a sample.

<p>WRESTLING 1941 PARR HALL, WARRINGTON, Tuesday, December 9th COMMENCE - 7.45 p.m. Presented by JACK CULLEN, R.W.B. of C. Premier Northern Wrestling Promotions. Licensed under the British Wrestling Board of Control.</p> <p>The Green Asp v. The Golden Ace Red Brokau v. Angel Face Joe Batten Butcher Boy Legs Beckley v. Scotty Ambrose Billy Fogg v. Joss Simms Cyclone Brookes v. Cpl. Taffy Jones</p> <p>Referee - PAT MADDEN, Manchester.</p> <p>Prices - 1/2 2/6 3/2 3/10 (Including Tax) Back Gallery Centre and Side Ring-side, Stags, and Standing, Gallery Outer Ring. LADIES - 1/6 to all parts. Members of I.M. Forces - 3d. and 1/4 Seats may be booked at Hall on day of show. Phone Warrington 058.</p>	<p>WRESTLING 1941 PARR HALL, WARRINGTON, ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 11 COMMENCE - 7.45 p.m. Presented by JACK CULLEN, R.W.B. of C. Premier Northern Wrestling Promotions. Licensed under the British Wrestling Board of Control.</p> <p>INTERNATIONAL HEAVY-WRIGHT CONTEST 5-10 min. Bds. THE GOLDEN ACE (LAURENCE CHAPPELL) The Famous International Weight Lifter... Who holds the World's record for one hand lift - 525 lbs. dead lift vs vs vs</p> <p>Lance-Corporal VICK HESSELLE INTERNATIONAL HEAVY-WRIGHT CONTEST 5-10 min. Bds. CORPORAL TONY BAER R.A.F. Heavyweight Champion of Scotland vs vs vs</p> <p>WILD TARZAN (TOM RIGBY) CANADA The Canadian Bear-Hug Expert.</p> <p>LIGHT-WEIGHT CONTEST 7-5 min. Bds. LEGS BECKLEY v. Cpl. Johnny SUMMERS WARRINGTON.</p> <p>INTERNATIONAL CATCH-WEIGHT CONTEST 5-10 min. Bds. Farmer BOB THOMAS v. BILLY FOGG MANLEY. (YOUNG APOLLO) WARRINGTON.</p> <p>Referee - PAT MADDEN, Manchester.</p> <p>Prices - 1/2 2/6 3/2 3/10 (Including Tax) Back Gallery Centre and Side Ring-side, Stags, and Standing, Gallery Outer Ring. LADIES - 1/6 to all parts. Members of I.M. Forces - 3d. and 1/4</p>	<p>WRESTLING 1941 PARR HALL, WARRINGTON, Tuesday, November 18th COMMENCE - 7.45 p.m. Presented by JACK CULLEN, R.W.B. of C. Premier Northern Wrestling Promotions. Licensed under the British Wrestling Board of Control.</p> <p>George Gregory v. Sandy McLaren Milo Popocoplis v. Jack Atherton Billy Riley v. Joe Robinson</p> <p>TEAM MATCH All Four Men in Ring Together - KEN WOODERSON BILLOGUEN The GOLDEN BOY v. BRIAN ANERNE</p> <p>Costras Astros v. Ahmed Petre</p> <p>Referee - PAT MADDEN, Manchester.</p> <p>Prices - 1/2 2/6 3/2 3/10 (Including Tax) Back Gallery Centre and Side Ring-side, Stags, and Standing, Gallery Outer Ring. LADIES - 1/6 to all parts. Members of I.M. Forces - 3d. and 1/4</p>
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Some very local names above, yet again as discovered by Main Mask recently, Tom Rigby fighting as Wild Tarzan. Billy Riley and Jack Atherton on there, trainer of Dynamite Kid Ted Beckley. To put the record straight Ted Betley was born Warrington 24th Jan 1922 and was a Butcher's Errand Boy at the start of the war. Betley being the correct spelling.

WRESTLING 1942

PARR HALL, WARRINGTON,
Tuesday, February 10th
 COMMENCE - 7.45 p.m.
 A JACK CULLEN PROMOTION

The Green Asp v. Farmer's Boy
The Golden Ace v. Alf Rawlings
Stan Black v. Brian Aberne
Butcher Boy Legs Beckley v. Ron Colman
Larry Turner v. The Golden Boy

Referee - SCOTTY AMBROSE.

Prices - 1/2 2/6 3/2 3/10
Including Tax) Back Gallery Centre and Side, Ring-side, Stage,
 and Standing Gallery Outer Ring.
 LADIES - 1/6 to all parts. Members of B.M. Forces - 1/6 and 1/4

Seats may be booked at Hall on day of show. Phone Warrington 958.

WRESTLING 1942

PARR HALL, WARRINGTON,
Tuesday, July 7th

Afternoon 3 p.m. Evening 7-30 prompt
 A JACK CULLEN PROMOTION

Afternoon - The Green Asp v Cpl. Bob Silcock
 Asserati v Francis St. Clair Gregory
 Stan Black v Brian Aberne
 Milo Popocopolis v Jules Kiki

Evening - - Ken Wooderson v Jack Hall
 Alf Jenkins v Butcher (Legs) Beckley
 Chris Londoos v Red Brokau
 Jack Beaumont v Bulldog Woods

SPECIAL BOXING EXHIBITION
 Sergt. Peter Kane v A N Other

WRESTLING 1943

Parr Hall, Warrington
Tuesday, March 9th at 7-30 p.m.

Man Mountain Bob Benny v.
Sergt. Geo. Clark
Milo Popocopolis v. Joe Fletcher
Jack Alker v. Norman Morrell
L. & C. Chris Londoos v. Angel Face
Joe Batten

Last Train to Earlestown: 10.15 p.m.

Golden Ace and Golden Boy, Norman Morrell on Cullen's shows, wonder how many went to both shows on July 7th 1942 in the middle of the war? Big names like Bill Benny and Bert Assirati. And talking of Bert.

WRESTLING PARR HALL,
Warrington
On Tuesday, Aug. 4th, at 7-45 p.m.
 1942

THE GREEN ASP v. ASSERATTI
Meher Ban v. Bill Ogden
Butcher Boy Beckley v. Ron Colman
JACK BEAUMONT v. ROUGH HOUSE ASKINS

GREEN ASP BEATEN
 4.8.42

Big surprise at the wrestling tournament arranged by Mr. Jack Cullen, at the Warrington Parr Hall on Tuesday evening, was the first defeat of the Green Asp. He was beaten in a time match by Asseratti, and at the conclusion the mystery wrestler unmasked. He was not, however, recognised by any of the large crowd. In future, he will wrestle under his own name. The next show will be held on Tuesday week.

Bert unmaskes The Green Asp, OK, it went in the local press, but Van Wurden would have done his Green Asp again and again. I think we have 2 or 3 unmaskings of him now. As for wrestling under his own name, well next year 1943 he's back in with Bert again.

WRESTLING
Parr Hall, Warrington
Tuesday, March 23rd at 7-30 p.m.
 1943

ASSERATTI
 (who will challenge anyone in the country)
 v.
THE GREEN ASP
 (Mystery Star).

THREE OTHER BOUTS
 Last Train to Earlestown: 10.15 p.m.
 Book at Hall on day of Show Phone 958

WARRINGTON BOUTS
 Programme for next Tuesday's show at the Parr Hall, Warrington, will be: Asseratti, who will challenge anyone in the country, v. The Green Asp (the mystery wrestler), Jack Beaumont v. Sergt. Masurka, Scotty Ambrose v. Bob Thomas, Jim Lewis v. Johnny Stafford. The show starts at 7.30 p.m., and there are reduced charges for boys, ladies and members of the Forces.

RON HISTORYO....Time Cop

In 1944 Wryton took over from Jack Cullen. Cullen, who was born 1905, was already a sports promoter when he turned to wrestling. Son of an Irish Police Constable but brought up by his mother in Atherton. Looks to me like he died in 1953 age only 47. Why Wryton took over I cannot explain.

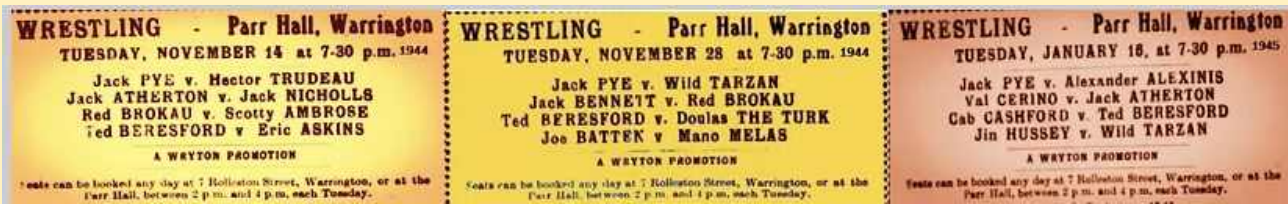
So lets look at early Wryton. And this is very early, possibly only Wryton's second venue to open after Hanley.

<p>WRESTLING - Parr Hall, Warrington TUESDAY, MARCH 28th, at 7-30 p.m. 1944</p> <p>JACK PYE v. TONY BAER Joe BATTEN v. Padvo PELTONIN Joe FLETCHER v. Douglas THE TURK Wild TARZAN v. Bob SILCOCK</p> <p>A WRYTON PROMOTION</p> <p>Seats can be booked any day at 7 Rolleston Street, Warrington, or at the Parr Hall, between 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. each Tuesday.</p>	<p>WRESTLING - Parr Hall, Warrington TUESDAY, APRIL 4th, at 7-30 p.m. 1944</p> <p>Alex. ALEXINIS v. Francis GREGORY Jack BEAUMONT v. Taffy JONES Jimmy AHERNE v. Cliff BELSHAW Carl VAN WURDEN v. Al MORROW</p> <p>A WRYTON PROMOTION</p> <p>Seats can be booked any day at 7 Rolleston Street, Warrington, or at the Parr Hall, between 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. each Tuesday.</p>
<p>WRESTLING - Parr Hall, Warrington TUESDAY, APRIL 11th, at 7-30 p.m. 1944</p> <p>Dave ARMSTRONG v. The Famous RED DEVIL Nick HART v. Alf CADMAN Jack ATHERTON v. Billy JOYCE Billy RILEY v. Douglas THE TURK</p> <p>A WRYTON PROMOTION</p> <p>Seats can be booked any day at 7 Rolleston Street, Warrington, or at the Parr Hall, between 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. each Tuesday.</p>	<p>WRESTLING - Parr Hall, Warrington TUESDAY, MAY 2nd, at 7-30 p.m. 1944</p> <p>Alexandra ALEXINIS v. Dave ARMSTRONG Jack PYE v. Jack ATHERTON Jim HUSSEY v. Padvo PELTONIN Ted BERESFORD v. Val CERINO</p> <p>A WRYTON PROMOTION</p> <p>Seats can be booked any day at 7 Rolleston Street, Warrington, or at the Parr Hall, between 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. each Tuesday. Last Train To Earlestown 10-15</p>

Many Manchester, Bolton and Wigan area wrestlers. Riley and Atherton there at the start with Wryton and Ted Beresford who went big away from Wryton with his own territory. Young Hussey and Billy Joyce, the reliable Bob Silcock, Alf Cadman.

<p>WRESTLING - Parr Hall, Warrington TUESDAY, MAY 16th, at 7-30 p.m. 1944</p> <p>Jack PYE v. Dave ARMSTRONG Alexandra ALEXINIS v. Jim HUSSEY Robert MACDONALD v. Jack ATHERTON Jack BEAUMONT v. Joe ROBINSON</p> <p>A WRYTON PROMOTION</p> <p>Seats can be booked any day at 7 Rolleston Street, Warrington, or at the Parr Hall, between 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. each Tuesday. Last Train To Earlestown 10-15</p>	<p>WRESTLING - Parr Hall, Warrington TUESDAY, MAY 30th, at 7-30 p.m. 1944</p> <p>Dave ARMSTRONG v. Francis GREGORY Scotty AMBROSE v. Ted (Legs) BECKLEY Angel-Face Joe BATTEN v. Ted BERESFORD Cab CASHFORD v. Alexandra Alexinis</p> <p>A WRYTON PROMOTION</p> <p>Seats can be booked any day at 7 Rolleston Street, Warrington, or at the Parr Hall, between 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. each Tuesday. Last Train To Earlestown 10-15</p>
<p>WRESTLING - Parr Hall, Warrington TUESDAY, JUNE 27th, at 7-30 p.m. 1944</p> <p>Jack PYE v. Robert MACDONALD Wild Tarzan v. Al MORROW Angel-Face Joe BATTEN v. Jack ATHERTON Ted (Legs) BECKLEY v. Bill OGDEN</p> <p>A WRYTON PROMOTION</p> <p>Seats can be booked any day at 7 Rolleston Street, Warrington, or at the Parr Hall, between 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. each Tuesday. Last Train To Earlestown 10-15</p>	<p>WRESTLING - Parr Hall, Warrington TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3 at 7-30 p.m. 1944</p> <p>Jack PYE v. Francis GREGORY Wally SEDDON v. Dave ARMSTRONG Val CERINO v. Red BROKAU Mano MELAS v. Ted BERESFORD</p> <p>A WRYTON PROMOTION</p> <p>Seats can be booked any day at 7 Rolleston Street, Warrington, or at the Parr Hall, between 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. each Tuesday. Last Train To Earlestown 10-15</p>

Jack Pye and Beckley in there and not too many internationals



So Wryton here looks to be a close knit Roster and the Parr Hall missing a few weeks here and there but often providing weekly war time wrestling

The Ost

Great stuff Ron, thanks again.

The Ost

Ron, just going through this again as I update my bills & results. I noticed Doncaster was often run the day prior with a similar crew.

RON HISTORYO....Time Cop

I did a write up on Doncaster, but only to 1939 where the promoter was Billy Bridgewater. He died in 1941 though and I don't have comparable bills to look at what you are saying. Not doubting you though Ost, a great "Spot".

The Ost

Here's a couple of examples:

<p>May 1st, 1944 – Doncaster, England Jack Pye bt Van Wurden; Hussey bt Atherton; Cerino kod Brokau A.Small bt Terrance Ricardo</p>	<p>May 2nd, 1944 – Warrington [Parr Hall] Alexandra Alexinis vs David Armstrong Jack Pye vs Jack Atherton Jim Hussey vs Padvo Peltonin Ted Beresford vs Val Cerino Promoter: Wryton</p>
<p>May 15th, 1944 – Doncaster, England Blue Mask bt McDonald; Tarzan bt B.Riley; Bill Goach bt Ogden Jack Beaumont 1-1 Joe Robinson</p>	<p>May 16th, 1944 – Warrington [Parr Hall] Jack Pye vs David Armstrong Alexandra Alexinis vs Jim Hussey Robert MacDonald vs Jack Atherton Jack Beaumont vs Joe Robinson Promoter: Wryton</p>
<p>June 26th, 1944 – Doncaster, England Seddon v Van Wurden; Atherton v Wild Tarzan; Batten v Douglas the Turk Ogden v Bill Borch</p>	<p>June 27th, 1944 – Warrington [Parr Hall] Jack Pye v McDonald; Atherton v Joe Batten; Ogden v Beckley Tarzan v Morrow</p>

Hack

The earliest I can find wrestling in Warrington, at the Baths Hall, is October 1938. No matches or promoter, just an advert of "Wrestling every Friday."

Ron has made many useful comments about these Warrington bills.

Ted Betley was such a big name in Warrington for many years, wrestling here in the war and still promoting in the 1970s, bringing into the business some greats: Dynamite Kid and Bulldog amongst them. I was told by a pro only last week that Ted was very fussy about who attended his Warrington gym, even professionals only allowed in by invite.

The first two opponents of Jeff Conda (Count Bartelli) in 1939 wrestling here in 1941 - Johnny Summers and Ken Wooderson. Brian Aherne is there, went on to become Jim Mellor.

Alex Alexinis was in the American Air Force stationed in Warrington and worked here in 1944 and 1945, often billed as The Unknown Star. He returned here in 1965 for the independents (maybe he was just making a few bob on holiday).

It's a small roster of local wrestlers, which is hardly surprising during the war years; impressive that they kept up near weekly bills.

grahambrookjazz

I promoted a handful of shows at The Parr Hall in the mid-seventies and have fond memories of them. My first ever promotion was in my home town of Wilmslow at The Public Hall there but it was booked for me by Abe Ginsberg. My second show, in April 1976, was at The Parr Hall which was booked by me. I offered Ginsberg a place but he took the hump accusing me of using him to buy my way in to the sport and expected once again that I would give him the money and allow him to do the booking. My top of the bill was The Borg Twins versus Les Diables Rouges with Eddie Rose and Ian Wilson wrestling each other lower down the bill. My main supporting bout saw local boy Mike Dallas facing Lord Bertie Topham (accompanied by valet Ponsonby) and Harry Palin featured in the fourth bout of the night against a lad named Keith (I forget his surname) whom I billed as "Beergut" Brannigan.

Two other shows followed, one topped by John Lees, which I have reason to believe was his final contest, and one where I ambitiously staged an eight team K.O. tournament in which Al Miquet not only provided the ring but also wrestled as Kung Fu and as Kamikaze and as himself. The winners, Bill Clarke and Rick Wiseman (wrestling as Lincolnshire Poachers Bill and Rick Clarke) came back on the next show to face the team of Klondyke Jim and Lee Sharron. Because Bill and Rick had built up such a hatred on the previous show, Jim and Lee were the unlikely blue eyes.

edwinac79

I remember that show; I wrestled in the tag and also a solo bout with Ian. You promoted many great shows Graham. I am now well retired but often look back at the memories, Best wishes to you. Eddie Rose (also one of Les Diables Rouges!).

grahambrookjazz

Thank you for the kind comments.

Peter

The Warrington fans were lucky to get weekly events at the height of the war. Presumably did not get air raids too often

Hack

I see reduced prices for boys, ladies and members of the forces. Were girls excluded or just forgotten about?

Woodlow

Great set of cards. Thank you

Continue the discussion

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