

DECEMBER 1958

As a comparison to the present day I thought it would be interesting to have a look at what was happening locally during the month of December 1958 with regard to Christmas and normal daily events.

Teenagers at the time were not exactly overwhelmed with a choice of entertainment outside of the home. Sandown Youth Club was open at the Fairway School, but number one on their list was

<h1 style="margin: 0;">RIVOLI</h1> <p style="margin: 0;">Continuous 5.30 p.m. Saturday at 2.15.</p>	<p style="margin: 0;">STATION AVENUE, SANDOWN. Phone 361.</p>
<p style="margin: 0;">Thursday, December 4th for 3 days. Last Prog. 7.15.</p>	
<p style="margin: 0;">JERRY LEE LEWIS CHARLIE GRACIE and 17 Great Recording Stars in</p>	
<p style="margin: 0;">DISC JOCKEY JAMBOREE</p>	
<p style="margin: 0;">Jimmy Durante Jane Wynn YOU'RE IN THE ARMY NOW</p>	

probably the town Cinemas. Showing at the Rivoli Cinema (Station Avenue) on December 4th, was a rock n' roll film entitled "Disc Jockey Jamboree". The two-featured artists were American singers, Jerry Lee Lewis and Charlie Gracie. Jerry Lee is still going strong today at 73, whilst Charlie Gracie a mere stripling at 72 (December 2007) is also still on the circuit. Amazingly, Charlie is performing in Shanklin during December of this year and still plays a mean guitar. Although many people claim

never to have heard of him, Charlie had four top 20 hits in 1957. For those that do, they were; Butterfly, Fabulous, Wanderin' Eyes and I Love you so much it hurts.

On December 23rd and 24th the Queens were showing "The Lone Ranger and the Lost City of Gold", featuring the two most well known actors who starred in the Lone Ranger television series, Clayton Moore and Jay Silverheels. The Town Hall played a part in the towns' entertainment programme these days with a play during December, presented by the Sandown Theatre Club called "Serious Charge". (Not to be associated with the film that Cliff Richard featured in, in 1959 with the same title).

<p style="margin: 0;">TOMORROW and SATURDAY December 5th and 6th at the TOWN HALL, SANDOWN, at 8 p.m. the SANDOWN THEATRE CLUB presents SERIOUS CHARGE</p>
<p style="margin: 0;">a Play by Philip Kings, from the Garrick Theatre, London. If you enjoy Drama on T.V. you will be enthralled by this real-life exciting play, full size and full colour!</p>
<p style="margin: 0;">This is its first presentation on the Island. Seats 4/6d, 3/6d, and 2/6d., all bookable from Dickinson's, Pier Street, Phone 310.</p>

A major issue on the Councils agenda this month was the ensuing traffic problems in Sandown High Street. Having been debated many times within the Council Chambers, a proposal to make it one way had already been rejected by a majority vote. The cost equated to about £2500 for the capital works involved with modifications to the other roads involved (i.e. removing trees, displaying notices etc). The roads highlighted for modifications in connection with this proposal, were: York Road, Melville Street, Albert Road, Seagrove Slipway and Station Avenue. Eventually of course the ever-increasing traffic forced the issue.

Membership of the Sandown & Lake Labour party had reached 218 and were now the third largest local party on the Island.

HANTS LEAGUE							
Division 2 Table							
(Up to and including November 29th)							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Netley Spts	12	11	1	0	50	13	23
Sandown	13	7	1	5	46	33	15
Waterloo'le	13	7	0	6	50	36	14
E.C. Vics	14	7	0	7	45	32	14
Newport Rs	14	6	2	6	32	35	14
Pirelli-Gen.	10	6	1	3	30	19	13
Sholing Spt	13	5	3	5	31	32	13
Swaythling	8	6	0	2	29	23	12
BR Eastl'gh	11	5	1	5	22	30	11
Lymington	10	3	4	3	19	21	10
Christchrch	10	4	2	4	23	29	10
De Havill'd	12	2	5	5	22	34	9
Cowes Res.	12	3	2	7	27	36	8
Black'd & L	12	3	1	8	20	35	7
Totton	6	2	1	3	17	17	5
Winch'ter R	10	1	0	9	11	48	2

Senior Post Office officials rejected a request for pedestrian access from Melville Street into the Post Office; the main reason given was security of incoming mail. Southern Vectis announced that in January they were applying to the Traffic Commissioners for the South Eastern Area for increases in the adult weekly, scholars weekly and term tickets. It was proposed to make increases of, 3d. 6d. 9d. and 1/- on weekly ticket charges ranging from 3/- to £1. 7s. Most of the local public houses paid out their thrift Clubs on week ending Friday December 12th. The Royal Standard, (Beachfield Road) £693 12s 11d and The Prince of Wales, (Avenue Road) £450, were two amongst many. Some that did not make weekly savings through thrift clubs found other ways of supplementing their Christmas funds, illegally. The Trouville Hotel was broken into in early December with money and cigarettes being taken. Morey's Timber yard was also broken into on the 18th at night. Raiders dragged the safe into the middle of the floor and tried to open it with a pair of scissors and a piece of iron. Suffice to say that they were unsuccessful, as the safe had been cleared of money the night

before.

Sandown football club were doing well in the Hampshire second division, having been relegated from the first division the previous year. Being well supported at the Fairway Park during their promotion year they failed to maintain their status in the higher division, losing some of their better players to Cowes and Newport. The team that represented Sandown on this particular occasion was: Weaver, Gallop, E. Slade, Trise, Rogers, Prise, K. Slade, Guy, White, Usmar, Webb.

At the Sandown & Shanklin Golf Club, three players tied for the Club's monthly medal competition. G. F. Swales (h'cap12), C. Haworth (3) and L. H. Hilliam (12), each returning a score of 69. Mr. Swales was declared the winner having the better score for the last nine holes. Gerald Swales may have had a slight advantage over the others towards the end of the day, in that he probably had very strong wrists which assisted his stamina throughout the closing holes, he was a local dentist. Jim

Waugh, an Irish County Table Tennis player had recently moved to Sandown and joined the local club at the Beverly Hall in Grove Road, he proved a great asset to the club.

HARPER & MURRANT

GROCERS, HIGH STREET, SANDOWN
and Staff

wish all their Customers a
VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS
and a Prosperous 1959

Street and H. E. Johncox in St. Johns Road. There were many other shops in various parts of the town and the side streets also competing in these trades.

Avenue Road had Hibbards Stores (grocer), R. Draper (grocer) F. K. Dore (grocer) and R. Chute (butcher). Wilkes Road, F. G. Gladdis (grocer). Melville Street, H. Draper (grocer). Fort Street, W. S. Hutchinson, (grocer). Fitzroy Street, B. Lewis (grocer) & R. K. Pringle, (grocer). Station Avenue, Sadlers Stores, (grocer) and there were probably one or two more.



CHRIST CHURCH, SANDOWN

The Vicar and Churchwardens
WISH YOU A HAPPY CHRISTMAS
AND A BLESSED NEW YEAR.

CHRISTMAS EVE
HOLY COMMUNION at 11.30 p.m.
(Midnight Celebration)

CHRISTMAS DAY
HOLY COMMUNION at 8 a.m.
MORNING PRAYER followed by
HOLY COMMUNION at 11 a.m.

Watchnight Service at 11.40 p.m.
December 31st

The Churches also advertised their forthcoming services. Christ Church offered Holy Communion at 11.30 p.m. (Midnight Celebration) and three further services on Christmas Day. St.

Houses, etc. To Let or For Sale

SANDOWN, corner Royal St. Well built house, 4/5 bedrooms with basins. 1/2 rec. rooms. Bathroom. Chalet. £2,600.—W. G. Mitchell and Co., Sandown.

SANDOWN. Freehold Building Plots, with frontage to Grove Road, £8 10s. per foot frontage.—W. G. Mitchell and Co., Sandown.

YAVERLAND, Sandown, 1 mile. Modern architect designed det. house, 4 Bed, 2 rec, Bath, Garage, Sea views, perfect order. Garden, Freehold. £3,750.—W. G. Mitchell and Co., Sandown.

£2,100 AND UNDER

W. G. MITCHELL & CO. offer the following properties in Sandown and Lake:—

LAKE, NEWPORT ROAD. Det. villa, 3 bedrooms, 2 rec., kitchen, bathroom, garden, modern. £2,000.

LAKE, SANDOWN, Semi-det. Villa, 3 bed. 2 rec. Garden, well built £1,400.

LAKE, SANDOWN ROAD. Det. 3 bedrooms, 2 rec., bathroom, kitchen, garden, modern. £1,900.

SANDOWN. St. John's Road corner, 4 bedrooms with basin, 2 rec., bathroom, kitchen, etc. To allow improvements £1,600.

Details from W. G. Mitchell and Co., 24 High Street, Sandown. Tel. 75.

John's Church in Carter Street offered similar services. Pollard & Ramage (Chemists) 107 High Street were open from Dec. 23rd – 28th inclusive from 6 to 7 p.m., whilst Bert Holbrook the undertaker from Avenue Road, although advertising, did not wish his patrons a happy Christmas, and offered no particular time for appointments.

The price of houses seem well affordable, but if serving an apprenticeship at 18 years of age, bringing home between £3 & £4 a week, deposits took forever to accumulate.

A year old Hillman Saloon, finished in Calypso Red and Ivory, with 6000 miles on the clock, described as like new, was also a few years away from the teenagers of the day and many adults as well at £725.

Many of the shops advertised their wares on a weekly basis in the Chronicle and usually extended their best wishes at this time of year for Christmas and the New Year. These included; Wray & Son (Wine Merchants), Beachfield Road. Boards (Haberdashery) 97- 101 High Street. Yelf's, (Wine and Spirit Merchants) at 15 High

For Best Selection of

**FRUIT, NUTS &
POT PLANTS** come to



LEFLEYS

83, High Street,
SANDOWN

HAPPY CHRISTMAS & PROSPEROUS
1959 to All Our Customers

Street. G. Thearle & Son, (Footwear repairs) in Melville Street. F. Millership, (Newsagents), in Albert Road. Byerley's, (Ladieswear), No 1 High Street, Compton's, (Menswear), 93, High Street. Colenuts, (Fancy Goods), 21 High Street. Lefleys, (Grocer) 83 High Street. Corlett's, (Sweetshop/Tobacconists) 87 High Street. V. J. Rodgers, (Sweetshop/Tobacconists), No. 8 High Street and two survivors, Charles, (Hairdressers & Fancy Goods), No. 20 High Street and Fields, (Menswear), 49 High Street. As always the "Isle of Wight Chronicle" extended cordial greetings to all readers and advertisers.

Other forms of entertainment on offer this month were; A Beetle Drive at the Methodist Hall in York Road. 1st Sandown Sea Scout Group had a Social & Dance at St. Patrick's Hall. 4th Sandown Brownies were holding their annual concert at St. John's Church Parish Hall and there was always a dance on at the Trouville Hotel.

Well ahead of it's time was an advert by the Lake and Sandown Garden and Allotment Holders



Sandown Jolly Rogers pictured in the 1950's

Left to right: W. Reynolds, G. Dean, Archie Crow, ? Jim Bambrough, ? John Wilson, ? Bern Rush, Jack Owen, ? Stan Bridger, ?.

Association, giving notice of their 2nd annual show to be held on September 5th 1959!!! Sandown Jolly Rogers with their Barrel Organ, whose voluntary efforts collecting money, gave a lot of pleasure to the old age pensioners of Sandown over the years, announced the result of their December Premium Bond Draw. The winners on this occasion were; Mrs Tromans, Mrs Bennie, Mrs Clark, Mrs R. R. Bartlett, Mrs Gill, Miss C. Dearing and George. One of the last adverts at the end of the year was inevitably the forthcoming sale that many shops featured traditionally on January 1st each year.



The Jolly Rogers barrel organ.

AN ANNUAL EVENT !
 Commencing Thursday, Jan. 1st
COMPTON'S
SALE
 ALL GOODS (except a few fixed Price Lines) REDUCED. See Our Windows for BARGAINS in Suits, Trousers, Sports Jackets, Shirts, Woollies and a host of smaller items. DON'T MISS this New Year Opportunity.
93, High Street, SANDOWN