

THE TRIALS & TRIBULATIONS OF BUILDING SANDOWN PAVILION 1934- 1999.

By Dave Bambrough 2010. Part one.

With increasing amounts of visitors arriving in Sandown by the 1930's there were numerous attractions for



which to keep them entertained during their stay, the principal ones were: - The Eastern Gardens, opened 1914, The Rivoli Cinema, 1921, The Queens Cinema 1928, Sandham Grounds Recreation Park, 1924, The Blue Lagoon, (Canoe Lake) 1929, The (short lived) New Beach Pavilion, 1933 (live entertainment on the site of the old Coast Guard Station), the Beach itself, and soon to be, a public Swimming Pool (named, The Blue Lagoon, relieving The Canoe Lake of its early name) due to open in 1934, plus many smaller outlets for their delectation.

There was however one noticeable attraction missing, a large Concert Hall where people could be entertained, sitting down, with live performances from well known national stars. A

percentage of people thought it necessary to broaden the local entertainment options, albeit probably not greeted with much enthusiasm by the proprietors of the town's two cinemas. Sandown did have two Pavilions prior to the building of the Pier Pavilion, one situated at the end of the Pier, Council managed, and the above-mentioned New Beach Pavilion, (originally named the Beach Huts Pavilion) privately run, neither were big enough to attract top drawer entertainment. The seating capacity at the Pier Head Pavilion was between 400-450 persons, with poor staging and dressing room accommodation totally inadequate for the requirements of a first class company, the New Beach Pavilion offered even less.

The few details that survive of the New Beach Pavilion are as follows: It was first advertised in 1933 as being near the Canoe Lake, although actually situated where Colonel Bogey's Night Club now stands.

As can be seen from the advert, they boasted a big cast of famous broadcasting artists that are not traceable today and were probably not top-drawer artistes at the time.

When the White City Amusement Park took over the Beach Pavilion they developed the area into a Dodgem

New Beach Pavilion, SANDOWN.	
Proprietors - I. R. & L. A. WRIGHT.	Manager - STAN L. HILLS.
NIGHTLY AT 8.15	DOORS OPEN 7.50
COMMENCING SATURDAY NEXT JUNE 3rd.	
LEON WRIGHT Presents The Super Concert-Variety Production	
STARLIGHTS <i>including The Famous Broadcasting Stars:</i>	
TOMMY WALKER <i>The most brilliant Entertainer, Character Comedian, from the leading Theatres.</i>	
CICELY SAWYER <i>Soubrette, Late Co-Principal of "I Company."</i>	EDWARD HARVEY <i>Light Comedian.</i>
BEATRICE GALLEWAY <i>Soprano, of S.S.C. Tams.</i>	LEO DORANI <small>Great Tenor Opera House</small> <i>Tenor, Royal Carl Rosa-O'Mara Opera Co. Ltd.</i>
VALERIE MAUDE <i>Vocalist, Televised at B.B.C. Dram.</i>	PAT WORTH <i>The Comedian, who made "Fogarty Laugh."</i>
Leon Wright & His Famous Orchestra <i>Drawn from his successful seasons at the Theatre.</i>	
With original Scenery & Costumes - Witty Dialogue - Beautiful Melodies. A succession of lovely Stage Pictures, so charming that "The Production was an instantaneous success."	
SPECIAL ATTRACTION. First Sunday Concert of the Season - June 4th, at 8.15 p.m. All Star Artists supported by Leon Wright's Famous Orchestra. SUNDAY NEXT, JUNE 4th.	
PRICES (including Tax): Reserved 3/-, 2/6, 2/-; Unreserved 1/6, 1/3. Seats may be reserved at Martin's Library, 2 High Street, Sandown, Tel. 90, or at the Box Office. Phone Sandown 224.	

Car Track. The Dodgem-Track was suspended on concrete pillars over the original Pavilion seating area, which brought it up to the level of the amusement park floor. The theatre seating was slightly higher than the dressing rooms, which were situated under the stage. The stage sloped towards the audience who were sitting in seats that were on a flat level floor; this enabled the audience to see the actors at the back of the stage. There was a doorway that led down to the Pavilion dressing rooms that accessed under the dodgem-track where the White City staff used to grow mushrooms in the dark and damp flat area previously used for the Pavilion seating. The room under the stage was converted into the White City Offices on closure and used for the counting of thousands of pennies, extracted from the slot machines. This area also housed the electric generator that ran the machines until 10. p.m., when the supply was switched to the National Grid. The stage, which remained in-situ after the conversion, was accessed by three or four steps where the amusement machines were repaired and the major prizes for Bingo and the Electric Greyhound racing were stored. (My thanks to Roy Bridger, formerly from Fort Street for this

information).

At the December 1929 Council meeting, Major D. W. Moss (a high profile Sandown Councillor of the time) introduced a subject for early consideration, the erection of a new Pavilion, either on the Pier or some other site on the Esplanade. He said that it was a matter of urgency and should be decided with immediate haste due to the forthcoming amalgamation of the Sandown and Shanklin Councils. (April 1st 1933). His thinking was, that with a united council the Shanklin members might not be inclined to spend their ratepayer's money for the pleasure of Sandown holidaymakers. (At this time local councillors controlled and spent the rates levied on the parishioners).

There were strong views by some members that a Pavilion should not be erected on or near the Pier, as it would blot out the splendid views of the bay from nearby vantage points. Many others felt, that a Pavilion was an unnecessary expenditure at this time of economic crisis and should not be built at all. Major Moss's motion however was carried by a majority vote.

Shanklin had theatres, and it was very noticeable that 100's of visitors travelled nightly by bus and coach (Major Moss's coaches) to their venues, spending money in Shanklin, which would remain in the hands of Sandown businesses if a grand attraction such as this was built. The majority of Council members recognised this and in 1929 rumours began to spread on how they intended to resolve this entertainment void.

The collapse of Wall Street in 1929 had a devastating knock on affect in Britain, causing huge financial



problems, unemployment and a general lack of money. Between 1929 and 1933 the British economy fell by 5%. It took until 1936 when the imminent fear of war bolstered employment figures somewhat. This situation of course seriously affected the holiday trade at the time and one of Sandown's largest hotels, the Ocean, was offered for sale.

At a special meeting on Monday October 5th 1931 the Sandown Urban District Council carried by

eight votes to five a resolution in favour of the purchase of the greater part of the Ocean Hotel for the sum of £12,500. The section offered to the town commenced from the Mascot Café in the High Street, continuing to the slipway (Esplanade Road). It included, the license, a galleried lounge, ballroom, restaurant, writing room and over 60 guest rooms, the land eastward of the main building and the lawns on the seaside of the property.

The council's intention with the purchase was to provide the aforementioned Concert Hall and Winter Gardens accommodation. Further, that application be made to the Ministry of Health under the provision of the Public Health Acts relating to the borrowing of the sum of £13,000 to be repayable within 40 years, to cover the

purchase price and costs.

This proposal was not to everyone's liking, spending money they considered was needed to further develop other local amenities i.e. the Pier, the Waterworks, Sandham Grounds and the Barrack Battery etc, there was always the slim hope that private investment might help out.

For those old enough to remember them, here are the names of the Council members and how they voted: - In favour: Messrs. Harman, Cradock, Wheway, Hawkins, Byerley, Thompson, Bartlett and Moorman. Against: Miss Baillie, Mrs Taylor, Messrs. Woolger, Adams and Hubert.



The Mascot Cafe, right foreground, in the High Street of 1931.

The objections from ratepayers started

immediately, with a barrage of questions; if the Ocean was a paying concern (which it professed to be) why did the owners want to sell it? Why did it not include the three valuable properties at the western end of the hotel? As far as the license was concerned, who would want to drink in a council pub? If the bedrooms were to be let, what did the council know about the lodging house business? If they intend to pull a section down to build a concert hall, how many thousands would it cost to build it? The ratepayers also wished to know what other expenses would be incurred? Plus, the Ocean at the time was a valuable ratepayer, to the tune of £200 a year, another loss? And so on!

In response to the Councils application request for the loan of £13,000, Mr G. M. McNaughton Engineering Inspector of the Ministry of Health opened an inquiry at 9.45 a.m. on November 12th 1931 at the Town Hall. (£1 in 1931 now equates to approximately £50.78 in 2009). £13,000 represents £660,180.72p in today's money. The councils Clerk (Mr N. Douglas Best) then gave a long exhaustive statement on the merits of being awarded the loan and an insight into the present financial state of the town. The overall summer ingress of visitors was estimated to be approximately 20,000; the total outstanding loan debt for the town was £106,406; (equating to approx. £5½ million in today's money) outstanding loans in respect of public walks and pleasure grounds, £20,755; rateable value of the district £54,744.

His description of the Ocean Hotel premises was that the site was without comparison for the requirements, which was an absolute necessity to maintain Sandown's claim to be one of the Islands foremost resorts. Sandown he said must add to the attractions, which it could offer to visitors upon whom depended the livelihood of at least 90% of its population. (The other 10% would also be affected of course, with an increase in rates)?

Shanklin he pointed out had two large Concert Halls and Rylstone Gardens, where community singing attracted 100's of visitors. Also, they (Shanklin) had obtained approval of a £14,000 loan for a concert hall at the Town Hall site, to seat 1000 people. In addition to this they had also obtained sanction to borrow £13,000 for the purchase of the Manor Estate, all of this despite the fact that the population was less than Sandown's.

He then reflected that Sandown's only Concert Hall was that at the end of the Pier, built 40 years previously with a seating capacity of 450 maximum and only a very small stage. (The New Beach Pavilion was not yet up and running, but it would be before the Pier Pavilion was built).

Further benefits said Mr Best of converting the Ocean Hotel were that it would be available for conferences. The Urban Districts Council's Association had invited Sandown Council to submit the town as the venue for their annual conference, but in the absence of a hall to seat at least 1,000 people this had not been possible. Regarding the matter of the license, he said that as there were no other licensed premises in the High Street the income could not fail to be anything other than considerable. The license would also allow the café and ballroom to be run to much greater advantage. They (the council) proposed to use the ballroom for good class dances, and the extensive lawns abutting the Esplanade would be used for community singing and light orchestral music. Regarding the 61 bedrooms, the council were confident they would have no difficulty in letting the rooms during the season to hotel and boarding house proprietors.

Continuing, he said that there was support for the present council administration being removed from the existing offices to the Ocean Hotel and a long felt want for the provision of an Information Bureau. His last supportive delivery was that the 260 feet of valuable frontage would prove a considerable source of revenue if developed, as and when the need for business accommodation arose.

Against the proposed Concert Hall were a group of vociferous ratepayers led by one Mr Cyril Goodman, C.B.E. He referred to a petition that had been forwarded to the Ministry in opposition to the scheme containing 870 signatures, all he said were electors of the district, but it might include a small number that were not.

The opposition, Dr. Goodman asserted, represented poor people with no money. He said that the likes of others and himself were not opposed to progress and some had gained great unpopularity because of the progress they had advocated during the last ten years. (Probably a reference to the debacle over the Sandham Grounds). Further, he contended that any expenditure on loan except where absolutely necessary was contrary to the interests of the town and not in accordance with what other authorities were doing. The Ocean Hotel, apart from the Pier Hotel at Seaview was the only hotel on the Island that attracted rich people with money to spend. The town would be far better off if it were purchased privately and eventually re-opened as a hotel. So far as a Winter Garden was concerned, he totally discounted the idea because of the failure of previous experiments to promote a winter season. Spending £13,000 on the purchase of a site and another £13,000 for the building, the proposal would probably result in a considerable financial loss. And to provide increased competition against the Shanklin companies would more than likely mean that both sides might end up with losses. Stressing the necessity for the strictest economy in the next few years, Dr. Goodman said that Sandown's one industry was a luxury and seasonal one, and the present economic depression came too late to affect the 1931 season but it was likely to badly affect Sandown's seasons for a few years to come.

The concluding statement at the Ministry inquiry came from Lieut. - Col. G. H. Redfern, supporting the opposition, he said that twenty years ago (1911) Sandown was a high-class seaside place, but it had drifted downhill because of provision for the poorer visitors. He deprecated the closing of a high-class hotel (The Ocean) but hoped it would be sold privately and continue as such. (An interesting 1931 attitude that would surely have raised eyebrows in many quarters today)!!! The inquiry concluded at nearly 2 o'clock and the Inspector was thanked for the patient hearing he had given, he then proceeded to visit the property concerned.

A letter to the Chronicle at this early time of discussion suggested that whatever the outcome of the proposed new Pavilion on no account should the inadequate and obsolete current Pier Pavilion be patched up. He



considered it had had its day, thought it was an eyesore and should be converted into a café and dance hall. (Mr W. R. Kirman, writer of the letter was obviously a man of influence, because his idea was later to be adopted). Mr Ivan Hooper, part owner of Sandown Canoe Lake expressed similar sentiments. "The sooner Sandown realises that it must have a big entertainment hall near the front, the better it will be. The town he said needs a hall of some proportions, not something like the present Pavilion. (Pictured above). On Friday November 20th 1931 a telegram was received from the Ministry of Health in reference to the proposed purchase by the Council of the Ocean Hotel, stating, "Regret cannot sanction purchase of Ocean Hotel", letter to follow. A special meeting was then convened on the 26th for the official reading of the letter to council members. The basics of it was, that whilst the Minister was generally in sympathy with the Council's wish to develop amenities of their district, in the present economic climate and the local opposition he considered that a much stronger case was needed to justify it. So the Council's application for a loan was declined. (To be continued).

THE TRIALS & TRIBULATIONS OF BUILDING SANDOWN PAVILION 1934- 1999.

By Dave Bambrough 2010. Part two.

Sandown Urban & District Council came very close to buying the Ocean Hotel, had they done so, one can only ponder what the difference would have been today?

The rejection of the loan did little to appease council members in either camp, those for a Pavilion or those against it. The Clerk had taken about three minutes to read the letter and before he had sat down the proceedings broke out in uproar. The Chairman (Mr A. J. Harman) requested a member (Mr J. F. Hubert) to sit down, remarking that the business of the meeting was concluded. Mr Hubert insisted on addressing the meeting, whereupon the Chairman walked out of the room followed by a majority of the Committee. Mr Hubert, obviously in a very determined mood, continued to address the meeting refusing to give way, but so constant were the interruptions that most of his remarks were inaudible. One member (Mr R. M. Bartlett) then directed his attention to the fire, making such loud noises with the poker and shovel that he drowned out most of Mr Hubert's remarks. It was at this juncture that most members left the building. Those remaining behind: - Mr Hubert, Mr E. G. Adams, Mrs C. Taylor and the fire prodding Mr Bartlett, were all against the proposed Pavilion and had had their wishes vindicated that night, so why they should fall out with one another remains a mystery. Footnote; after it was known that Mr Hubert had resumed his seat, members returned to a meeting of the General Purpose Committee originally convened for five minutes later than the special meeting.

Following official confirmation of the telegram, a notice of the Ministry's decision was posted in the window of the I. W. Chronicle at No. 5 High Street, (telephone 69) and naturally aroused a good deal of interest around the town.

Thus reached the end of the proposal to purchase or not to purchase the Ocean Hotel, it had aroused more discussion than any subject before in the town of Sandown.



**Dr Billups, Chief Officer
of Sandown Fire Brigade.**

On January 7th 1932 there was a report in the Chronicle stating that on good authority negotiations for a private sale of the Ocean Hotel were nearing completion. The rumour was that a well-known firm of brewers from the Midlands were about to purchase the property. The whole of the property was to be included in this deal and a scheme for future development of the site was reported to be already in hand. A declaration from the company stated that when carried through it should add considerably to the attractions of Sandown as an up-to-date seaside resort.

The Chronicle was also given to understand that it was intended to invite investment of local capital in support of the enterprise. The understanding was that the new company would enter upon proprietorship with the intention of running a hotel on more popular lines than hitherto, and that they hoped to keep it open throughout the year. There would be development of the eastern end (the land next to Esplanade slipway) with the erection of a concert hall to seat about eight or nine hundred people. The idea was to engage a high-class concert party to give entertainment during the summer months and utilise the building in the winter months as a cinema. Further embellishments were, to

provide a bar within the hall and utilise the roof of the hall as an attractive roof garden. A public bar with an entrance in the High Street next door to the aforementioned Mascot Café plus provision for a Winter Garden. Conducting the sale of the property were Messrs. Phelps and Steadman, Estate Agents of Sandown and Ryde. Needless to say, on March 10th 1932 the rumour was refuted in the Chronicle. The reason given was that the vendors required completion by March 1st, with which the prospective purchasers were not prepared to comply. Negotiations continued in the hands of the trustees who hoped to be relieved of their responsibility after the season.

Irrespective of opposing councillor's opposition to the scheme, angry ratepayers or whatever other obstacles were paraded before them, the subject resurfaced again before a majority of determined councillors on October 11th 1932. The council adjourned into committee and on resuming later in open meeting, they resolved as follows:

- (1) That the Council approve in principal of the erection of a new Pavilion on the Pier.
- (2) That a sub-committee be appointed of the following; Mr Thompson, (Chairman), Mr, A. J. Harman, (Vice-Chairman), and the following Chairman of Committees, Works, Mr G. A Craddock and Mr A. J. Byerley, Finance, Mr F. White, General Purposes, Mr E. G. Adams in addition to Messrs. L. A. Moorman and W. H. Brown. They were authorised with power to take the following action: -
 - (a) To engage the services of a consulting engineer and an architect for the purpose of preparing and submitting preliminary designs and estimates of the necessary works for the approval of the Council.
 - (b) To take all necessary steps to obtain provisional approval of the suggested scheme by the Government Departments concerned. The most vociferous protagonist of all the opponents regarding the purchase of the

Ocean Hotel had been Dr. Billups (pictured left) and he was in no mood stop now. He objected vehemently to such a vast sum being spent, suggesting that expenditure would soon be required for sewerage, repairs to the Pier and many other more worthwhile projects around the town.

In December 1932 having failed to persuade the Council to take a poll of the town's feeling over the matter, he arranged an unofficial postcard poll on behalf of himself and a small committee of ratepayers. The ballot cards were allowed to accumulate at Sandown Post Office. (Then in St. Johns Road). The votes were counted at the Rechabite Hall in George Street (Rechabites are listed as the descendants of Rechab through Jonadab or Jehonadab. They belonged to the Kenites, who accompanied the children of Israel into the Holy Land, and dwelt among them) and the results were as follows: Of 3,141 cards sent out, the total vote recorded was 2,102. Against a Pavilion 1,208, for the scheme 892, majority against, 316, two of the cards were declared void. Interestingly, the cards were numbered, this being done to ascertain the views of the voters in the three districts, Sandown, Lake and East Shanklin. The breakdown was: - Sandown, for 567, against 678, Lake for 261 against 425, East Shanklin for 58 against 87. The cost of the poll was between £17 & £18, (approx. £884 value in 2009) paid for by Dr. Billups, who announced that he was very pleased with the response. He later made a statement that he was not opposing a large concert hall in Sandown but only a large hall on the Pier at the present time.

Another Council member that opposed the scheme, Mr J. W. Woolger, said there was strong opposition to the scheme at Lake where there were a large number of residents who did not benefit by visitors or from the amenities provided for them.

The Clerk contended that although there were names on the petition from Lake, 75% of the residents of Lake were open for accommodation for visitors and he totally refuted Mr Woolger's statement.

Council member Dr. Billups, one or two other members of the council and 1190 signatories, fresh from their victory over the non purchase of the Ocean Hotel, once again took up the cudgels of an anti concert hall protest. He forwarded a letter of complaint to the Admiralty, the War Office, the Board of Trade and the Ministry of Transport. Some of his protestations were; that the council had no idea of the ultimate cost, could not decide which end of the Pier to build it and gave no detailed consideration to possible alternative sites on shore and had simply rushed the resolution through. He stated that several councillors, including himself, were not informed that this proposal was going to be brought forward as no prior notice had been given. Dr. Billups contested that the Council were worried that when the Sandown & Shanklin Councils amalgamated on April 1st 1933 the scheme would have no chance of being passed by the joint Councils. He was also worried that the ratepayers would have to pick up the bill for the eventual loss of finance. He thought that the decision on a new concert hall should be left over for the consideration of the joint council of both towns, then calling it a useless, extravagant, White Elephant in the making.

Details of the Council's proposals for the erection of the large hall were submitted, discussed and approved on Tuesday December 13th 1932. Their report stated that the building of a concert hall had been authorised by the Sandown Pier order of 1918 when the town purchased the Pier for £2,500. It was proposed that a section of the Pier commencing about 70feet from the gates and extending seawards, for a distance of 200 feet from the entrance gates, would be extended to a width of 100 feet to accommodate the Pavilion. The existing piles and deck would be removed and a new sub-structure consisting of reinforced concrete piles, beam and floor slab would replace them. The cost of this was estimated to be £9,567. Further specifications were; a permanent type of construction with rolled steel stanchions anchored to the sub-structure. The stanchions would support the main steel roof trusses. The external walls of brickwork, treated externally with Snowcrete and the interior to be treated with plastic paint on plaster on hi-rib. (Hi Rib apparently is a high tensile wide cover clip fastened trough section or decking profile). The seating accommodation was set for 1,089 persons, of which 783 would be accommodated in the auditorium and 306 in the balcony. In addition there were to be two standing lounges, one on either side of the auditorium each accommodating 50 persons. In addition to this the accommodation also included plans for; an entrance foyer, manager's office, kiosk and lavatory accommodation at the entrance to the auditorium; an orchestra well in front of the stage with ample dressing room and lavatory's for the artistes; with a sun balcony at the back of the building on the same level as the promenades. At the rear of the balcony over the foyer, there would be a tea lounge with all necessary service and other rooms.

The estimated cost of the Pavilion, excluding carpets and curtains was £13,500. The total estimated capital cost was as follows; Sub-structure £9,567, super-structure £13,500, carpets and curtains etc, £500. Additional expense for consulting engineers and architects, £1,983, test piles, £200, Clerk of Works and incidentals, £250. Interest on a loan (yet to be applied for) of £26,000 repayable over 30 years at 3½ %.

The Committee recommended that the scheme be approved and that "application be made to the Ministry of Transport for consent to the loan. Further, that application be made to the Board of Trade for their approval of the proposed works and for the conveyance to the Council of such tidal lands as will be occupied by the proposed Pier Extension. Immediately consent arrived from the Ministry tenders would be invited for the works".

The Clerk then read many letters of complaint suggesting that the whole scheme be abandoned. He also read copies of two letters written by chief protagonist and continual thorn in the side of the Council, (even though he was one of them), Dr. Billups. He had written to the Ministry of Transport contesting the scheme, asking for a public enquiry into the matter. The rest of this meeting continued with bickering between those in favour of a Pier Pavilion and those against. The resultant vote at the end of the meeting was a majority of eleven in favour and four against. The members in opposition were Dr. Billups, Mrs C. Taylor, Messrs. W. H. Brown and J. W. Woolger. Amongst the letters of protest printed in the Chronicle was one signed by a local Sandown G. P., Doctor, L. S. O'Grady.

On February 14th 1933 yet another public enquiry was conducted by the Ministry of Transport into whether or not to grant Sandown Council £26,000 for the erection of a Pavilion, this time on the Pier. The appointed Inspector was Mr H. W. Coales, O.B.E., M.C.

The members of the Sandown Council present were: Mr Wm. Thomson, (Chairman), Mr A. J. Harman, (Vice Chairman), Mrs Taylor, Dr. H. B. Billups, Messrs. E. G. Adams, R. M. Bartlett, W. H. Brown, A. J. Byerley, G. A. Craddock, I. D. Hooper, L. A. Moorman, A. Wheway (Sandown Station Manager) and F. White. There were also several members of the Shanklin Council present but they took no part in the proceedings.

The Clerk (Mr N. Douglas Best) presented the case for the Council. He based his case around the existing Pavilion that had been built in 1895 and was now wholly inadequate, on many fronts. (Poor stage and dressing room accommodation, a small capacity of only 480 people and a long walk in inclement weather). As a consequence of this, he said it was estimated that 10,000 visitors travelled by bus and charabanc to attend the concert halls in Shanklin. The Council, he said, had realised for some time that without a large hall of this nature there was no possibility of holding the visitors in Sandown and even less of attracting them from other parts of the Island. The Council were aware that there was opposition to the proposal but that was nothing new. There had been opposition at practically every public inquiry held in Sandown in recent years, and on most, if not all occasions, it had been organised and led by the gentleman who had now taken a leading part in endeavouring to influence public opinion against the recent proposal. (Dr. Billups). As the opposition was mainly directed against the Pier as a site, the Clerk reminded the inspector that the Council had specific powers under the Pier Order of 1918 but they had no such powers as regards a concert hall elsewhere. The Pier was the ideal position, in the centre of the Esplanade, at the foot of the main approach thereto and it was there that every visitor gravitated in the course of their holiday and had done to the tune of 100,000 persons passing through the turnstiles each year. A Pavilion in any other place would not be in the public eye to the same extent. After his lengthy statement the Clerk received considerable applause, on which the Inspector requested that any further should be repressed during the remainder of the inquiry. Further evidence from members of the Council was then given, far more in support, as there were eleven in favour of the scheme and only four against, of the fifteen man Council. After hearing the opposing members views the Minister left for deliberation.

One protest worth recalling was that of one Capt. H. John Pound on behalf of the Taylor Investment Trust. (Owners of the Culver Road Amusement Arcade at the time). He said that his company owned a large hall (The New Beach Pavilion) at the Amusement Park with seating for 600 people. He submitted that this hall together with the existing Pier Pavilion was sufficient for the needs of the town. Stating that he believed the ratepayers preferred private enterprise to Council enterprise, with its inevitable charge on the rates. (One councillor, backing Mr Pound, totally refuted the Council's right to compete with proprietors of concert halls).

The New Beach Pavilion closed its doors forever in July 1935, the owner lamenting that they had not commanded the support of patronage to which they considered themselves fully entitled. The truth was of course that they simply could not compete with the Council's new Pier Pavilion. The anti Pier protests had fallen on deaf ears. On the penultimate day of March 1933 (two days before the Sandown & Shanklin Councils amalgamated) a special meeting of the Sandown Urban District Council was convened in order to receive the result of the Ministry's decision. The result, revealed in an exchange of telegrams, was in the affirmative. The loan was sanctioned, repayable over 20 years. The Clerk reported that he had that day received from the Ministry of Transport the following telegram; "Pier Pavilion. Minister of Transport prepared to sanction loan repayable over 20 years (This meant an increase of £400 per year on repayments). Do Council accept? Wire reply today".

The Clerk added that after consulting the Chairman he had wired to the Ministry; "Pier Pavilion. Chairman of Council authorises acceptance". He now asked for the action of the Chairman to be confirmed. Mr Harman then moved a formal resolution for the confirmation of the action taken. Mr White seconded, and it was approved with three dissentients, Mrs. Taylor, Mr Brown and the redoubtable Dr. Billups. Dr. Billups was not the easiest person in the world to suppress and within a few weeks had written a letter to the local paper with more suggestions as to alternative sites for the new Pavilion. They were; The Barrack Battery Site, Ferncliff Gardens, the Western End of the Ocean Hotel and possibly Devonia Café (a property on the Esplanade).

(To be continued).

THE TRIALS & TRIBULATIONS OF BUILDING SANDOWN PAVILION 1934- 1999.

By Dave Bambrough 2010. (Part three).

By now the Councils of Sandown & Shanklin had amalgamated, but this event did nothing to curtail further hostilities from Dr. Billups. At a meeting of the Sandown & Shanklin ratepayers held at the Palmerston Hall, Shanklin on Monday May 15th 1933, a two hour debate of dedicated haranguing concluded with a majority of 51 votes to 2. It carried a resolution that the Sandown Pier Concert Hall scheme should not be carried without further consideration, and, until a poll of the district was carried out.

The protestations continued over the next few months to no avail, the Council continued ignoring Dr. Billups and his merry men and continued about their daily business. On September 14th 1933 at the monthly meeting of the Sandown-Shanklin Council a resolution accepting a tender for £22,774 was carried, practically without discussion, by ten votes to four. Minutes now presented showed that at a meeting in committee the previous day the Council had received the tenders for the erection of the sub-structure and super structure of the proposed Concert Pavilion and had read the joint report of the consulting engineer (Mr Latham) and Architect (Mr Clare). Both were in attendance.

The Council, after proposal and seconding, decided to recommend that the tenders of Messrs J. B. Edwards and Co., Ltd, of London for the aggregate net sum of £22, 774. 12s. 6d. be accepted, and that instructions were given for proceeding with the work required. Council in committee further recommended that Mr E. Thompson, B. Sc. (Engineering), was appointed resident engineer in charge of the contract work in the construction of the sub-structure at a salary of £7 a week. It was also decided that three committee members would be appointed to interview the Ministry of Transport to endeavour to secure an extension of the 20 years loan period, authorised for the repayment of the sum borrowed.

There then ensued strong criticism over the choice of tenders. It was stated that there was only a marginal difference of £13 between the lower of the two tenders and it was suggested that some skulduggery may have taken place. It was inferred that possible collusion existed between the winning company, the Consulting Engineer and the Architect. The inference suggested, was, that it was possible that the accepted tender had been lowered on prior knowledge of the other lower estimate to ensure acceptance by the council at the meeting the previous day. This of course was totally refuted with assurances from the Clerk that the tenders had not been touched in any-way, the motion to accept was carried by 10 votes to 4.

Even though there was a substantial amount of incompatibility at this early stage of the amalgamation of the two Council's, (now 6 months) one such issue being a loss by Sandown of £362 against a profit of £562 contributed by Shanklin to the pool, the Sandown members however were about to realise their ambition of a Concert Hall/Pavilion on their Pier.

Work began in early October 1933 with the closing of the Pier. The few men employed at this early stage were taking down windscreens and ripping up decking, along with four Scotsmen building the iron cages, a particularly skilled job that formed the foundations of the piles. Three months were estimated for the completion of the sub-structure, five months for the super-structure and four months, not estimated at the time for various inevitable delays that would occur. (One such inevitable delay was the holding up of a large consignment of tools and materials by the Southern Railway company).

The contractor's appointed foreman (Mr G. H. Webb) had previous experience from 1922-1931 on the construction of new docks in Mombassa and had also worked as a diver on the salvage of the St. Louis in 1919, which sank off Shanklin during the First World War with a cargo of grain, flour and ammunition.

The casting of the piles aroused great interest amongst the public, who were also drawn to the spectacle of winter night-time entertainment in great numbers to watch the floodlight pile driving. The main reason for the nightshift working was to take advantage of low tides in order to expedite the proceedings.

The finished piles had to go through a process known as "curing", which required them being kept damp with the aid of a lawn sprinkler for 24 hours, the first pile was driven on October 26th 1933. The sub-structure was complete by early May and work began in earnest on the erection of the new Pavilion.

With the summer season approaching, the contractors arranged access to the original Pavilion for the opening of a concert party "Hello Happiness" at Whitsuntide, guaranteeing safe passage via the new construction.

By mid July 1934 rapid strides had been made toward the completion of the building. By then Mr Clare (consulting architect) advised and had received acceptance for the following tenders for furnishings at the new Pavilion. These included; carpets, curtains, battens, lighting fittings and rubber flooring.

At a Council gathering in September 1934 a further suggestion was voiced by one of the main opponents of the scheme, Mr W. H. Brown. Having fiercely objected to the amount of money proposed to be spent on behalf of the ratepayers, he now suggested the building of a new entrance, coupled with the possibilities of a new car park beneath the entrance, which involved an estimated expenditure of a further £7,000. The idea was rejected on an amendment to delay the proposal for at least a year by 9 votes to 3. Further subjects continued to cause controversy to the construction, such as, lack of drainage and problems with the stage, but eventually all were overcome, or so they thought.

The resident Engineer, Mr E. H. Thomson gave a statistical talk concerning the construction of the Pier at a luncheon of the Sandown Rotary Club on Tuesday 2nd October 1934 with the knowledge that the opening was now imminent.

The opening date was scheduled for October 23rd 1934, the Council having engaged Lord and Lady Jellicoe to perform the honours. (British Royal Navy Admiral who commanded the Grand Fleet at the Battle of Jutland in World War I).

Murray Ashford's concert party then appearing at Scarborough, were engaged for the 24th and 25th at a fee of £50 for the first night and £30 for the second. (Digressing. Frederick Murray Ashford was a finalist at the 880 metres at the 1908 Summer Olympics in London. As a young man he studied the piano and organ at the Royal Academy of Music but later developed a fine tenor voice around which he built a Concert Party, which played the season at Scarborough every year from 1929-39).

The Council also granted permission for the annual Armistice service on Sunday November 11th to be held at the Pavilion and for a combined concert by the Sandown & Shanklin Choral Societies on December 12th. It was also decided to extend an invitation to the Labour party to hold their 1935 Conference there, which was politely refused.

During November 1934, Mr Brown's suggestion of re-designing the entrance had obviously appealed to the architect (Mr A. D. Clare) who submitted a report on a proposed new approach and car park, together with plans and prospective drawings. The Amusement Committee were authorised to examine details of the scheme with a view to submission of a report at a convenient date after consideration of the local rates estimate for the following year. That was as far as the idea ever went.

The Pavilion, Sandown.

TUESDAY, 23rd OCTOBER,
at 3 p.m.

Official Opening
by
Admiral of the Fleet Earl Jellicoe,
G.C.B., O.M., G.C.V.O., D.L.

Selections by the Orchestra under the direction of
Mr. E. A. ENGLISH, Mus. Bac. (Oxon), F.R.C.O.

A Cordial Invitation is extended to the Public.
Admission Free.

WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY,
October 24th & 25th, at 8.15 p.m.

Grand Opening Attraction.
Murray Ashford & Wilby Lunn present
THE BOUQUETS

"Scarborough's brilliant contribution to broadcasting."
— *Yorksire Post*.

Prices of Admission : 2/6 Reserved, 1/- Unreserved.
Seats can be booked at the box office, Pier Gates (Tel. 61) or at
Martin's Library, High Street, Sandown (Tel. 90).

In February 1935 workmen began alterations to the Pier entrance. The original iron gates were removed and scrapped, but the turnstiles were destined for a new position within a few feet of the new Pavilion and a form of sliding gate replaced the iron gates. In conjunction with the turnstiles two new booking offices were erected, one for concert party bookings and the other for Steamer Traffic and Fishing, etc. A tender from Messrs. F. & L. Whittington of £242 10s was accepted for this task.

The Entertainments Manager and the Pier Master interviewed all applicants for summer staff jobs and made the necessary appointments. The requirements for 1935 were as follows; Senior Deck hand £2 10s, Senior Toll House Clerk £2 15s and assistant Deck Hand £2, all per week and there was also a requirement for three female attendants for various duties.

By July of 1935 whilst the Pier was turning out to be a very successful venture the Council decided that where economy could be introduced then it would be. One of the first measures introduced by the Amusement Committee was to discontinue the presence of uniformed members of the Fire Brigade at shows. It was felt that the present staff could carry out all the

duties necessary in the case of fire.

As early as June 1938 after just over three years of existence, the local papers were extolling the virtues of the erection of the Pavilion. Whether Dr Billups ever appreciated the folly of his resistance (predicting a "White Elephant") to the scheme we will never know, as he died in August 1936 with the Pavilion less than two years old. On June 5th 1938 a record number of 1,427 people paid for admission with many more unable to gain admission to the evening show. (No doubt the staff were very pleased that a fire did not break out that night).

With the matinee performance, an unprecedented total of 2000 people attended the single days performance. Another interesting statistic was created by one Mr G. Polton, a well-known Ventnor Photographer. He occupied the same seat in the stalls for four years on a Saturday night, being one of the first in the theatre and not leaving until the last train to Ventnor was due. Local history was made on August 12th 1937 when the first wireless (radio) broadcast was made from the Pavilion. The Pavilion was linked up with, Hastings, Llandudno and Eastbourne to relay part of each programme to the national Network. The broadcast was due to run from 8.30, ending at 9.40pm, with the Sandown part of the programme commencing at one minute past nine, with the in house Fol-De-Rols providing the entertainment.

Some relevant statistics regarding the building of the Pavilion are as follows; the piles went down about 20 feet, driven into blue slipper rock, fortuitously, a good foundation. The deck beams varied in section, there being some 200 of them and 30 different sections. The deck had a uniform thickness of 6 inches. There were 125 tons of steel used in the construction, the balcony girder weighed 30 tons and over 250,000 bricks were used, all manufactured on the Island. Aggregates (material such as sand or gravel used with cement and water to make concrete, mortar, or plaster) and timber were all from Island depots. The building was erected on Ciment-Fondu. (Ciment Fondu is cement that sets in about six hours but begins to become solid in a much shorter time).

There were teething problems, most fairly insignificant. Structural defects occurred for which the contractor was informed that it was his responsibility to put right. Plus, additional work was necessary to correct dampness in the interior of the Pavilion. Sixty percent of the labour was employed from the Island and the end result was a safety record to be proud of, no accidents recorded to any employee.

Most of the original consternation in Council was regarding the cost of the venture, and even after completion there was still more disagreement over finance. In February 1935 it was revealed that an extra £2000 had been paid to the Contractor over some structural alterations that had taken place. It appears that legal advice and consultation took place between the Council and the Contractors with the result that the extra £2000 was paid by the local authority in full and final settlement of an exceptional claim by the contractor in respect of the sub-structure. The accepted reason was that most of the £2000 was brought about by the amendment of plans in connection with the stage. Such alterations were decided upon after the work had been well advanced, necessitating new plans being drawn. This caused a considerable delay with a large amount of the money costed to labour charges. Needless to say, Dr. Billups had his fair share to say on the matter.

This has been a brief insight into the uphill struggle that eventually resulted in the building of Sandown Pier Pavilion. It brought a lot of pleasure to thousands of people for over sixty years, sadly though, whilst the building still exists the reason for its construction has long since been sold off.

Next Chronicle. A look at some of the stars that appeared at the Pavilion between 1949 and 1968.



Front Elevation of the new Pavilion, taken on October 22nd 1934.

THE PAVILION, SANDOWN.
(Telephone 61).

STUPENDOUS ATTRACTION!
SUNDAY, January 27th,
at 8.15 p.m.

JACK PAYNE
WITH
HIS BAND.

Admission 3/6 & 2/6 Reserved; 1/3 Unreserved.
EARLY BOOKING ADVISABLE.

Book now at the Box Offices, The Pavilion, Sandown (Tel. 61), and Shanklin Theatre (Tel. 134); also at Martin's Library, Sandown (Tel. 90); Ramsden's Library, Shanklin (Tel. 64); Murdoch's, Newport (Tel. 200).

July 1935

THE TRIALS & TRIBULATIONS OF BUILDING
SANDOWN PAVILION 1934- 1999.

By Dave Bambrough 2010. (Part four).

For those that remember. Some of the well known artists that appeared at Sandown Pavilion throughout the 1950's and 1960's. Many appearing on more than one occasion. Birth and death dates included where known.	
Vera Lynn (1949)	Born 1917. Legendary Forces sweetheart. Had a top selling CD in 2010.
Webster Booth & Ann Ziegler (1950)	A very successful husband and wife singing duo. W.Booth (1902 -1984) A. Ziegler (1910-2003).
Winifred Atwell (1950)	Classically trained pianist, with many pop hits. (1914 -1983).
Peter Cavanagh	Radio impressionist. (1914 – 1981).
Semprini	Concert pianist, composer and conductor. (1908 –1990).
Vic Oliver	Austrian born comedian & musician. (1898 – 1964).
Edmundo Ross	Born 1910. Bandleader, playing mainly Latin music, introducing the Rumba & Samba to Britain.
Jack Train (1951)	Played the character Colonel Chinstrap on the Radio show Itma during the Second World War. (1902-1966).
Richard (Stinker) Murdoch	Star of Much-Binding-in-the-Marsh on the light programme. (1907-1990)
Kenneth Horne	Starred with Stinker Murdoch and helped write the show. (1907-1969).
Julie Andrews	Born 1935. Only 16 years old when performing at Sandown in 1951.
Charlie Chester	Well-known Radio & Television comedian. (1914-1997).
Percy Edwards	Famous impressionist of birds & animals. (1908-1996).
Elsie & Doris Waters	Famous for comic songs and sketches. Sisters of Jack Warner. Elsie (1893-1990). Doris (1904-1978).
Anona Winn	Australian actress, singer and composer. (1907-1994).
Reg Dixon	Radio and variety entertainer. (1914-1984).
Peter Brough & Archie Andrews.	Known mainly for his ventriloquism with puppet Archie Andrews and a radio show, "Educating Archie". (1916-1999).
Elton Hayes	Singer of Folk songs, Violinist, Guitarist & also played the Ukulele. (1915-2001).
Avril Angers (1952)	Comedienne. Starring on Radio, also in Films and Television. 1918-2005.
Cardew Robinson	Made the transition from variety and Radio into TV and films. Appeared in several films, including one Carry on film. "Up the Kyber". (1917-1992).
Tony Hancock	A comic genius at Sandown in 1952. (1924-1968).
John Hanson	Operatic singer of great distinction. (1922-1998).
Petula Clark	Born 1932. One of the most well known artists to appear in Sandown.
The Tanner Sisters	Recording artists for H.M.V.
Arthur Askey	A comedian who became a household name throughout the country. Star of Radio, Television and Films. (1900-1982).
Kitty Bluett (1953)	Born 1922. Former Disc Jockey and Radio wife to Ted Ray. ("Ray's a Laugh" on the BBC Light programme).
Bill (Wogga Wogga) Kerr	Born 1922. Australian Film & Television actor. Grew up in Wagga Wagga. Moved to England after the war and featured in Television.
Dick Emery	A very popular English comedian. Appearing in films and all of the top Radio shows. Had his own Television show. (1915-1983).
Robert Moreton	Radio and stage comedian appearing in Educating Archie.
Eric Barker	Actor and comedian appearing in many humorous English films, including, four "Carry On" films. (1912-1990).
Peter Sellers (C.B.E)	Probably the biggest named star who ever appeared at the Pavilion. (1925-1980).
Jimmy Young	Born 1921. Popular singer with two No. 1 singles and ten others that reached the pop charts.
Lester Ferguson	Born 1917. An American Opera singer regularly topping the bill in London and Glasgow.
Ethel Revnell	Comedian actress who appeared in English films. (1895-1978).
Tony Fayne & David Evans	Double act, appeared in Variety Bandbox. Spoke in synchronisation. Tony Fayne (1924-2009).
Eamonn Andrews	Television presenter of "This is Your Life" and "What's my Line". Voted Television personality of the year four times. (1922-1987).
Dick Bentley	Australian comedian & actor appearing in films. (1907-1995).
Tessie O'Shea	Welsh entertainer & actress, headliner at the London Palladium. Once a guest on The Ed Sullivan American TV Show. (1913-1995).
Diana Decker	Born 1926. English singer and actress.

Jack Warner	Famous for "Dixon of Dock Green & the film "The Blue Lamp". Appeared two years after sisters, Elsie and Doris Waters. (1895-1981).
Shirley Abicair (1954)	Born 1930. Australian artist who sang and played the Zither.
The Ray Ellington Quartet	Singer and drummer, recorded for Parlophone records. (1916-1985).
Pearl Carr	Born 1923. Successful solo singer, married Teddy Johnson in 1955 and became even more successful.
Viera & Bruce (Seton). (1955)	Major Sir Bruce Lovat Seton of Abercorn, 11th Baronet. Better known for his acting role as "Fabian of the Yard". (1909-1969).
Bill Mcguffie	Composer, conductor and proficient piano player. (1927-1987).
Bert Weedon	Born 1920. Backed many of the early English Rock n Roll singers.
Leslie "Hutch" Hutchinson (1955)	Singer and Pianist. One of the highest paid stars in Britain during the 1920's & 30's. Eventually ostracized from society because of affairs. Only 49 people attended his funeral. (1900-1969).
The Stargazers	British vocal group with two No. 1 singles. "I See The Moon" & "Broken Wings".
Joy Nichols	Australian comedienne and actress. Starred in the Radio show "Take it from Here" with Dick Bentley and Jimmy Edwards. (1925-1992).
Cyril Fletcher	English comedian. Famous for his Odd Odes. (1913-2005).
Carole Carr	First singer to appear on British Television after the war. (1928-1997).
Alma Cogan (1956)	Highest paid British female of her era. She had 18 UK chart hits and died aged 34 of cancer. (1932-1966).
Bill Scott Gordon (1956)	This was the ninth (1956) and last season that Bill and his Revels entertained the public at Sandown with their weekly summer shows.
Cyril Fletcher (1957)	Took over the summer show after Bill Scott Gordon. (1913-2005).
Eric Robinson & his Orchestra	Conductor & presenter of music for the BBC. Born 1908.
The Mudlarks (1958)	English pop group with three top thirty hits.
Don Fox	English pop singer, recorded for the Decca Record Company.
The Southlanders	British male vocal group. Famous for "I am a Mole and I live in a hole".
Wee Willie Harris	British Rock n Roll singer. Notably for "Rockin' at the Two "I"s. (Born 1933).
The Most Brothers (Mickie Most)	Decca (duo) recording artists. Mickie Most became a very successful producer with his own Rak Records, with artists such as Hot Chocolate, Suzie Quatro and many more. (1938-2003).
Les Hobeaux	Early British Skiffle group.
Nancy Whiskey	Famous for recording "Freight Train" with the Chas Mcdevitt Skiffle Group. (1935-2003).
Vic Lewis and his Band	Well-known English Bandleader. (1919-2009).
Bob Monkhouse	Famous British comedian. (1928-2003).
Edna Savage	Lancastrian pop singer, recorded for Parlophone. (1936-2000).
Fred Emney	Burly "upper class" comedian with his own show on Television in the fifties. (1900-1980).
The Bachelors (1959)	English pop group, recorded for Parlophone. Not the very popular Irish group that came later.
Lita Roza	Decca recording artist. Sang with the Ted Heath band. (1926-2008).
David Hughes	Initially a pop singer in the fifties then turned to Opera, with success. (1925-1972).
Denis Lotis	Born 1927, South African. Started his career with the Ted Heath Band. Appeared in several English movies.
Cy Grant	Born 1919. Calypso singer. First black person to appear regularly on British Television in the 1950's.
Yana	Glamorous model & showgirl, who appeared in Cabaret, Theatre, and Films, also had her own Television show in the 1950's. (1932-1989).
Danny Purches	Recording artist for Columbia in the 1950's.
Ann Shelton (1960)	Singer. Entertained the troops during the war. One number 1 hit record. "Lay down your Arms". (1928-1994).
Bryan Johnson	British entrant in the Eurovision song competition in 1960. Sang "Looking High High High" which finished second with 25 points.
Jon Pertwee	Star of Doctor Who, Worzel Gummidge, also in Films and Radio. (1919-1996).
Dickie Henderson	Well-known Television sitcom comedian with his own show. (1922-1985).
Felix Bowness	Television shows, Hi-De-Hi & Porridge. A great favourite at the Pavilion whilst in residence in the late fifties and 1960's.
Craig Douglas	Born 1942 in Newport Isle of Wight, had many top 20 hits.

Pat Reader	Another Islander. Made pop records with the infamous Joe Meek.
Al Koran	Magician, apparently still influences today's magicians. (1914-1972).
Eddie Calvert (1961)	Famous Trumpet player with a No. 1 hit single "Oh Mein Papa", and other Top Twenty hits of the time. (1922-1978).
The Crazy Gang (1962)	The best loved bunch of pensioners ever to tramp the boards. Packed theatres wherever they performed with their zany act.
Robert Earl	Born 1926. Traditional pop singer of the fifties, charted three times.
Mrs Mills	Lady pianist who recorded extensively for Parlophone records. (1918-1978).
Ted Ray	One of Britain's best-known comics. Had his own Radio show "Rays a Laugh" in the 1950's. (1916-1985).
Matt Monro	Recording artist for the Parlophone record label. Many hits. (1930-1985).
Joe Mr Piano Henderson (1963)	Scottish piano player. Had a hit with "Trudie". Many Radio appearances. (1920-1980).
Ronnie Carroll	Born 1934. Irish popular singer with a number of popular hits.
The Springfields	The launch pad for Dusty Springfield (1939-1999) in the early sixties.
Hughie Green	Presenter of "Double Your Money", originally on Radio Luxemburg, then moving to Television. (1920-1997).
Terry Scott & Hugh Lloyd	Comedy duo with their own television show, "Hugh & I". (T.Scott 1927-1994). (H.Lloyd 1923-2003).
Norman Vaughan	Host of "Sunday Night At The London Palladium". (1923-2002).
The Kaye Sisters	Recorded for Philips, with a few hits.
Diana Dors (1964)	An English blonde bombshell, in many movies. (1931-1984).
Eve Boswell	South African born singer with one hit, "Pickin' a Chicken". (1924-1998).
Jimmy Tarbuck	Born 1940. Was supporting Eve Boswell in 1964. Later to command his own summer season.
Helen Shapiro	Born 1946 in the East End of London. Many chart hits, including two number ones.
Beryl Reid	Extremely popular comedienne & actress on Radio & Television. (1920-1996).
Adam Faith & the Roulettes	U.K. male vocalist and actor. Recorded extensively for the Parlophone label with many hits. (1940-2003).
No records for 1965.	
Sandy Powell (1966)	Long career on stage & in Pantomime. Often appeared as a Scottish comedian in a kilt. (1900-1982).
Beverly Sisters	U.K. female vocal group. No. 1 single with "I Saw Mummy Kissing Santa Claus".
Stan Stennett	Born 1925. Welsh comedian, actor and Jazz musician.
Paul & Barry Ryan	U.K. male vocal group. A few hits for the Decca label.
The Dallas Boys	Labelled Britain's first boy band. Performed regularly on "Six Five Special" and "Oh Boy". Unfortunately, several recordings, but no hits.
Rosemary Squires	Popular female singer, appearing in Variety and Concerts. (1915-1998).
Tommy Trinder (1967)	Variety artist and Radio comedienne. First compere of "Sunday Night At The London Palladium". (1909-1989).
Terry Hall	Ventriloquist with a dummy called "Lenny the Lion". (1926-2007).
Leslie Crowther.	Made his name with the long running "Crackerjack" for BBC Television. (1933-1996).
The King Brothers (1968)	Male vocal group, with several hit singles for the Parlophone record label.
Ted Rogers	Comedian and light entertainer. TV compare of game shows.(1935-2001).
Joan Regan	Born 1928.Many hit records for the Pye and Decca labels. Appeared in variety and pantomime.
These are just the tip of the iceberg, there were many many more throughout the years 1934-1999.	

Good luck
Elsie Waters
JFK

The Final Curtain.

Worrell Waters
(copy)