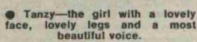


## By PETER HEPPLER

music halls ever come back to life. Chubby Bails, who has been ditching, for this Cockney comedian has a lot of of the cheekiness and quick wits of one of the all-time greats in my book, Max Miller. It shows that if Max were around today he would be a natural for Tabaret. The Bestcellar, which has developed into what I should call the Best Cellar, is a drinking establishment made to measure for Chubby's style, in which he blends good humour with a gentle aggression meaning that no customer ever gets bored. Chubby is a far cry from the kind of leotard worn by an old-time strong man, Chubby gets off with a demonstration of bare-chested strength, he says, "I'm too lazy to take a shower."

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**L. C. P. A.**

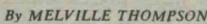
Members of the Association are grieved to learn of the death of LIN CLAUDE, the previous Treasurer for so many years. He was held in high esteem and affection by all who knew him, not only for his capabilities as Treasurer, but for his honest work on behalf of the Association. In memory of his many years of devoted and selfless service, we have predicted his attending the meetings, his interest was avid up to the last.

The next Social will be held on March 19 with BARBARA D'ARCY in Chair and Members are reminded the Annual Dinner/Dance takes place on APRIL 28. Reservations for which can be made with the Secretary.

Crystal Palace and Hampstead Heath remain under GLC jurisdiction by law but other boroughs, since new act came into force, claiming parks and open spaces in their district. Some parks adjacent to several boroughs. Discussions could result breaking up valuable organisations.

Tony Lines reporting . . .

NOW settled into his new office at 5 Mary Street is **Crad Tudor** (formerly **Bristol Fashion**) Correspondent on this paper) who has taken over the top job as Manager of the **North East Clubs Variety Association**. He is being ably assisted by the charming **Mrs. Jean Hall**.  
N for a full week at **Farringdon Social Club** at the beginning of March is a young man, who has



During recent controversy about actor knights wondered why no Variety knights . . . excluding, of course, Sir Lew Grade. Was Sir Harry Lauder the last? Seems international fame is criterion. Then a good many pop groups should be eligible. Or is MBE the summit to which light entertainers can attain—or Georgie Wood's OBE? A further 'leveling down' would seem to be called for.

LIGHT  
ENTERTAINMENT

The evening's entertainment was provided by Ray Donn—featured as a singing, gagging compere, no less!—Monty Mel, with a

## by Andrew McLachlan

FOLLOWING ★ ★ my recent paragraph on "Drag Acts" in Bradford, when I mentioned that I had taken a big hold in the area, I received a lot of mail on the subject. One letter from **Jimmy De Laney** suggests agents would contact him and the many others in his line of entertainment with offers of work here and perhaps we would know what female impersonation is all about. I believe Mr. De Laney missed the point, because my concluding remarks were that **Terry Durham** was such an unusual and popular drag act. I doubt if any other could arouse more interest here, Okay?

## THE GOLDEN VOICE

SPRING TOUR

Summer Season: PLAZA JERSEY

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## WINTER GARDENS FACE LIFT

**SIR LESLIE JOSEPH**, chairman of the entertainments division of **Fortes**, has revealed plans for a quarter-million-pound face-lift for **Morecambe Winter Gardens**.

The theatre is to continue with regular seasonal entertainment and details of a lavish summer show are shortly to be announced, by Fortes, the new owners. The ballroom is to be completely redesigned and converted for additional use as a conference centre.

"It will be hotted up in a big way—really brought up to date," said Sir Leslie, and added that Fortes were anxious to continue the theatre's reputation for good summer shows.

A show is in the process of being booked at the moment. We have two shows under consideration and it is likely to be one of these. The only hint I can give you at the moment is that it will be a 'high season' show lasting between nine and 10 weeks."

great display from Carol Scott. Somewhere before this one recalls, the band of the British Legion had also played a large fanfare. Further credits must go to (a) myself, for keeping an eye on the fire, and (b) Harry and Linda, for the splendid reception given to one and all.

The Queens itself is a large, pleasant house with a good sprinkling of Hornsey students among its clientele. Thus, The Gentle People Trio, of "Show-biz fame, have a "popular" residency, and one can only whisper that a Friday residency awaits a C & W or Folk trio if they ring Harry. Be lucky!

★ ★ ★

The best show we've ever had!" As to said one and all at Ascot's Sports and Social Club, "The show put on by the Ascot Race Club, The Gwalia, for the Club's Old Presentation Dinner last Saturday, Small wonder the comment, for the line-up consisted of acts extremely popular in clubland—singing-comedian Steve Tracey (now resident at The Boulogne in the West End), singing-comedienne Patti Maynard, top vocal duo The Asiatics (Erol and Chick), Mr. Variety himself Joe Kane, lovely young songstress, Marion Daye; all accompanied by the top pianist of Queen Elizabeth's fame, Harold, and drummer Erol.

verly a evening of laughter and song, vouching for in that the comper for the evening was Mrs. Kane's little boy Tommy. Unfortunately, space problems forbid grand mention of the grand entertainment; but it is a venture that, having taken remarks coming from the firm's Man. Dir. Mr. Stammers, through names such as Tom Lake, Mr. Goodman, Mr. Stevenson, the entire audience, down to three gorgeous young stewardesses in Jill Ann, Betty and a worker I am!, their performance gave a truck a mighty blow for the future of light entertainment at the club.

SOME considerable time ago this column tipped Eric Pieri as a name to remember among clubmen—a tip now substantiated having viewed the stage of Belle Grove Social Club last Thursday. From nothing, Eric and his helpers have created a colourful scene which will gladden any jaundiced eye; a scene in which today's life presents the first of many hoped-for variety shows —artists billed in the amusingly-designed programme being Phyllis Price, Jack Crosbie, Phyllis O'Reilly, The Mardell Bros., The Langdonian Troupe, The Quinton's Band, plus comere Club

My visit, however, was to catch the E.S.S. Shop Window. And having noted the attention to details, the programmes, reserved seats, waitress service, intro of artists and THE REASON for their intro, the numbers of bookers present, etc., I can record that this, without a doubt, is how all shop windows should be run if they are to establish a reputation, tabbed as mere "free entertainment". Artists seen and who will be mentioned in later columns were Sue Shelley, Montgomery Brown, The Troll boys, Foz, Steve Garland, The Little Fishes, plus complete Cliff Davis, pianist, Cyril Smith, and The Quintones Band.

FINALLY, I hear that ent. sec. Roger Hallett, of Northfleet Traders (Private) Club, is now in the market for artists—urgently required for March are two comedians and a pianist . . . and songstress Helen Gordon, who has apparently moved, is asked to contact Mr. E. Leonard at 698 4319 re a big-night date.

## RRINGTON