

# JERSEY

TAMSAPOPPIN 1972

THE "HOUSE, FULL" signs have repeatedly been going up this summer at Tams, where Ronnie Dukes and Ricky Lee have been smashing all records at the Jersey nightclub.

And with such entertaining acts as Paul Daniels and Monica Robins on the bill, it's not really surprising that this has been hailed as The show of the 1972 season. It is produced and directed by Billy Forrest and choreographed by Valerie Marshall.

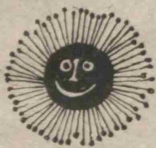
It is hard to sum up the Dukes and Lee act in a brief review, but one can say that the husband-and-wife duo, plus mother-in-law Vi at the piano and the five-strong Trackers backing group, provide one and a half hours of entertainment for everyone. No matter whether you prefer comedy to songs, tap dancing to instrumental solos, or the "Ave Maria" to "Rain, Rain, Rain," it's all in the repertoire of the duo, as attested by Ronnie Dukes, Ricky Lee, et al.

Both Paul and Monica were at the Sunshine Hotel last summer, and their success there made it obvious that they would be booked for a return Jersey visit this year.

"Unusualist" Paul, who does things like making "guinea pigs" from the audience stick to their chairs, entertains like no other illusionist around, while songstress Monica still holds her audience spellbound with an unaccompanied version of "Amazing Grace." She also sings numbers like "For Once In My Life," proving that she is a singer to be reckoned with.

Opening the show is Des Gregory, another singer who has been to Jersey before. He sings songs in the Jim Reeves style, receiving plenty of applause for numbers like "Walk Tall" and "Story Of My Life."

Together with the three Viva Lovelies and the Don Harper Trio, Paul, Monica and Des leave Tams after the interval to head for one of the seven Jersey hotels where the "Paul Daniels Spectacular," presented by agent Billy Forrest, is appearing. On Sundays, that show visits two hotels.



## VIVA LAS VEGAS

THE NAMES may be the same, the venue may be the same, but this year's "Viva Las Vegas" floorshow at the Watersplash doesn't carry the similarity any further.

As one leaves the nightclub, the memories that remain are of gorgeous girls, multi-coloured ostrich plumes, well-choreographed dance routines, a collection of new gags and a host of new songs.

As last summer, the stars are Kenneth Earle and Malcolm Vaughan, Stuart Gillies, Marilyn Jeale, the Blue Harmony Boys, Sounds Gary Lloyd and Ken Wayne's New Generation dancers, but regardless of the individual artists' capabilities, it is the show as a whole that gets talked about; a show that can only be classed as a glossy, colourful extravaganza.

With artists such as Ken and Mal topping the bill, you know that the talent in "Viva Las Vegas" is going to be first class, and no one disappoints, that's for sure.

Ken possesses a talent for comedy that is only surpassed by a mere handful of the world's top comedians, while Mal, apart from acting as the Wise to Ken's Morecambe, shows that he is a singer to be reckoned with via his versions of such songs as "Day In Day Out" and "Bridge Over Troubled Water."

Stuart, the popular and immaculate-dressed "Opportunity Knocks" winner, keeps those who like Scottish songs happy, while still finding time to sing his latest record, "For My Love," and the theme from the "Love Thy Neighbour" tv series.

The Blue Harmony Boys, now a four-piece with guitarist Syd Jolly, show that the trumpet can be a very entertaining instrument with their medley of tv themes, a Herb Alpert segment and the beautiful "Il Silenzio." They also form part of Sounds Gary Lloyd to accompany the show.

The wide-eyed, always smiling and very talented Marilyn Jeale has made many fans in Jersey as a result of her Juliet Provençal dancing, and the way she leads the dancers through such routines as "Shaft" can only gain her many more admirers before the summer ends.

Apart from the Watersplash, promoter Dick Ray has also arranged for the show to appear on alternate Sundays at Pontin's Piemont Bay Holiday Village and at various island hotels. There is also a hand show at the Watersplash every Sunday evening.

## KOMEDY KAPERS

BAL MOANEY'S "Komedy Kapers" is the title of the main show being presented at the Sunshine Hotel

this summer, the Irish comedian's name being added to the standard title as a result of his successful appearances in last year's "Komedy Kapers" show.

Earlier in the summer, the Kranksies, Morgan and Eve, Ken Ford and Jean Wood appeared in the hotel's first two "Komedy Kapers" shows, and a fourth will be presented when the main show ends in September.

Starring Bal, Walter Gae, the Paulo Brothers, Denise and Joe, the Viva Debs and the Entertainers, the show certainly lives up to its name by providing plenty of laughs, interspersed with a collection of songs and energetic dance routines.

Bal has now dispensed with the green apparatus that he used to wear on stage, but the jokes about Murphy and his sidekick Casey still abound, as do the laughs that he gets. By the end of his act, he is literally sweating buckets, but this only goes to show how hard he works to keep his audience laughing.

Also receiving plenty of applause for his comedy act is Walter Gee, whose relaxing style made him a firm favourite on his earlier visits to the Sunshine. Highlighting his act with an hilarious routine about what it must be like when watching three television programmes at once, Walter is making more than a few fans this summer.

Earlier, the two Paulo Brothers got the show off to a rousing start with such songs as "Land Of 1,000 Dances" and a Louis Armstrong medley, while Denise and Joe please with their quieter act, which features such numbers as "Where Do You Go To My Lovely" and "It's The Same Old Song."

Providing the backing for the show are the two Entertainers, while the energetic Viva Debs make their difficult dance routines look very easy.

In the hotel's Birdcage Bar, Ken and Billie Ford entertain with Country and Western music, and Sunday night is band show night, when the Entertainers provide music for those who just want to join in a sing-along.

The entertainments are produced and directed by Billy Forrest, dance routines being choreographed by Valerie Marshall.

## A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S SCREAM

APART from acting as compere and main comedian in "A Midsummer Night's Scream," the summer cabaret show at La Belle Etoile, the fast-talking, immaculate-dressed Tony Dowling also presents the show along with Frank Thomasson, who owns both La Belle Etoile and West Park Pavillion.

It's a hit show right from the

opening, when the artists are introduced by means of recorded impressions of famous people, and there is no act who really stands out, almost any of them possessing the entertainment qualities needed to fill a bill.

There's Ray Kennedy, for example, who has been to Jersey before, but now puts more emphasis on songs than comedy and receives just applause for his fine interpretations of numbers like "Fever" and "Didn't We."

Then there's Billy Street, the brilliant guitarist who also has a flair for camp-upd humour. He is the highlight of the show for many people, especially when his guitar playing and zany humour come to the fore, as in "Hava Nagila," which is different to any other version you may have heard.

And if you want to be told something about your past, present and future, Zareada, a mind-boggling clairvoyant, fits the bill. He tells you something about many things about themselves, and his probing mind certainly gives everyone food for thought. A brilliant act, somewhat over the top.

Tony Woods does, in fact, top the bill, and his Joe Dolan-Tony Christie-type powerhouse voice brings a lot of laughs. Highlighting his act, he performs as "Viva Las Vegas," "What'd I Say" and "The Little Boy," which is his last number.

Last but by no means least, are Johnny St George and Dominique, the former getting the audience in a relaxed mood with a couple of songs, and the latter helping Zareada with his act. He then dashes off with Zareada to West Park Pavilion for another show, being known as Stud Thornton at that other venue.

Dominique isn't called upon to do a great deal in the show, but she does get a couple of sketches with Billy Street.

The entire show is accompanied by the Johnny Cooper Trio.

## SHOWBOAT

A COLOURED, cane-twirling song-and-dance man, two energetic Ukrainian Cossacks, an outrageous comedian, plenty of minstrel-type songs and a collection of lovely girls. That's what Dick Ray has on offer at Swanson's Hotel in this, his first summer season at the Jersey nightclub.

Starring Joe Chisolm, Bobby Knoxall, the Ukrainian Cossacks, the Ray Rich Duo, Ken Wayne's Dolly Birds and the Earle Darren Sound, the production is called "Showboat," and, as one might expect with a title like that, the theme is plenty of good old minstrel-style songs.

Joe, who comes from New York, is the undisputed star, his song-and-dance and cane-twirling routines being the highlight of a fast-moving show. And some of the things that he does with that cane have to be seen to be believed! Complete with straw and a collection of jokes his kind of act is what variety is all about.

Bobby has been to Jersey twice before, but his outrageously funny act still results in plenty of applause from the happy audiences. He attacks them verbally, but they seem to love it and no one is offended for very long.

The Ukrainian Cossacks are not billed in the programme because they were a bit looking, but that does not stop them from being one of the most talked-about acts in Jersey. They have only a short spot, but their very energetic Cossack dancing routines are what stick in many people's minds when they leave the hotel.

The Ray Rich Duo are a vocal/instrumental act, who include such numbers as "Hava Nagila," "Angry" and "Yakky Sax" in their spot, which is well received night after night.

Adele Cornell also gets separate billing, but in practice she leads the dancers through their many song and dance routines, including such production numbers as "Alexander's Ragtime Band" and "Chattanooga Choo-Choo." A very talented and attractive girl, nonetheless.

Backing the whole show, as well as playing for dancing before it, are the six-strong Earle Darren Sound, giving the show a jazzy feel to a happy minstrel show. Dick Ray's production is choreographed and staged by Ken Wayne.

On Sundays and throughout the week, parts of the show are presented at various island hotels, while a hand show is presented at Swanson's.

## TOP OF THE ISLAND SHOW

THERE ARE only three acts in the "Top Of The Island Show" at the Côte du Nord Hotel, but the amount of talent they exude makes it a cabaret show to be reckoned with.

The Showbandits, for example, their hilarious brand of humour is a show within itself. And it's the same with Scott Plus Two. The former Television Toppers and Scott Young, accompanied on the piano by Tony Davidson, have the difficult task of opening the show, but their very professional and energetic dance routines get the audience in the mood for what proves to be a good family entertainment show.

The third act, Carmel, who appeared at the Sunshine Hotel at the beginning of last summer. An extremely attractive, dusky-skinned beauty from India, her songs and charm make a firm favourite with the holiday audiences.

Produced by Brian Hart, the entire show played a short season at the Batley Variety Club before

going to Jersey, and this alone shows what a talented show it is. The fast-moving act is held together by Bernie Bates, a member of the Showbandits who is making his first appearance as compere of the cabaret show. And he's good, make no mistake about that.

All in all, this is a good show, and the antics of the five-strong Showbandits and drummer Andy Lynch is also the drummer for the entire show — prove that they are very worthy bill-toppers.

On Sundays, there is a band show at the hotel.

## POLYNESIAN FIESTA

THE EIGHTH EDITION of "Polynesian Fiesta" is this summer being presented at the Hawaiian, Portelet, where the proverbial something for everyone can be seen and heard on the cabaret floor.

Starring comedians Tony Stewart and Colin Price, singer Peter James, singer/personality girl Lee Leslie, the Mike Wilson Trio and the Hawaiian Lovelies, the show is, like all productions at the Hawaiian, a trip around the world via songs and comedy.

Although Tony, Colin and Lee have been in Jersey cabaret shows before, this is the first time that they and Peter have ever appeared at the Hawaiian. Between them, they ensure that the nightclub is packed every night.

Colin's kind of humour is different from Tony's in that he doesn't throw himself around the stage, for example, but it is the same when one considers the applause and laughs that they both receive.

The highlight of Tony's act for many people is when he does a mock striptease — especially for the ladies in the audience, and like Colin, his comedy approach and selection of new gags make him a firm favourite.

Peter, the show's main vocalist, quickly gets the audiences on his side via his interpretations of such numbers as "Sweet Caroline," "I Will Drink The Wine" and "It's Impossible," and keeps them there with the help of his odd spots of humour.

And no show is complete without a girl entertainer, which is where Lee Leslie comes in, complete with a figure-clinging dress with a slit as high as decency will allow. The highspot of her act is when she drags three not-unwilling members of the audience on to the stage to become part of her "Barber's Shop" trio in an up-dated "Nellie Dean." And to prove that she can really sing, Lee endears herself with such numbers as "Cry Me A River."

Supplying more than a competent backing are the Mike Wilson Trio, while the men in the audience can, if they wish, ogle the Hawaiian Lovelies during their dance routines, which are again choreographed by Bill Ryan. The show is devised and produced by Chris Sarra.

## THE SWEET REASON SPECTACULAR

ALTHOUGH Sweet Reason have presented their hilarious and very musical cabaret act at L'Etaeq Hotel since the beginning of April, a full cabaret show did not take place until the beginning of July when soprano Ann Langford arrived in the island to join Sweet Reason, the Dee-Lights, Johnny Caesar and Mark Ede and Michelle in "The Sweet Reason Spec-Tac-Ular."

Owned by Gala Holidays the hotel has now taken its rightful place among the Jersey cabaret venues, and the show that is presented there can only be classed as lively entertainment for all the family.

With music and comedy from Sweet Reason, a four-piece group who are rapidly making their mark in the world of entertainment; happy comedy from Johnny who was at the West Park Pavilion last year and in Jersey; illusions like changing places inside a padlocked trunk from Mark and Michelle; plenty of vocal and dancing glories from the two lovely Dee-Lights; and songs like "The Sound of Music" and "Amazing Grace" from Ann, L'Etaeq Hotel seems all set for a successful summer season.

Various guest artists such as belly-dancer and fire-eater Bettina make guest appearances on some nights of the week, while those who prefer music from a piano are catered for in a downstairs bar by pianist/singer George Opham.

On Sundays, Sweet Reason present their own band show at the hotel.

## OPERA HOUSE

TWO COMEDIES are again being presented at the Opera House this summer, although Allan Tredgett now presents them without Ray Cooney, the partner who has having split up earlier this year.

Starring Bernard G. High, Peta Bernard, Noelle Fitcher, Gene Sandys and Joan Pickering, the first of these comedies is "The Secretary Bird" by William Douglas Home. The other is "Don't Start Withing Me," by Joyce Rayburn, although John, who is Allan's wife, does not have a part in this.

In both instances though, the direction is by Bernard G. High, and the presentation of "The Secretary Bird" is by arrangement with John Gale.

The two comedies play alternate weeks throughout the summer.

## THE STAGE



## GRIN AND TONIC

MAKING their sixth cabaret appearance in Jersey, Roy and Jackie Toudous are back to top the bill in "Grin And Tonic" at West Park Pavillion. And the amount of applause they are receiving shows exactly why they have had so many return bookings.

Their act may be basically the same as in other years, but their song-and-dance routines never fail to draw yells of "More" from their audiences. Jackie is a champion clog-dancer, and the heavy show appears so very light when he dances on a table, but this is all part of the magic of the Toudous. No matter whether they are singing, dancing or making people laugh, that oh-so-professional magic is there for all to see.

Impressionist Benny Yorke was originally on the bill, but his contract was terminated in June and his place taken by illusionist Chris Woodward. A Jersey resident, the highlight of his act is when he puts his wife, Elaine, into a cabaret, "slices" her body with two steel plates, and then, in full view of the audience, pushes her midriff away from her. A thoroughly entertaining act.

Having the difficult job of being both compere and presenting a comedy act in such a large room, Pancho Villa deserves every bit of applause that he receives. His slow movements and authentic-sounding street music is perfect, and the Yorkshire-born entertainer makes many new fans each night.

Newcomer Jenny Marvin 'providing a variety of entertainment from impressions of stars like Eartha Kitt, highlights her act with such numbers as a beautiful "Eliza Doolittle."

Zareada is the special guest artist, and his mind-reading act soon has the audience agog with amazement. He is assisted by Stud Thornton, who sings a couple of relaxing songs before Zareada comes on.

Accompanying the entire show are the Jack Duff Combo, who are joined by singer Molly Anson both before and after the show, and again on Sundays for a band show.

## EXCITEMENT

APART FROM presenting and choreographing the cabaret shows at the Watersplash and Swanson's Hotel, local entertainments manager Dick Ray and choreographer Ken Wayne are also responsible for the Players No. 6 "Excitement" show, which nightly visits two hotels.

The show, which also appears at the island's two holiday camps, features Les Bryan, who has received plenty of applause for his "The Comedians" TV programmes; the two-boys-and-a-girl Triangle vocal/instrumental group; the four Ken Wayne dancers; and resident drummer John Bird.

Between them, they present an hour-long show that is exactly what the holidaymakers want to see in their hotels, namely a fast-moving galaxy of comedy, song, glamour and the chance to win packets of cigarettes in one of the games.

The Triangle — Sue, Roger and Steve — present some of the best harmony sounds around. Highlighting their act with harmony versions of songs like "Chattanooga Choo Choo" and a "Fly Me To The Moon" medley, Roger and Steve, along with John, also play the accompaniment for the rest of the show.

Les, complete with a string of new gags, or at times a new version of old gags, gets the holidaymakers in an even happier holiday mood, and the show is brought to a close with a finale of music hall songs.

## GAYTIME 1972

DESPITE the tragic death of co-owner Harold "Tiny" Dawson a week before it was due to begin, the summer cabaret at the New Woodlands Hotel went on as scheduled, and is proving to be a well-paced, friendly show for the whole family.

In the intimate atmosphere of the small Timbers Room, Mrs Dorothy Dawson presents "Gaytime 72" with only three of the scheduled four acts — Janet and Derek Lee not having arrived after "Tiny's" death — but three acts who go for most tastes.

For example, there is comedy in the shape of Irishman Mike Hayden. He does not play too much on the fish gags, which makes a change — and also acts as linkman to introduce the other acts.

Acts like Beryl Calvert, one of the few female ventriloquists in the business. Using Gloria, a daft bird (the feathered variety) from Liverpool, she shows that this is not just a "business" show, which can be completely handled by the fairer sex. In the second half, she puts on top hat and tails to sing and dance a selection of music hall numbers.

But the top of the bill are Day and Night, a couple of amicable song-and-dance / comedy / instrumental fellers from the "Pool. No matter what they do, it comes across in a very professional and relaxed manner, and the future looks good for the pair.

Backing the show and also playing for dancing are the two Timbersjacks, a competent organ and drums duo.



## "THE G-MAN OF MIRTH"

Walter wishes to thank: JIM MUIR for a fantastic season at the SUNSHINE HOTEL, JERSEY.

BYRON FEHON for his 6-week booking in SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA.

BILLY & MAUREEN FORREST, his personal friends and new personal manager for all their past, present and future confidence in him.

The above photograph shows BILLY FORREST welcoming comedian WALTER GEE to the "Stables" on the occasion of the signing of Personal Managership.

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