

# PSYCHIC PHENOMENA

## Show Business Shows Interest

LINES from  
LANCS by  
JAMES HARTLEY



At one time any talk of clairvoyance, clairaudience, psychometry, and so on rarely evoked anything other than scepticism among otherwise credulous individuals, but now that it has gained the respectful attention of eminent scientists and investigators the world over, curiosity is growing, more and more folk want to know what psychic phenomena is all about.

The current upsurge has proved a shot in the arm for genuine demonstrating mediums, notably the AMAZING ZARAEDA, who, with his immaculate assistant, JOHNNIE ST. GEORGE, has just completed his third exciting season in BLACKPOOL.

Long before URI GELLER and the others started up, attracting universal attention and hogging the headlines, ZARAEDA was going the rounds, demonstrating his uncanny powers as a clairvoyant at home and abroad. Thousands of people can testify that merely by handling an article belonging to a person, ZARAEDA, blindfolded, is able to give a remarkable reading, not only of the owner's appearance and history, but of intimate events known only to that particular person. I have seen it happen scores of times.

Since last I wrote about him ZARAEDA has done a lot of work overseas, in GERMANY, ITALY, MALTA, and English-speaking countries. He is, too, a big name in NORTHERN IRELAND, even bigger in JERSEY, and an ever welcome returnee in SCOTLAND. In 1975 he played his longest-ever UK tour of 184 one-night stands, embracing the entire EMI/STAR circuit from the IOW to Aberdeen, from Swansea to Whitby — full nationwide coverage.

That memorable DAVID FROST television interview anent the discovery of a Canadian schoolgirl, did much for Z's reputations, as also did his widely reported prediction of a "miracle" birth for a childless Yorkshire couple who had been advised to adopt as the wife could never bear a child. ZARAEDA said she could — and he gave the date and exact time of the birth of ARTHUR and VERA CASELL'S daughter, AMANDA.

ZARAEDA is just as impressive, his impact as great, today as when I first saw his spellbinding performance over 10 years ago. And he hasn't aged a day!

So far 1977 has been one of the busiest of his long, spectacular career: as well as headlining at Blackpool's CALA GRAN every Monday this season he has also been a weekly bill-topper in Scarborough and Filey season shows.

Now he and Johnnie are booking up for the winter and will be sharing the bill at BATLEY VARIETY CLUB with the DRIFTERS and GENE PITNEY over two weeks in November — one of the strongest specialities in the business today.



THE AMAZING ZARAEDA

DEAR OH DEAR OH DEAR — they're at it again! From coastal resorts around the country comes aweeping, awailing, and an gnashing of teeth. If the antidote to this woe-is-me-ism is not speedily forthcoming we shall soon be putting up the shutters, dropping the curtains, draping the cash-registers, and closing in the mourning.

So, the expected British holiday resort boom has not materialised. Mind you, exceptionally of course, BLACKPOOL still has her autumn bonanza to come — the famous ILLUMINATIONS which so often lead to a change of tune. (Last year I dared to express the opinion that if they'd keep the LIGHTS shining they could extend the season until Christmas, and, in fact, at the time I knew of holiday flats booked up until the end of December — with holidaymakers, not "permanents").

There's no doubt about it, those who cater for the holiday trades tend to emulate the farmers — I am inclined to believe what my barber's good lady told me the other day, that she had lived in Blackpool for 30 years and every succeeding season had always been about the worst on record. And when the crowded Scene indicated otherwise — "Well they're not spending anything".

Pessimism is almost a Blackpool season tradition generally observed by one and all in the trade and reaching its climax every August.

True, the boarding-houses and hotels may not all have been bursting at the rafters since Easter, but the display of "Vacancies" does not mean that they're empty either. So far as the entertainment places

are concerned it is said that the bad weather keeps the holidaymakers away. If, as last year and 75, bright sunshine reigned for lengthy periods, KING SOL was blamed for driving all the customers onto the beaches and keeping them out of the theatres and indoor entertainments. One is liable to get the impression that in no circumstances can they win.

But the truth is that at the end of the season we shall have some places boasting of an all-time record-take and none of them will be going broke.

As for my friends the landladies, you can be pretty certain that when the LIGHTS are switched off many of them will be heading, not for other British resorts, but for the COSTA BRAVA and even more distant and more expensive pleasure haunts.

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ALL FOR TODAY . . . I am sick to death of depression and particularly interested in humorous incidents (smile man smile!) talent contests in the North, and future movements, if you care to write me at 144A READS AVENUE BLACKPOOL.

## SECOMBE HONOURED

HARRY SECOMBE is to be honoured by the Scottish Committee of the VARIETY CLUB of Great Britain at a luncheon in Glasgow on September 20. He will then be appearing at the PAVILION THEATRE in the city.

BBC-Scotland will televise highlights of the event three nights later.

A spokesman said: "It is a sort of Scottish tribute to a famous comedian from Wales. We want to honour Harry for the work he has done in a busy career for the Variety Club. He is a tireless worker for good causes."

CHARLES CLIFFORD, BBC-Scotland's outside telecast specialist, will move into the Central Hotel with his team to tape highlights of the lunch.

Harry's early moments of success came at, among other places, the former EMPIRE THEATRE, Glasgow, in middle-of-the-bill spots.

## BLACKPOOL'S CLUBLAND SPECTACULAR

For once in their lives the meteorological morons with their pessimistic predictions of heavy showers in the North-west coastal areas were spot on target.

The rains came all right. It fairly tipped down — but the unfit-for-dogs weather failed to deter the supporters (among them 85-year-old TOM MOSS) of the EABF and the "ALL STARS TOGETHER" gang in particular, contributing free service in TERRY CANTOR'S mammoth Sunday night charity spectacular at the Blackpool South Pier on September 4.

### AT ITS BEST

It was a night — such a night — but despite the adverse conditions every one of the chosen few — BILLY FONTAYNE, JUNIOR JONSEN, JEAN BENNETT, JOHNNY LE ROY, PHIL KELLY, NICKY MARTYN, LEAH BELL and the STAR-DUST GIRLS, MICHAEL VINE and KAREN, SEAN MCKENZIE, LEE LESLIE, MARGARET CLARKE, and GEOFF OAKES — fairly exuded enthusiasm and rose confidently to the occasion.

This was club variety at its best, put across with a pace and verve that completely captivated the very substantial (though not capacity) audience who had braved the wind and the rain to walk the unsheltered length of the pier to follow favourite Clublanders in their show of the season.

And Billy Fontayne's warning that we had come adrift and were floating past the Foxhall Rocks proved a false alarm — the Pier hadn't budged an inch and the rain had ceased when I came away.

## CRAIG'S LATEST



● Born in Newport, on the Isle of Wight, Craig Douglas was one of ten children (amongst whom are included three sets of twins). He began his singing career at the age of 16, when he won a local talent competition (first prize £5) and was, as they say, catapulted to stardom when he had a number one hit with "Only Sixteen". He was voted Best New Singer and Best New Recording Artist in 1958 by the New Musical Express, and followed this with the quarter-million selling "Teenager In Love". The hits kept on coming, until the advent of the Beatles, which saw the end of most solo artists. Instead of lingering on as an ageing rock 'n' roller, Craig moved into the world of film, television and stage — and lists among his credits "No No Nanette", "Luck Up Your Daughters" and "Wait Until Dark". More recently he has kept himself fully occupied as a cabaret artist, performing in many different countries and on board the QE2 as well as leading in Summer Season at Clacton. He made his Cube recording debut last year with "Who's Sorry Now?"

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IMPERSONATION  
WILL KNOCK  
YOU OUT

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16th SEPTEMBER

CENTRAL PIER  
MORECAMBE

SHOW OF THE YEAR

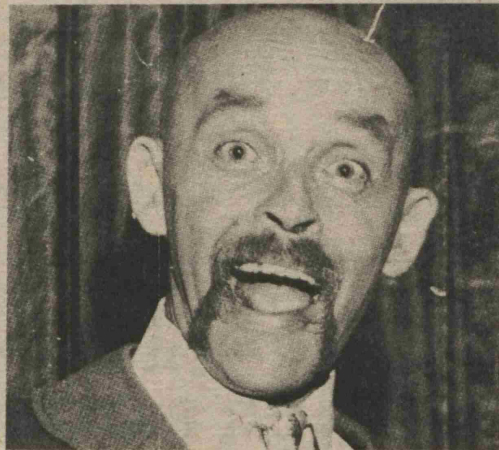
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SINGING VOICE  
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WILL KNOCK  
YOU OUT

Brian Rossi will be star of the show for this tremendous show on Friday the 16th of September. Seating for 2,000, licensed till 2 a.m., all coach parties welcome for this special occasion. Please be early

GOOD LUCK BRIAN FROM ALL YOUR FRIENDS IN  
SHOWBUSINESS

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