

'81

## SUMMER

'81

Scarborough  
cont

## CABARET NIGHT OUT

THE £20,000 Theatre Bar development of showman Pat Corrigan's Filley Brig entertainments complex which opened this season is plush, unique in the resort, and offers a fun night out for all the family.

Man behind the new concept is young Scarborough entertainer-impresario Nick Thomas, who not only presents the cabaret show, but takes part in it himself. He's a professional puppeteer with a highly-engaging personality and colourful act. His puppets sweep across the stage as send-up figures of Shirley Bassey, the 3 Degrees, a disjointed skeleton stripper, a Spanish dancer, and a wildly-animated Dixieland band. And it's all his own work — he has no assistants.

Entertainer Jeff Briggs, who starred in a big summer show at Swanson's, Jersey, last summer took over the hot-seat opening spot at the last minute following the illness of Kay Kennedy. He is a friendly compere-comedian making immediate contact with the audience. Not only that, but he's also a fine vocalist.

Clairvoyant Zareada astounds with an enthralling display of mind-reading and prediction presented with professional understanding and tact.

Singer Ronnie Hilton is a master of his craft, and in great voice through an all-systems-go musical marathon of hits of his own and of others. His act is as immaculate as his white suit and he's a fine showman who gives everything, and gets a very big hand in return.

The Geoff Laycock Sound provide the backing to a refreshing fun night out, which is a splendid addition to Filley's entertainment programme.

## NORTH SIDE CORNER

"QUEUE EARLY or you won't get a seat" might well have been posted up outside Scarborough Council's North Side 'Corner' night spot almost any night this season. Even before the season reached its height the popular 400-seat venue was claiming 80 per cent full houses.

Fun nights certainly, and definitely family-orientated offering at a very modest price for Mums and Dads who like a drink and can take their children along to join in the whole affair.

Lively 23-year-old Jon Conway, a personable all-round entertainer compere, sings, organises, has a nice line in patter and handles adults and children with equal success in fun contests and dance sessions.

Singalong, and dance music is handled nicely by talented organist Frank James, and drummer Michael.

Conway shares the weeks with the bouncy Tony Richards Country and Western Show featuring Pamela Rose so holidaymakers get two bites of the entertainment cherry.

## CLIFTON COUNTRY CABIN

ENTERTAINMENTS PROMOTER Dave McGregor stages Country and Western nights each evening of the week in licensed premises. Artists to be heard include Tony Goodacre (Mr Country Music), Paul Wheatley, Double Eagle, Country Sunshine, Ventura Highway, and Dougie Stewart. Shows go until midnight.

## ATTRACTIONS

Violinist Max Jaffa and The Spa Orchestra with guest pianist Vincent Billington, and guest artists is celebrating his 22nd season in Scarborough, and has been having one of his most successful seasons in years, in the newly refurbished Spa Grand Hall.

Morning concerts in The Spa Sun-convict led by Eric Miller are featuring Vincent Billington.



The New Black Abbotts. L to R: Clive Jones, Bobby Turner, Clive Lea (seated) and Lennie Reynolds.

## ROGER THE DOG

with his handler

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## FLYING TO AMERICA

COMEDY SHOWGROUP The New Black Abbotts (above) are planning to make their American debut at the end of their season at the Royal Opera House — and the likely venue is Las Vegas!

The Abbotts — Clive Jones, Bobby Turner, Lennie Reynolds and Clive Lea — are naturally excited at the prospect of breaking into the American market, and their current summer season at the Royal Opera House, Scarborough has provided the opportunity.

Scarborough supremo Don Robinson, who runs the theatre, is arranging for his American showbiz contacts to fly in and see the Abbotts in action — and the next stop after Scarborough could be Las Vegas!

It would re-emphasise the successful transition made by the group since Russ Abbot left to pursue a solo career at the end of last year, and ex-Rockin Berries singer and funnyman Clive Lea came in as his replacement.

Clive has settled down with the minimum of fuss, and the continuing popularity of the group is evidenced by their successes as live entertainers, and on TV and radio. The season at Scarborough is also proving a winner — and The Abbotts are certainly in the mood to take on and conquer the American market.

The three original members of the group — Bobby Turner, Clive Jones and Lennie Reynolds, together with Russ Abbot, who left the group to go solo at the end of last year — actually met socially in Chester way back in 1965. All were musicians/singers looking for work, so they decided to form a group.

It was then the beat group era and they learned their trade by appearing in most of the leading venues of that time. But as the beat boom of the 60's petered out they decided to expand on their act by introducing a new element — humour.

By 1970 they had found national fame as winners of TV's Opportunity Knocks — making eight consecutive winning appearances, by the end of which they were nationally known stars.

Since that time they have enhanced their career with numerous spots in top TV shows, and of course their own TV spectacles — all of which commanded high placings in the TV ratings.

When Russ Abbot decided to pursue a solo career, Bobby, Clive and Lennie decided to continue under the name of The New Black Abbotts — and they introduced a new face in Clive Lea.

With his zany humour and talents as an impressionist, Clive has fitted into the Abbotts line-up with great success.

Their current season at Scarborough enhances their reputation as one of Britain's top comedy showgroups — and the prospect of a trip to America must make 1981 a real year to remember for the New Black Abbotts.

## GIRVAN

## SCRODINI

THE AMAZING Scrodini is how this comedy hypnotist and E.S.P. specialist is billed, and it is an apt description for a one-man show that puzzles, entertains, and, indeed, amazes audiences.

Scrodini is appearing at Ayr Gaiety in an innovative summer series of Sunday-nighters, and also throughout the season at Girvan Pavilion on Wednesdays and Barrfields Pavilion at Largs on Thursdays.

The first-half of nearly a three-hour show is devoted to several manifestations of "sixth sense" and extra-sensory perception. Because he gives back much more detail than has been written, even the sceptics are won over and the audience appropriately "amazed" and put in fine fettle for the second-half.

This is comedy hypnotism along the usual lines, well-handled and brilliantly and tastefully done.

Viewed as a whole show the great strength in Scrodini's performance lies in its variety. And, while his own appearance and garb is suitably "mystical", Scrodini does not frighten — rather, he re-assures, and this gives the show a happy, carefree, healthy tone.

It is all very impressive.



## SCOTTISH FAMILY NIGHT OUT

"SCOTTISH FAMILY Night Out" is the title of a series of Monday night shows at Girvan Pavilion presented by Bernard Cotton, theatres and entertainments manager for Kyle and Carrick District Council, with a cast consisting largely of local semi-pros, and amateurs. The theme is very "Scottish" with all the kilts, tartan, heather and haggis stuff that even pre-dated Harry Lauder, but there was no gainsaying the popularity of the entertainment on a windswept July 13 by the two hundred members of the paying public who forked-out 80p a time to get in at 8.00p p.m. and were shouting for more at 10.15 when the show finished.

The company, experienced in this scene, were certainly not without their talents. Linton McMillan (tenor) and Sheila Carswell (soprano) both had chosen their songs well. Young ventriloquist Billy George proved popular. Aileen Robertson, three times world champion Highland dancer, demonstrated her skill on stage and also presented four youngsters from her school of dancing. The show was backed by the David Ross Country Dance Band and was linked by likeable comedy man George McLardy.

