

1975

LENA ZAVARONI at the LONDON PALLADIUM





Printed by Hastings Printing Company, Drury Lane, Hastings Sussex TN34 1XW Telephone (0424) 436283



HUGHE GREEN
personally introduces

LENA ZAVARONI
with

Frank Carson

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BROOKS AEHRON

* * *

THE VERNONS

* * *

BOB SHARPLES

and his

Television Orchestra

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In accordance with the requirements of the Greater London Council:

1. The public may leave at the end of the performance by all exits and entrance doors and such doors must at that time be open.
2. All gangways, corridors staircases and external passageways intended for exit shall be kept entirely free from obstruction whether permanent or temporary.
3. Persons shall not be permitted to stand or sit in any of the gangways intersecting the seating, or to sit in any of the other gangways or any unseated space in the Auditorium, unless standing in such space has been specially allowed by the Watch Committee, as applicable if standing be permitted in the gangways at the sides and the rear of the seating it shall be limited to the numbers indicated in notices exhibited in those positions.

LENA ZAVARONI

When Lena Zavaroni, now aged eleven, rocketed to fame with her recording of 'Ma He's Making Eyes at Me' back in January 1974, she was the youngest-ever artist to appear on BBC television's "Top of the Pops" show.

Since then, she has become a world-wide star. In America, she pulled off a show-stopping performance in a Hollywood charity show, starring Frank Sinatra and Lucille Ball, where Lucille Ball said "You're special - very special and very, very good." Lena later followed that appearance up by guest-starring with outstanding success on US Television's "Carol Burnett Show".

But that's not all! She has also appeared, needless to say with great success, in Japan, Germany, Holland and Austria, where her single 'Ma He's Making Eyes at Me' entered the chart at the number seven spot, only one week after release!

Lena Zavaroni's unique talent was introduced to the unsuspecting British public on Thames Television's "Opportunity Knocks" at the end of 1973. For five weeks running, she topped the viewers' voting polls. Easter 1974 saw her first performance before a major audience at the Opera House, Blackpool . . . where she played to capacity business !

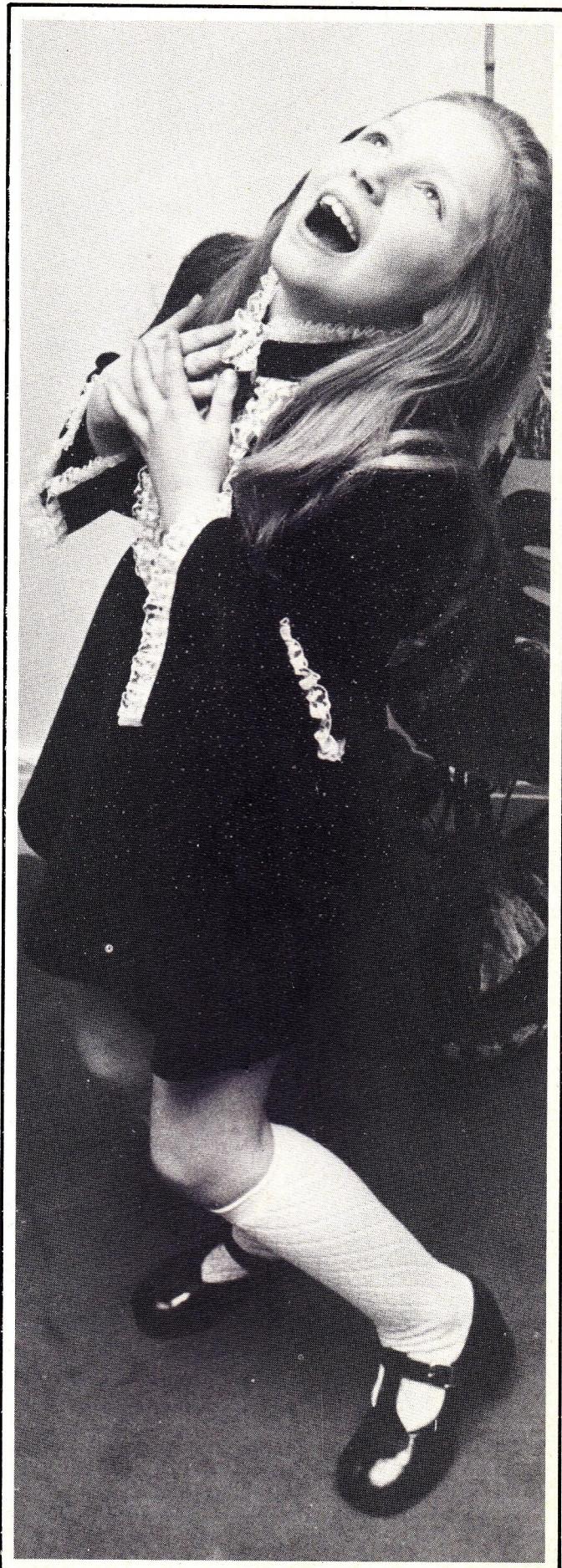
Lena Zavaroni hails from the tiny town of Rothesay, on the island of Bute, off the West coast of Scotland. The surname is straight Italian . . . handed down from her immigrant grandfather. Lena, herself, talks with a rich irresistible Scottish brogue . Her parents - Victor and Hilda - run a fish and chip restaurant in the town and also do an act at night at the local Athletic Bar - Victor on guitar, Hilda singing . . . and assorted Zavaroni relatives also lend a hand from time to time.

Lena has been singing since she was two, when she first stood on the kitchen table and sang 'Christmas Alphabet' to the accompaniment of dad on guitar. At seven, she was taking part in the Zavaroni act at the Athletic Bar, and in the various impromptu street concerts which suddenly burst into life in Rothesay.

Reflects Lena: "I used to do Carmen Miranda. I'd take mum's shoes and lipstick when she wasn't looking and borrow one of her dresses. But she would find out and be cross. Now she laughs about it. The trouble was no-one wanted to come and see me and my friends when we put on our own show. So I used to buy some sweets and give them to the boys to make them come and watch."

During the summer of 1973, the Lena Zavaroni success story really started.

Record producer Tommy Scott happened to be on vacation in Rothesay and heard Lena singing in the Athletic Bar with the Zavaroni Family Band. Tommy's old buddy Phil Solomon takes up the story: "I was looking for a girl singer at the time. Tommy rang me up and said he'd found a sensational girl up in Scotland. So we flew up to Glasgow and took a ferry boat to the Isle of Bute. On the boat, Tommy suddenly turned to me and said, 'Oh, incidentally, this girl is only nine!' I could have



killed him. He knew I'd dealt with kids in the past and had vowed never to touch 'em again because they are too much trouble. Anyway, Tommy kept insisting this child was different, but I was in a dark mood by the time we got to Rothesay.

"We picked this little girl up and went to a deserted dance hall called the Pavilion to see her act. Her uncle

Dorothy admits. "Child entertainers are monsters in my eyes, but of course, as soon as I met Lena I was won over. She is totally charming and natural and unaffected. And when I heard her sing . . . well, that was that!"

Fame has arrived fast for Lena Zavaroni who lives with manager Dorothy Solomon, with whom she has a remarkable relationship. Each weekend she is taken to



and Dad accompanied her and suddenly I heard this incredible voice singing the theme from 'The Godfather'. It took only eight bars, and I knew this was a fantastic talent.

Phil dashed back to London to confront his wife, Dorothy, who manages many top British acts including The Bachelors. He said there was this fabulous little girl singer up in Scotland and that she should manage her. "But my first reaction was a strong emphatic 'no'!"

see her parents in Rothesay.

Says Dorothy: "It's important she should see as much as possible of her real family. They are all so close."

While staying in London with the Solomons, Lena is having dancing and stage performance lessons from top teachers. Her voice stays exactly where it is. "I don't think we can improve on nature . . . Lena's voice is fine as it stays," says Phil.

HUGHIE GREEN

Hughie Green was born in London of Scottish parents who hailed from Glasgow and who emigrated and settled in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan where his relatives still live. He was educated in England and at the early age of 11 wrote and produced children's charity shows in London. In 1933, becoming interested in the juvenile talent, B.B.C. Radio issued him with his first contract to write, produce and direct the first "moppet opus" ever to be heard on British radio. Children in Britain were for the first time being heard and not seen. The effect was instantaneous and in 1934 "Hughie Green and his Gang" became one of the greatest attractions in British variety.



The following year began his film career. He earned star billing in "Mr. Midshipman Easy" which was not only a first for Green, but a first for the director, now Sir Carol Reed, and a film acting first for his leading lady, Margaret Lockwood.

At the age of 19, Green was running 3 Vaudeville road shows employing 140 people, yet he still found time to collect his private flying licence. In Hollywood during that year he made his first picture for RKO, "Tom Brown's Schoolboys" with Freddie Bartholomew and Sir Cedric Hardwick, and at night he played Revue and appeared in "The Coconut Grove".

In 1940 he joined the R.C.A.F. in Montreal first as a licensed pilot serving as an instructor, then later taking the full service pilot's course of the Empire Air Training Scheme. He was then posted to Flying Boats and served with 117 Squadron in Nova Scotia, and then was posted to Ferry Command in Montreal where he became the first to fly the Atlantic with the Russians. After flying 30 different types of aircraft throughout the war, Green was demobilised from the R.C.A.F. in the rank of Flight Lieutenant.

From the Air Force, Green returned to the Theatre and organised, produced and lost money in a Canadian Ex-Service Show touring East Canada. His efforts were, however, rewarded when the head of C.B.C. Radio Network offered him a 26 week Hughie Green Show, which was originated in Toronto and produced by Ex-Air Force pilot, Jackie Rae. Under a long term film contract with M.G.M., in 1947 Green made

"If Winter Comes" with Deborah Kerr and Walter Pigeon, followed by "Hills of Home" with Edmund Gwenn, Janet Leigh and Lassie. Following these film appearances, he returned to ferrying but was lured out of the air and on to the air by the B.B.C., when on an overnight stop in London he was asked by Harry Pepper to host a talent show. That was the commencement of "Opportunity Knocks" which ran for 10 years on steam radio on the B.B.C. and Radio Luxembourg and then translated on to television by A.B.C. and Thames Television, where it has been running for 11 years and has consistently been a top rating programme, giving pleasure to millions of viewers. It has been responsible for discovering stars such as David Whitfield, Frankie Vaughan, the Batchelors, Freddie Davies, Les Dawson, the New World, Mary Hopkin, Neil Reid, and Lena Zavaroni.

In 1954 he was invited by Producer, John Beard, to add "Double Your Money" to his radio commitment and one year later it became commercial television's first quiz, which subsequently ran as Britain's top panel game for 13 years. Its successor on television, "The Sky's the Limit", is now in its 3rd year.

His theatrical appearances have extended from appearances on Broadway in "Captain Brassbound's Conversion" with Edna Best to Pantomime and revues. He has appeared in 3 Royal Variety Shows and in 1965 was awarded the "Top Television Personality of the Year" jointly with Michael Miles. This restless man has not only spent a life time in Show Business and has played a leading part in the setting up of Commercial Radio in Britain, but has found time to involve himself in the world of Business from flying Niarchos and Onassis to selling bombers to the French Air Force and ships to the Turkish Government.

A man's charitable works gain more in their charity by the absence of publicity. All that need be said of Green on this score is to record the immense interest he has shown for many years in the Royal Forces Association, The Air Training Corps and Sea Cadet Corps.

The future? More "Opportunity Knocks" including more international shows in addition to those already done in Japan and Australia. More "The Sky's the Limit", more theatre, more films, more business.



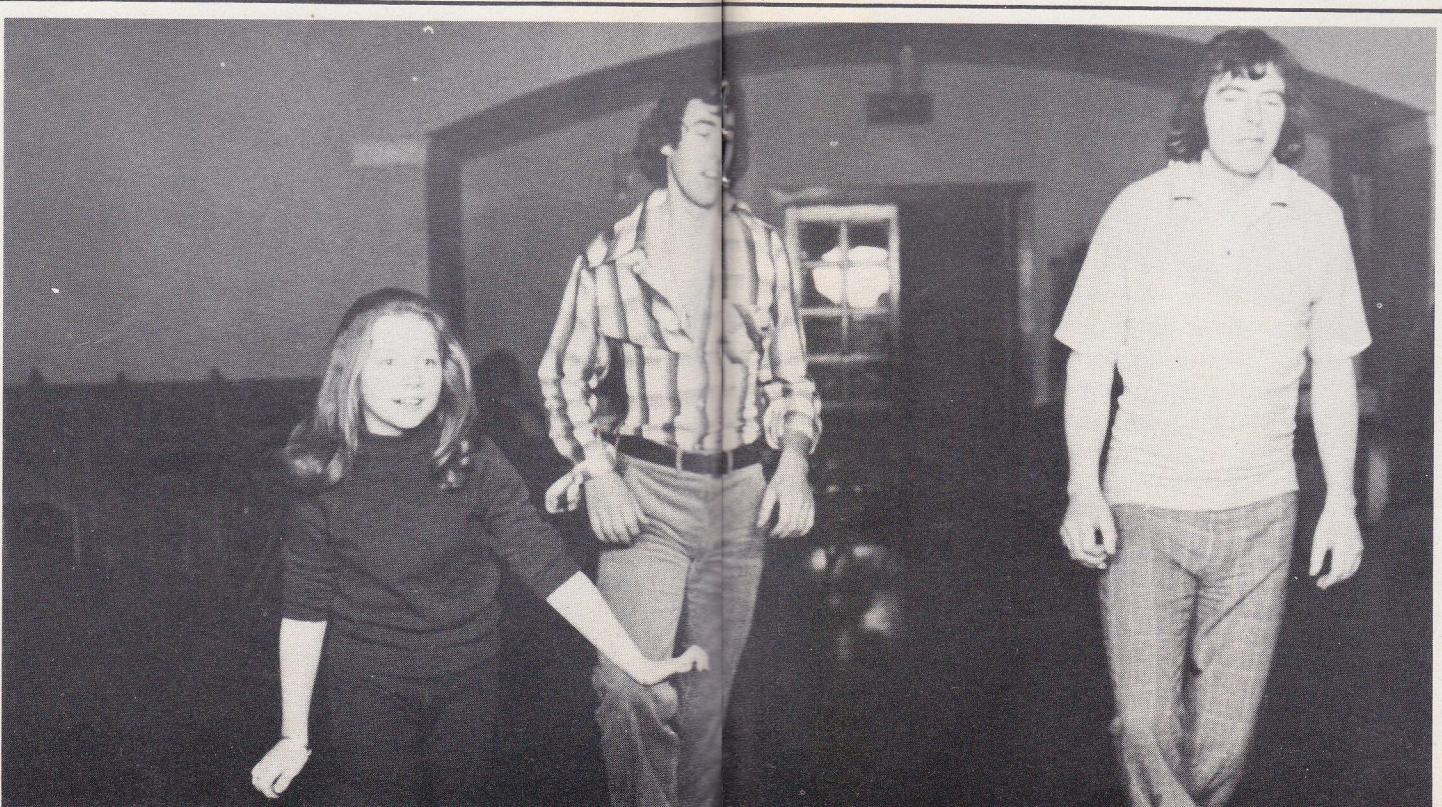


Left: Lena with the one and only Frank Sinatra whom she met recently in America while starring in an All-Star Gala.

Below left: "I'm Forever Blowing Bubbles" the balloons go 'pop' for this young lady of Pop.

Below: Young Lena rehearses with Bachelors Con and Dec Clusky.

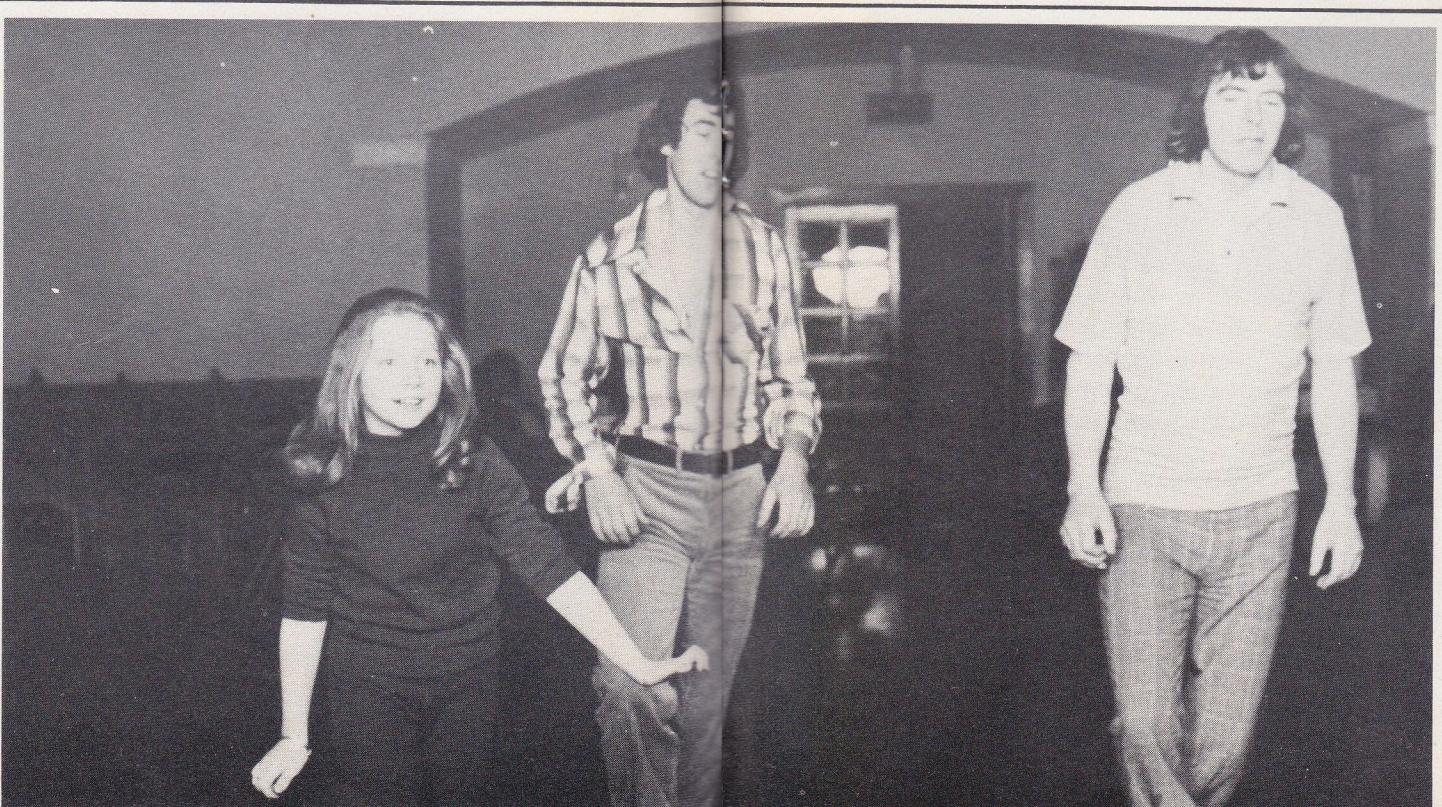
Lena is currently starring each Sunday evening in the highly popular show on BBC2

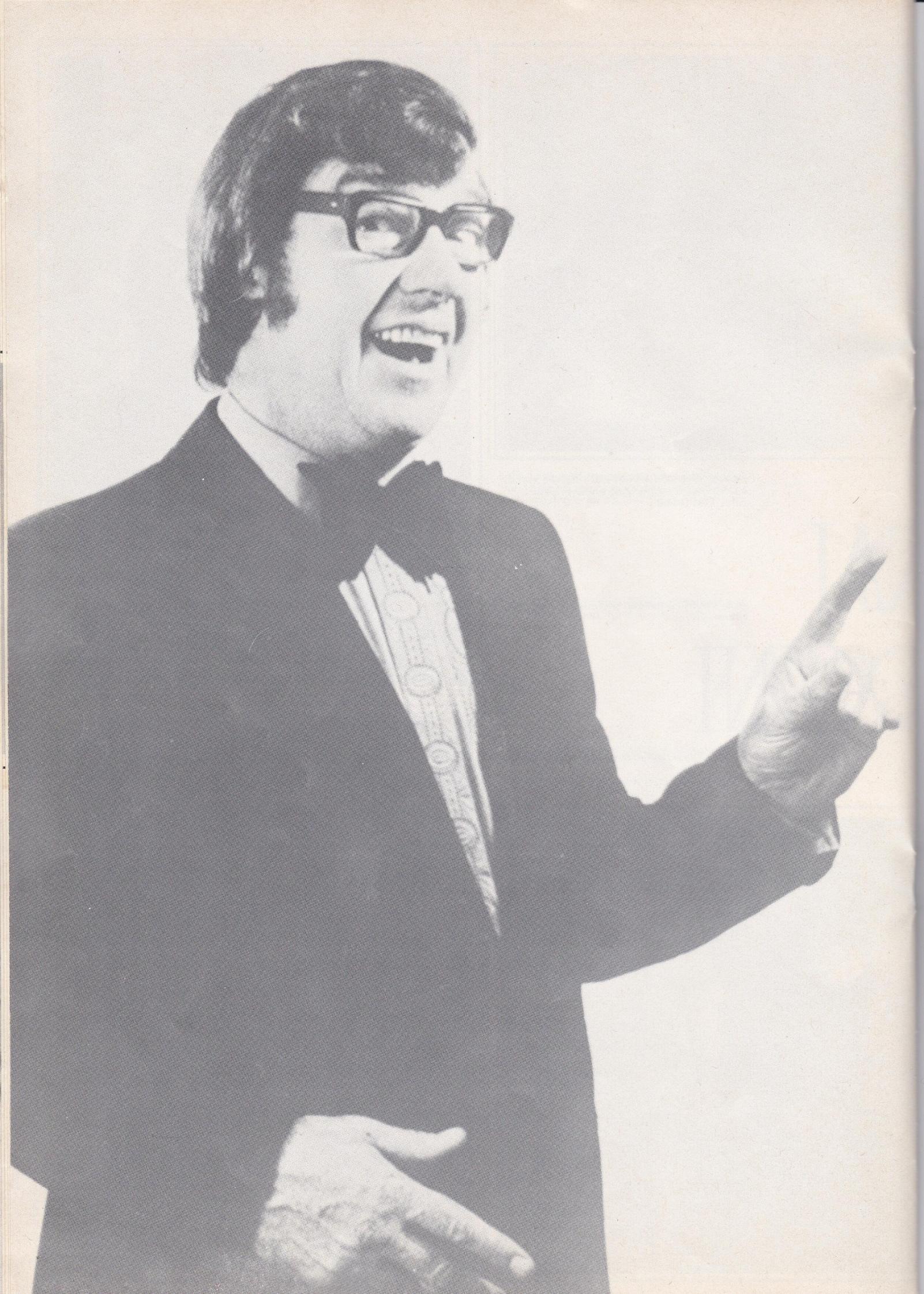


Above: When Lena's not working, she spends a lot of her time studying under private tutor Ellis Gilmer.

Above right: A portrait picture for the family album.

Right: The dynamic Miss Zavaroni in action.





FRANK CARSON

Frank Carson the popular Irish comedian came over from Belfast to play the Northern club scene. He was such a success that he was spotted by Barney Colehan the famous BBC producer who immediately booked Frank for his TV series "The Good Old Days". His enormous success in this brought forth another five appearances in the same programme.

He was next seen on Hughie Green's "Opportunity Knocks" where he was an outright winner three times. On his re-appearance on TV he was also spotted by Cilla Black and her manager, and was booked to appear on her own TV show "The Cilla Black Show".

In 1970 Frank was at Pontins in Blackpool for the summer season and then worked for several weeks in Australia. In 1971 he was again at Pontins for the summer having worked the previous six months around the club circuit in England. He then went to Dublin for "The Bachelors Show" and over Christmas and the New Year of 1971/72 he appeared with them again in "Jack & The Beanstalk" at the Birmingham Theatre.

Frank's major breakthrough has been his tremendous success in the Granada TV series "The Comedians". In 1972 he worked almost exclusively for Granada, recording the series for television and also appearing during the summer at the North Pier, Blackpool in "The Comedians" stage show. This meant Frank was able to see much more of his family as his home is now in Blackpool.

His Irish charm and humour are infectious both on and off stage and he has a particular family appeal, being a favourite with all age groups. BBC2 Television featured Frank in their series "One Man's Week" in 1971 and he has also made a commercial for the Belfast Savings Bank.

In 1973 Frank appeared on the TV programme "Pebble Mill at One" and was in Australia for several weeks cabaret work. He was with the Bachelors Show at Paignton for the summer season which broke all records. He also commenced a new "Comedians" Series on Christmas Day and made a record "In Dip" which was released at the end of December.

1974 was just as successful for Frank with many bookings in Clubs all over the Country and TV appearances on "Look Who's Talking" and "Hughie's Birthday Show", as well as a summer season with the Bachelors at Scarborough.





The VERNONS

After 500 girls were auditioned the Vernons were formed nearly two years ago and since then have enjoyed outstanding success on television, in cabaret and concert engagements. They record on the Pye Label.

Jackie Evans

Born in Liverpool, the youngest member of a family of thirteen. She has played most of the Northern Clubs as a solo artiste and came to London for record audition where she was recommended for the Vernons. She joined in 1974.

Patsy Snell

Trained at The Bristol School of Dancing teamed up with another girl and worked as a singing and dancing act on the Northern Cabaret Circuit. She came to London did Film work including "Up Pompeii" with Frankie Howerd, appeared on T.V. with Morcambe and Wise. Then joined the famous Murrays Club where she discovered she could sing solo and became principal artiste with the show for four years. Born in Bristol 25 years old.

Corinne Reed

Daughter of Concert singer Muriel Reed taught to sing, play the piano and saxaphone. Began as private secretary singing semi pro with various bands eventually joining the Tony Evans Band appeared on T.V. in commercials then joined Murrays Club where she met Patsy. Born in Dagenham Essex 25 years old.

BROOKS AEHRON

Brooks Aehron was born in 1945 in Guildford, Surrey. Early pianoforte lessons were given by his mother and his exceptional musical talent was quickly recognised when he regularly won awards at local musical festivals.

At the age of nine, Brooks was awarded a choristership to Magdalen College, Oxford and a year later a junior exhibition to the Royal College of Music in London. After three years tuition at the College, he left to take up the offer of a music scholarship at Bedales School where he remained until he was sixteen years old.

During this time he made radio and television appearances - as well as playing flute with the National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain.

In 1961 Brooks was awarded a foundation scholarship for pianoforte playing to the Royal College of Music and in the same year, he was a finalist in the National Pianoforte Playing competition.

On leaving College in 1965, he embarked upon a career of concert pianist but at the same time he began to develop his own unique style of interpreting popular music.

His versatility is such that he is one of the few pianists to have played on BBC radio's "One, Two, Three, Four". At Brooks' most recent London recital, the critics praised his virtuosity and commented upon his "innate sympathy with a mind as great as Beethoven's".

At the end of 1973, Brook appeared on "Opportunity Knocks" and caused a sensation by playing a typewriter and pianoforte simultaneously. He was immediately signed by a leading London theatrical agency and was contracted to appear on "Sunday Night at the London Palladium". His appearance on this show earned him an ovation and the plaudits of the critics and he is now poised for international stardom. 1974 proved to be a very exciting and successful year for Brooks.

He appeared at leading venues throughout the country with some of the top names in British show-business, including Arthur Askey, The Bachelors, Max Bygraves, Dick Emery, Rolf Harris, Frankie Howerd, Max Jaffa, Vera Lynn, Peters and Lee, and Norman Vaughan.





BOB SHARPLES

and his
Television
Orchestra







Irish-born singing star John MacNally has achieved tremendous success all over the world. In October, 1972 he became the host of CH. 9's Saturday night show in Sydney, Australia. This show had been hovering at the bottom of the rating ladder for a considerable period, however, in the space of two months with John as host it rose to the top of the ratings and stayed there until December, 1973 at which time John left to take up a contract in the main showroom of the Sahara Hotel, Las Vegas with comedian Buddy Hackett. This was John's first appearance in America and in the last twelve months he has appeared in Las Vegas for a period of no less than twelve weeks and has achieved "SPECIAL GUEST STAR" billing in that short space of time. He has also appeared as top of the bill at St. Regis Hotel, New York; Fairmont Hotel, San Francisco; Hyatt Regency, Chicago; Hyatt Regency, Houston, Texas;

Caribe Hilton, San Juan, Puerto Rico; Diplomat Hotel, Miami Beach (Cafe Crystal).



TONIGHT'S
SPECIAL GUEST
STAR

And while in America John appeared on the major network T.V. Shows' including the Johnny Carson Show (Los Angeles); Merv Griffin (Los Angeles); and Jerry Lewis Telethon (Las Vegas).

On the recording side, in October, 1974 John signed a world wide contract with West Coast producer Wes Farrell for his CHELSEA LABEL, to quote Wes, "Our greatest recording find of 1974" John has already recorded four titles produced by Farrell, from which a single will be released in early 1975.

Also during 1974 John recorded two T.V. specials for Irish T.V. and has just completed a highly successful eight week tour of Australia.

John MacNally



LENA'S Two Hit Albums



MA! HE'S MAKING EYES AT ME

Album 6308 2001
Cassette 7108 106



IF MY FRIENDS COULD SEE ME NOW

Album 9109 200
Cassette 7108 120



PHILIPS

marketed by  phonogram