



Readers might be interested to know what it was like in Ventnor in the Christmas season 70 years ago, as gleaned from the pages of the *Isle of Wight Mercury*, the town's newspaper. As we saw in last week's issue of the *Chronicle*, there had been a heavy blizzard the week before, with temperatures only in the mid-20s Fahrenheit for a time. Lorry-loads of snow had had to be removed from the roads and it was several days before a thaw began. For Xmas entertainment the week after, the panto at the Town Hall that season was *Sinbad the Sailor*, running for 4 nights with matinées for children. At the Winter Gardens, it was dances all round, as the poster below makes plain.

The Winter Gardens Ventnor

TELEPHONE 465 Under new management: Mid-Century Entertainments Ltd.

"Let's go Dancing at the WINTER GARDENS"

SATURDAY, 23rd—
GRAND XMAS DANCE, 7.45—11.45 p.m.

TUESDAY, 26th—
BOXING NIGHT DANCE, 8.0 p.m.—1.0 a.m.

SATURDAY, 30th—
NEW YEAR DANCE, 7.45—11.45 p.m.

Valuable Spot Prizes and Novelty Dances
Admission 3/6 to all Dances
Dancing to the RYDE CASTLE SWINGTET
Buffet Free Car Park Licence applied for
You are always sure of a friendly atmosphere at the WINTER GARDENS

RESTAURANT (now under personal supervision of Mid-Century Entertainments Ltd.) open for Morning Coffees and Afternoon Teas, closing at 5 p.m.

Among latest news items, it was announced that Ventnor Football Club now had a Supporters' Club, with the purpose of raising money for the great improvement achieved by the team in recent months. The Carnival Wardens were sorry to announce a £95 loss that year and it was hoped that the Carnival's friends would soon help to mitigate it. Emigrating to America were Mr and Mrs Appleby, local hoteliers. They were to join their married daughter in California, leaving Southampton on *RMS Queen Mary*.

Give her a Hoover
she knows it's the best

THINK how thrilled she'll be—to have a magnificent new Hoover Cleaner with all the latest features. And think how glad you'll be to know you're giving her the best—because, of course, the "Hoover" does so much more than ordinary vacuum cleaners. There is a complete range of models. Prices, with cleaning tools:—from 12 gns. (plus purchase tax £3 3s. od.) to 22 gns. (plus tax £5 15s. 6d.). Let us demonstrate.

CRAWFORDS' RADIO SERVICE
17 PIER ST., VENTNOR PHONE 47
St. John's Rd., Sandown PHONE 409

*We wish all our Customers and Friends—
A Merry Christmas*

Under the auspices of the Ventnor Further Education Sub-Committee, The Whitwell Discussion Group had met to consider such varied subjects as 'The Colour Bar', 'Capitalism and Socialism', and 'Treatment of the Criminal'. Meanwhile, if you were a husband looking for a Christmas present for the wife, Crawford's of 17 Pier Street urged you to 'give her a Hoover', as the adjacent advert makes plain. How times have changed!

Ventnor & District Local History Society. Michael Freeman, from files in the Heritage Centre.



Ventnor & District Local History Society is a registered charity, working to preserve and record the history of our area and make it available to the public in the Ventnor Heritage Centre.

The Society and Heritage Centre are run and managed by volunteers.

www.ventnorheritage.org.uk / telephone 855407

[Ventnor & District Heritage Facebook Group](#)

