

THE WINTERGARDEN



Located on the western side of The Entrance Hotel where the Beer Garden is today.

Built by Vince Taylor (son of Richard and Gertrude). Opened in 1920 but was not licensed until 27th January, 1921 under the name of 'The Entrance Picture and Dancing Palace'.

From the moment it opened, the Wintergarden became the social hub of The Entrance. It was the perfect venue for meetings, picture shows, dancing, debutante balls, New Year and Christmas functions.

In 1923, Mr J Fairhall purchased the Wintergarden and, together with his brothers, took over the operations. A spectacular fire destroyed the Wintergarden on 14th November, 1934. It burned to the ground along with Collin's Drapery Store, Mantoni's Cafe and Mr and Mrs New's cottage.

It was estimated that the rate of damage equated to 100 pounds (\$200) per minute. It was generally considered that had Constable Kempton (first police officer) and the volunteers not contained the fire, it could quite easily have spread rapidly throughout the town.

Fortunately Edward Brennan had opened the Prince Edward Picture Theatre on 24th March, 1934 so The Entrance still had a picture theatre.