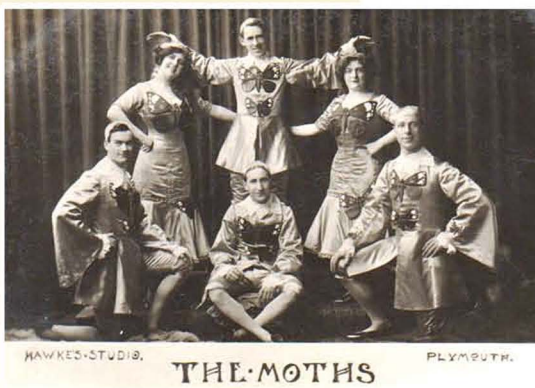


Pierrot Connections

Pierrot troupes & concert parties were a crucial route for young entertainers to break into the profession: it was an apprenticeship - the Edinburgh Fringe, stand-up club and indie pop chart of its day. Indeed, even the names of early 20th Century troupes such as 'The Merry Japs', 'The Imps' and 'The Moths' seem to suggest pop groups such as 'The Happy Mondays', 'The Pixies' and 'The Beatles'.



The Happy Mondays



HAWKES-STUDIO,

THE MOTHS

PLYMOUTH.



George Royle's 'Imps'

GEORGE ROYLE'S 'IMPS'



The Pixies

In seaside entertainment, young entertainers cut their teeth and looked for a big break, whilst old stagers found a staple income in the Summer between variety engagements, touring repertory and pantomime. This hotch-potch of itinerant entertainment has been a way of life for showmen and women in Britain for centuries, continuing a tradition of family-orientated comedy, music & variety, which we still enjoy today.