

REMINISCENCES

Bringing you archive films direct to your screen!

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Welcome to Reminiscences a new quarterly bulletin from CWPT Libraries which features a selection of archive films from a variety of subjects and available online.

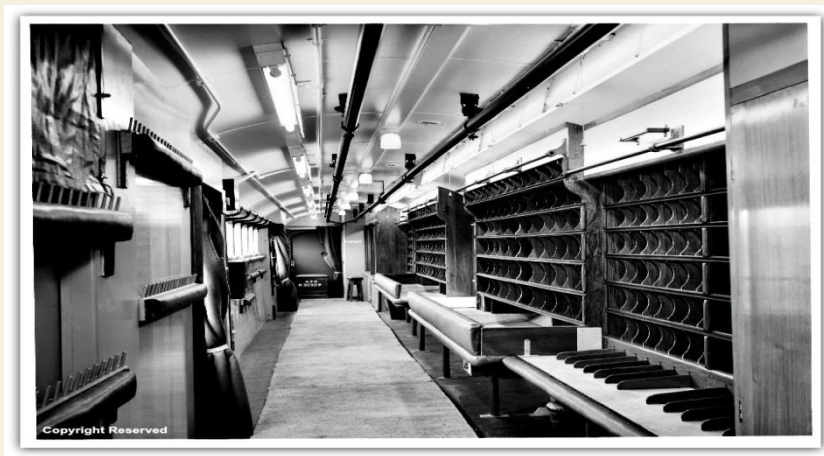
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Please contact us if you have any comments or suggestions?

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“The online film content featured in this bulletin is intended for personal use only, to be viewed on a portable/mobile device.”

Occupation



All aboard the Post Train from London to Scotland

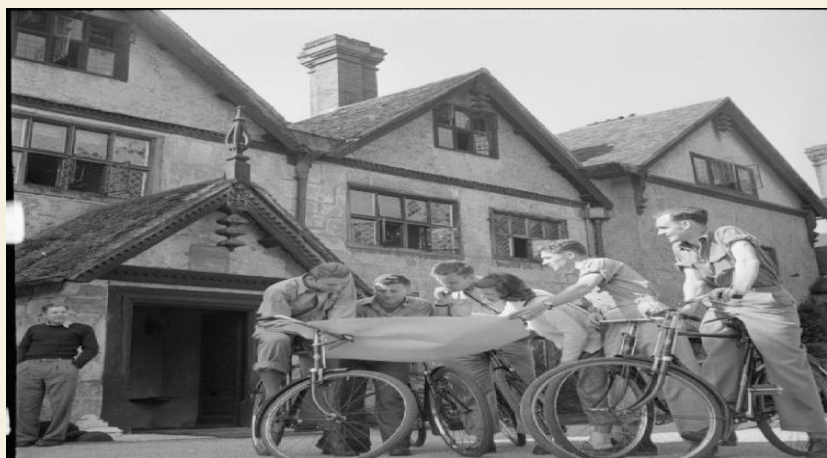
Image courtesy of Google Images

[Night Mail](#)

(1936) (Watt/Wright) (GPO Film Unit) 24 mins B/W

One of the seminal films of the British Documentary Movement; “Night Mail” is a tribute to the railway and postal employees working as a team. The film observes the workers as they tirelessly toil through the night collecting and sorting the royal mail as the train progresses through England to Scotland. Words by poet WH Auden and music from Benjamin Britten complement the realist aesthetic and provide a sense of Britishness.

Travel



Cycling in the Country

Image courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

[Cyclists Special](#)

(1956) (British Transport Films) 15 mins col

Featuring a group of cyclists from Willesden and Watford, “Cyclists Special” promotes the special excursion service from Watford Junction to Rugby. As the train arrives at Rugby (Midland) Station, the main group split up into Three separate small groups and venture off to explore; Warwickshire, Leicestershire and Northamptonshire. The film records the tranquillity of the locations and the enjoyment experienced by the cyclists as they take a day out in the countryside.



Trip along the Wye Valley

Image courtesy of Google Images

[The Wye Valley](#)

(1948) (National Savings Films) 15 mins Col

Taking a tour on the border between Wales and England “The Wye Valley” provides a window on the unspoilt landscape and the architectural splendour of the ancient castles, bridges and buildings of significance. The film does carry a message about the virtues about saving consistent with its source. However, there is much to appreciate from the heritage, tranquillity and beauty on offer in this attractive travelogue.

Events



International Musical Eisteddfod

Image courtesy of Google Images

[Midsummer Music](#)

(1960) (Swift) (Sabot Films) 19 Mins Col

The Llangollen International Music Eisteddfod is presented in all its glory. An annual festival of Folk Music and Dance is also a fellowship of nations providing a sense of cultural diversity and Goodwill. Filmed in colour “Midsummer Music” captures the charms of Llangollen and the spirit and excitement of the Eisteddfod.

Places



Blackpool Pleasures

Image courtesy of Google Images

[Holiday](#)

(1957) (Taylor) (British Transport Films) 17 mins Col

The delights of Blackpool are presented in this celebration of the Lancashire resort in the 1950s. “Holiday” takes the viewer on a trip around the Promenade, Beach, Funfair, Tower and a view of the illuminations. Actor Robert Shaw provides narration for the film and it is complemented by a Jazz music score.

Transport



The Waverley Paddle Steam at work

Image courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

[The Coasts of Clyde](#)

(1959) Ritchie (British Transport Films) 21 mins col

Narrated by Actor, Broadcaster; Bernard Braden, “The Coasts of Clyde” is a celebration of both the enchanting Scottish Isles and the Paddle Steamers which serve them. The film offers the viewer a glimpse of unspoilt lands, proud people and promotes both rail and ferry as a method of discovering the beauty of the Clyde and her islands.

Juke Box Memories

Memories of pre-swinging sixties British pop music



Eden Kane

Image courtesy of Google Images

[Eden Kane - Forget Me Not](#) (1961) (Cinebox) 2 mins Col

Eden Kane sings his hit single "Forget Me Not". This short film is a Cinebox offering an obvious precursor of the pop video and were presented via video juke boxes.



Mr Acker Bilk and his Paramount Jazz Band

Image courtesy of Google Images

[Acker Bilk and his Paramount Jazz Band - Creole Jazz](#) (1961) (Cinebox) 3 mins Col

This Cinebox film features Traditional Jazz performed by Acker Bilk and his band, playing; "Creole Jazz" accompanied by the Boscoe Holder Dance Troupe.



John Leyton

Image courtesy of Google Images

[The Johnny Leyton Touch](#)

(1961) (Harrison) (Regal Films) 10 Mins B/W

John Leyton performs his hit singles; 'Wild Wind' and 'Son, This is She' and Iain Gregory sings his hit; 'Can't You Hear the Beat of a Broken Heart'. The film is a promotion film for the young pop stars.



Shane Fenton

Image courtesy of Google Images

[Shane Fenton & the Fentones - Cindy's Birthday](#)

(1962) (Cinebox) 2mins Col

Shane Fenton and his group the Fentones, perform their hit "Cindy's Birthday, in the early 1970's, Fenton would reinvent himself as Glam Rocker; Alvin Stardust. In 1962 however, he delivers a guitar based melodic ballad.