

No. 1

classicfreemoviedownloads.com
March 2010 Newsletter

Four New Movies For March 2010!

Four British movies from the 1940's



These four new additions to our website will be available before the end of March 2010 for downloading. They will be replacing a number of films that for issues regarding copyright have now been removed from www.classicfreemoviedownloads.com. They were all made during World War Two between 1939 and 1943.

More information on these classic films can be found inside this newsletter ...

Available to download from March 31st!

Plus ...

Movie Quiz ... test your knowledge!

Jennifer Jones ... a tribute to her life in movies!

New Movies ... for April

A Word From The Editor

I launched www.classicfreemoviedownloads.com in 2008 as an online resource for people who were seeking free public domain movies to download. I had intended to add four new movies each month to the website and provide lots of useful information on subjects relating to the golden age of cinema ... especially biographical material.

Sadly, I was taken ill soon after the website was launched and it is only now that I can start to repair the bad links and add new movies to replace those that have been removed due to copy right issues. To get this going I will be adding four new movies this month and posting a new quiz for those that are interested.

Over the next few months I will be adding more movies ... more biographical information ... more e-books ... and more free software links! Indeed, I shall revitalise the entire website completely!

If you have any comments or suggestions please contact me by email or use the forum to voice your feelings.

Regards,

Harvey

Email: fcmd@mail.com

Ps: I just found out that Google has now given my website a page ranking of 3/10 ... not great but it is certainly a start!

Do You Know? ...

Valerie Hobson [1917-1998]



Valerie Hobson

Who was Valerie Hobson's second husband?

- A. Laurence Olivier
- B. Lord Beaverbrook
- C. Robert Donat
- D. Randolph Churchill MBE
- E. Leslie Howard
- F. John Dennis Profumo

The answer to the question can be found on the last page of this newsletter.

Q Planes [1939]



This movie was first released in the UK on the 4th of March 1939. Just six months before Britain declared war on Germany.

The film was directed by the American film director Tim Whelan and the British director Arthur B. Woods - who was tragically killed in 1944 as an RAF night fighter pilot in 85 Squadron.

The film features: Laurence Olivier, Valerie Hobson, Ralph Richardson and George Curzon. Supporting actors include: Sandra Storme, Hay Petrie, Milles Malleson, John Laurie and David Farrar.

The film is a comedy drama involving a quirky British secret service man who is recruited to find out who is using a secret weapon to destroy various experimental aircraft along with the crews.

An undercover reporter called Kay is also trying to discover exactly what is going on at the aircraft factory ... who also happens to be the sister of the secret service agent.

Then you have a salvage vessel called the 'Viking' that is always close to where the plane crashes out at sea.

Put all this together and you have the makings of a very enjoyable light-hearted romp.

Great material for a wet afternoon!



Genre: Comedy/Drama/Thriller/Mystery

Directors: Tim Whelan & Arthur B. Woods

Primary Cast: Ralph Richardson, Valerie Hobson & Laurence Olivier

Running Time: 82 mins

Filming Location: Denham Studios, Buckinghamshire, England

Company: Irving Asher Productions

IMDB User Rating: 6.4

The Ghost Train [1941]



This movie was first released in the UK on the 3rd May 1941.

The director was Walter Forde who was born in Bradford, Yorkshire in 1896. He directed two of the Inspector Hornleigh movies in the 1940's featuring Gordon Harker and Alastair Sim.

The Ghost Train was based on a famous stage play written by Arthur Ridley who later found fame as Private Godfrey in the 1960's BBC comedy series Dad's Army.



This version features Arthur Askey, Richard Murdoch, Raymond Huntley and Carole Lynne who later became Lady Delfont after marrying the impresario Bernard Delfont in 1946.

The supporting cast includes: Kathleen Harrison, Betty Jardine, Linden Travers and Stuart Latham.

This comedy/Horror film revolves around a group of mismatched railway travellers who become stranded overnight at a lonely and desolate train station along the Cornish Riviera.

They learn about a phantom train that passes through the station at night carrying ghosts from a long ago train crash— and decide to uncover the truth about this local myth.

In between Arthur Askey adds the humour with his Vaudevillian style comedy Much to the annoyance of his fellow passengers.



Genre: Comedy/Horror/Mystery

Director: Walter Forde

Primary Cast: Arthur Askey, Richard Murdoch & Carol Lynne

Running Time: 85 mins

Filming Location: Barmouth Bridge, Barmouth, Gwynedd, Wales

Company: Gainsborough Pictures

IMDB User Rating: 6.3

We Dive At Dawn [1943]



This movie was first released in the UK on the 20th May 1943. Just a few days after RAF number 617 Squadron carried out the now famous Bouncing Bomb attack over Germany.

The film director is Anthony Asquith son of H.H. Asquith a former British Chancellor of the Exchequer.

The film features: John Mills, Eric Portman and Niall MacGinnis. The strong supporting cast includes: Jack Watling, Louis Bradfield, Ronald Millar, Leslie Weston and Reginald Purdell. All familiar faces to keen viewers of British WW2 movies.



The film itself is focused on the crew of a British submarine ordered by the Admiralty to find and destroy a new German warship The Brandenburg.

Having chased it deep into the heavily defended Baltic Sea they have not got enough fuel to return home. They must choose to either abandon the submarine and surrender to the Germans or attack a fuel depot along the Baltic coastline and risk certain death.



Disguised as a German pilot one of the submarine's crew reaches the harbour and guides the submarine to shore. This with the help of a friendly Danish sea captain.

...“ The British Navy is always welcome in Denmark” ...

A very enjoyable film!

Genre: Action/Drama/War

Director: Anthony Asquith

Primary Cast: John Mills, Eric Portman, Niall MacGinnis

Running Time: 98 mins

Filming Location: Gaumont-British Studios, Lime Grove, London

Company: Gainsborough Pictures

IMDB User Rating: 6.7

Gasbags [1941]



This movie was first released in the UK on the 1st February 1941. On the 23rd of that month Glenn T. Seaborg isolates and discovers Plutonium.

The film was directed by Walter Forde and Marcel Varnel the French film director who was killed in a car crash in Sussex, England on 13th July 1947.

The film features the Crazy Gang a group of entertainers formed in the early 1930's and featuring: Bud Flanagan, Chesney Allen, Jimmy Nervo, Teddy Knox, Charlie Naughton and Jimmy Gold.

The supporting cast also included: Moore Marriott, Wally Patch, Irene Handl and Carl Jaffe.

The Crazy Gang members are attached to an RAF barrage balloon unit protecting London when a gust of wind carries them and the balloon over the channel and into German occupied territory.

After interrogation they are sent to a Nazi concentration camp where they meet up with fellow prisoner Moore Marriott.

The remainder of the film involves Adolph Hitler, a secret map, and an experimental machine that can burrow it's way beneath the earth ... hopefully back to England.

A few good laughs here and the odd song from Flanagan & Allen.



Genre: Adventure/Comedy/WW2

Directors: Walter Forde & Marcel Varnel

Primary Cast: The Crazy Gang, Moore Marriott & Wally Patch

Running Time: 77 mins

Filming Location: Shepherd's Bush Studios, London, England

Company: Gainsborough Pictures

IMDB User Rating: 5.3

Jennifer Jones

2nd March 1919 - 17th December 2009



I was sorry to hear that the actress Jennifer Jones had passed away just before Christmas last year.

One of the world's most underrated Academy Award-winning actresses, Jennifer Jones was born Phyllis Lee Isley on 2nd March 1919 in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Her first husband was the actor Robert Walker with whom she had two boys Michael and the actor Robert Walker Jr. They divorced in 1945.

She married the producer David O.Selznick in 1949 and had a daughter Mary Jennifer Selznick who tragically killed herself on 11th May 1976, just two days after Mother's Day. She was only 21 years of age.

In 1943 she won an Oscar for best actress in the film **The Song Of Bernadette** a film that was directed by Henry King and based on the novel by Franz Werfel. This success was quickly followed by an outstanding performance as Pearl Chavez in the 1946 film **Duel In The Sun** that was directed by King Vidor and produced by her future husband David O.Selznick.

Always a very private person her career began to fade after the 1950's and her final appearance on the silver screen was in the 1974 movie **The Towering Inferno** in the role of Liselotte Mueller.

On a personal note I always enjoy watching her as Mrs.Gwendolen Chelm in the 1953 comedy/adventure/drama **Beat The Devil** by the director John Huston with Humphrey Bogart and Robert Morley. A much underrated movie in my opinion.

Her son Michael Walker who was born in 1941 died on the 23rd December 2007 almost two years to the day before his mother.

Jennifer Jones is today relatively unknown unlike many other actresses of her period. But for those aware of her extraordinary talent she is still an alluring actress to watch.

Jennifer Jones: "If you could choose one characteristic that would get you through life, choose a sense of humour"

Movie Quiz



Name This Film?



Name both these actors?



Name the actress holding the child?



Name this movie?



Name this British Navy film from the late 1950's?



What was the country of birth for the Actress seen above?



Name the actor brother of this actress?



Name this American actress?



Name this character actor who appeared in many American movies?



Name the actress second from the left holding a broom handle?

Answers:

The answers to the above 10 questions will be posted on www.classicfreemoviedownloads.com website after the 1st of April 2010. Should you want the answers before then please send an email to fcmd@mail.com and we will send you the answers by return ... good luck!

We will be including another quiz in our next newsletter! Along with prizes to the first three lucky winners ... but don't expect anything big ... we don't have the budget!

Watch out for the new movie quiz on our website It will be up after 31st March 2010.

We will be adding another four movies to the website in April 2010 and each month thereafter so please keep visiting

www.classicfreemoviedownloads.com

Films For April



Four New Movies For April

Only The Valiant [1951] with Gregory Peck & Barbara Payton **6.5 IMDB***

Back-Room Boy [1942] with Arthur Askey & Googie Withers **5.8 IMDB***

Jamaica Inn [1939] with Charles Laughton & Maureen O'Hara **6.3 IMDB***

Corregidor [1943] with Otto Kruger & Wanda McKay **5.2 IMDB***

** IMDB user rating*

The answer to: do you know? is John Dennis Profumo.

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