



The Children's Film Foundation Collection **Runaways**

Three films about teens and tearaways made in the 50s, 70s and 80s – one directed by Lewis Gilbert and featuring well-known names like Gary Kemp Robin Askwith and Terence Morgan – comprise the fifth volume of Children's Film Foundation films, *Runaways*, released on DVD by the BFI on 21 April 2014.

Largely shot on location in London and Edinburgh, these rare films, *Johnny on the Run* (1953), *Hide and Seek* (1972) and *Terry on the Fence* (1985), have been digitally re-mastered and come with an illustrated booklet. Thoroughly entertaining, they are also a wonderfully enjoyable reminder of times gone by.

Johnny on the Run is a superb, award-winning early work by illustrious British director **Lewis Gilbert** (*The Spy Who Loved Me*, *Moonraker*) which follows an orphaned Polish refugee who runs into trouble in the shape of two scheming thieves. Starring popular character actor **Sydney Tafler** (*Carve Her Name with Pride*, *The Spy Who Loved Me*) it also has an appearance by **John Laurie** (*The 39 Steps*, *Dad's Army*).

Hide and Seek directed by **David Eady**, stars a teenage **Gary Kemp** (*Spandau Ballet*, *The Krays*) as do-gooder Chris, who becomes entangled with a borstal escapee known locally as the Deptford Dodger. With **Roy Dotrice** (*Clochemerle*, *Game of Thrones*), **Robin Askwith** (*Britannia Hospital*, the *Confessions* series), **Terence Morgan** (*Sir Francis Drake*) and **Alan Lake** in supporting roles, this is amongst the best of the CFF's 1970s output.

Terry on the Fence was the last film made by British film industry stalwart **Frank Godwin** (producer, *Woman in a Dressing Gown*). When 11-year-old Terry runs away from home he only intends to put the wind up his parents. But a gang of older bullies, led by the tough skinhead Les (played by **Neville Watson**, now a London-based music producer and international DJ) soon draw him into their daunting criminal world of break-ins and stolen goods.

For over 30 years the Children's Film Foundation produced quality entertainment for young audiences, employing the cream of British filmmaking talent. Newly transferred from the best available elements held in the BFI National Archive, these much-loved and fondly remembered films finally return to the screen after many years out of distribution in specially curated DVD releases from the BFI.

The sixth volume of CFF films, *Outer Space* (including *Glitterball*), will be released in October as part of the BFI's major celebration, **Things to Come: Science Fiction**.

Special features

- Brand new High Definition transfers of all films
- Illustrated booklet including contributions written by **Gary Kemp** and **Neville Watson**

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Product details

RRP: £19.99 / cat. no. BFIV971 / Cert PG

UK / 1953 + 1972 + 1985 / colour / English language / 57 + 59 + 66 mins / DVD9 / Original aspect ratios 1.37:1 and 1.85:1 (16x9 anamorphic) / Dolby Digital mono 2.0 audio (320kbps)

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Images are available at www.image.net under BFI DVD

BFI DVDs are available from all good DVD retailers or by mail order from the BFI Shop
Tel: 020 7815 1350 or online at www.bfi.org.uk/shop

About the origins of the Children's Film Foundation

The CFF was a non-profit making pan-industry initiative, set up in 1951 by the owner of the Odeon and Rank cinema chains to make home-grown entertainment for young cinemagoers to see at the 'Saturday morning pictures'.

One of the Foundation's major contributions to the British film industry was encouraging directorial and acting talent. Michael Powell, Lewis Gilbert, Alberto Cavalcanti and John Krish all worked for it and famous film and TV names such as Francesca Annis, Michael Crawford, Susan George, Richard O'Sullivan, Dennis Waterman, Keith Chegwin, Gary Kemp, Leslie Ash, Phil Collins, Sadie Frost and Matthew Wright all started out in CFF films.

Key themes of the films include adventure, mysteries, monsters, science-fiction, ship wrecks, races and animals, with regional content from Scotland to South West England.

The CFF collection is now preserved in the BFI National Archive.

The CFF became the Children's Film and Television Foundation in 1982 and film production finally stopped in 1987. The Children's Film and Television Foundation is now known as The Children's Media Foundation.

About The Children's Media Foundation

The Children's Media Foundation is a not-for-profit, independent organisation which campaigns for, and supports, the production of a range of varied and quality media for children and young people in the UK. Successor to the Children's Film and Television Foundation and the Save Kids' TV campaign (established after the closure of ITV Children's Production Department in 2006), the CMF aims to improve our understanding of the media's cultural importance for children.

More information on the CMF can be found at www.thechildrensmediafoundation.org



About the BFI

The BFI is the lead body for film in the UK with the ambition to create a flourishing film environment in which innovation, opportunity and creativity can thrive by:

- Connecting audiences to the widest choice of British and World cinema
- Preserving and restoring the most significant film collection in the world for today and future generations
- Investing in creative, distinctive and entertaining work
- Promoting British film and talent to the world
- Growing the next generation of film makers and audiences

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