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The Big Catch

Scotland : c1969 : dir. Laurence Henson : I.F.A / Children's Film Foundation : 55 min
prod: Laurence Henson & Edward McConnell : scr: Charles Gormley & Laurence Henson
: dir.ph.: Edward McConnell

David Gallacher; Ronald Sinclair; Andrew Byatt; Simon Orr; Murray Forbes; James Copeland;
Callum Mill; Jean Taylor Smith; Michael O'Halloran

Ref:	Pages	Sources	Stills	Words	Ω □ ∅ Z ∞	Copy on VHS	Last Viewed
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Watering the wains – a Scottish custom

Source: *International Film Guide 1969*

International Film Guide 1969 note:

"Film production in Scotland is steadily extending in range. Recognising that feature film-making is necessary to make an impact on international audiences, Films of Scotland took the initiative in having a film commissioned by the Children's Film Foundation, through a Scottish unit, International Film Associates (Scotland) Ltd. The success of this film, **"FLASH THE SHEEPDOG"**, which was

awarded the young pioneer's vote at the Moscow Film Festival, has led to a further commissioning. Another C.F.F. picture, **"THE BIG CATCH"**, scripted by the young Scottish writer Charles Gormley, was directed by Laurence Henson, produced by him and Edward McConnell, who also photographed the film. This is a story of one-upmanship between two boys, the one town, the other country bred, and is told against the rugged

seafaring villages of Wester Ross and their Aegean-like Summer Isles.”

Children’s Film Foundation catalogue and index of films 1972 note:

“The story of youthful rivalry in a Highland fishing port.”

[no listing in "Halliwell's Film Guide", "Leonard Maltin's Movie and Video Guide 2001", "Speelfilm Encyclopedie", "The Critics' Film Guide", "The Good Film and Video Guide", "Movies on TV and Videocassette 1988-89", "Rating the Movies (1990)", "The Sunday Times Guide to Movies on Television", "The Time Out Film Guide", "TV Times Film & Video Guide 1995", "Variety Movie Guide 1993", "Video Movie Guide 1993" or "The Virgin Film Guide"]

No further information currently available. There was a New Zealand boy actor called Ronald Sinclair (aka Ra Hould, 1924-92) working in America in the 30s, but this film clearly has another one, presumably not a conflict since the children in CFF productions were by no means all professionals. In any case, this title escaped Holmstrom, and none of the cast are listed in *The Moving Picture Boy*. For a film in the same setting, but wholly different in tone, see “**VENUS PETER**”.

See “**FLASH THE SHEEPDOG**” from the same Scottish producers, and subject index under **BOATS & BOATING** and **CHILDREN’S FILM (& TV) FOUNDATION**.