

Jackie Cooper's Christmas Party

US : 1931 : dir. : ? min
 prod: : scr: : dir.ph.:
[Jackie Cooper](#)
 Adult cast unknown

Ref:	Pages	Sources	Stills	Words	Ω	8	€	M	Ⓜ	Copy on VHS	Last Viewed
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[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 whatsoever currently available. The only mention of this title arises in Jackie Cooper's filmography in *The Moving Picture Boy*, which itself makes no comment about it in the biographical summary. Yet this is one of only very few instances in American or European cinema of a film carrying the name of an actual child star. Even Jackie Coogan, Shirley Temple or Judy Garland did not receive such a flattery. Presumably it was one of those painfully contrived affairs in which the studios would put their contract talent on display, as it were, *au naturelle*, but it would be fascinating to have more details about it.

Made the same year as "**SKIPPY**", "**THE CHAMP**" and "**SOOKY**", with 10-year old Cooper unquestionably at the apex of his box office appeal, the use of him in a folksy Christmas vehicle would have surprised no-one, but hanging a film on the boy's name, within months of his first appearance in a leading role, is still extraordinary. Before 1931 Cooper had been confined to **OUR GANG** shorts and a few early appearances - "**SUNNYSIDE UP**" (29), "**THREE LIVE GHOSTS**" (29) and "**FOX MOVIE TONE FOLLIES OF 1929**", but who could have foretold he'd net an Oscar for his first lead part - "**SKIPPY**", or that he'd still be playing sulky little tough guys at 16? Eat your hearts out, Culkin, Wood, Taylor Thomas et al.

See subject index under **CHRISTMAS** and possibly **CHILD PERFORMERS / CHILD STARS**.