

Teasing Grandpa

UK : 1901 : dir. James Williamson

Silent : 92 sec

prod: James Williamson : scr: : dir.ph.:

[Alan Williamson; Colin Williamson](#)

Adult cast unknown

Ref:	Pages	Sources	Stills	Words	Ω	8	€	M	⌘	Copy on VHS	Last Viewed
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The British Film Catalogue 1895-1985 listing:

"Comedy. Boys stick dead fly on grandpa's spectacles. (Date uncertain)"

The Moving Picture Boy entry on Williamson (1886-1952):

"James Williamson, a pioneer of British cinema, produced and directed films in Brighton between 1897 and 1909 (after which he devoted himself exclusively to the manufacture and merchandising of film and photographic materials and equipment). He soon began to evolve his own grammar of movie-making, and his "FIRE!" of 1901, for instance, depends largely on cross-cutting for its tension. In 1902 he sold his chemist's shop and started full-time production at the Wilbury studios.

His sons Alan, Tom, Stuart and Colin became Britain's first juvenile "household faces". In the "TWO NAUGHTY BOYS" films, Alan's co-

star was kid brother Colin – and it needs pointing out that the "spoons" in question were not items of cutlery but young people engaged in "spooning" or making love. The titles make exhaustingly clear the pranksomeness of this strand of early cinema."

[no listing in "Classics of the Silent Screen", "A Pictorial History of the Silent Screen", "Silent Movies: A Picture Quiz Book", "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. Spank them, grandpa! This was fourth of the five known Williamson scamperamas – "TWO NAUGHTY BOYS UPSETTING THE SPOONS", "TWO NAUGHTY BOYS SPRINKLING THE SPOONS", "TWO NAUGHTY BOYS TEASING THE COBBLER" and finally "THOSE TROUBLESOME BOYS", although he very likely employed them in several of his other family comedy titles. There was no doubt in Williamson's mind, evidently, about the boy's proper place in the great scheme of things, and in those early days of cinema no-one felt obliged – unlike the later makers of **DENNIS THE MENACE**, **JUST WILLIAM** and **HOME ALONE** films – to sidestep the obvious fun and shenanigans of kids getting up to mischief for sheer mischief's sake. Alan Williamson was 15 in 1901. Unfortunately no stills are available from any of these titles.

See subject index under [ALL IN THE FAMILY](#), [COMEDY](#), [GRANDPARENTS](#), [RASCALS & SCALAWAGS](#) and [SILENT CINEMA](#).

