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Tom's Ride

UK : c1944 : dir. : Children's Entertainment Films : ? min
prod: : scr: : dir.ph.:

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Cast unknown

Ref:	Pages	Sources	Stills	Words	Ω	8	∞	M	⌘	Copy on VHS	Last Viewed
3450a	1	2	0	365	-	-	-	-	-	No	Unseen

Winchester's Screen Encyclopedia (1948)
note:

"How a boy "earned" a bicycle. 1 reel."

NFT Bulletin – July 94 – note:

"50 years ago, during World War 2, the short film **"TOM'S RIDE"** spearheaded J Arthur Rank's mission of producing films specially for children attending Odeon Saturday morning cinema clubs. NFT programmer Terry Staples talks about and illustrates the development and influence of Children's Entertainment Films, as Rank's unit was called, over the six years of its life, and beyond. As well as the whole of **"TOM'S RIDE"**, there will be clips from **"BUSH CHRISTMAS"**, **"OUR CLUB MAGAZINE"** and **"THE DRAGON OF PENDRAGON CASTLE"**."

[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", "The Moving Picture Boy", "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. Wartime British children's films, with all their middle class stiltedness and staid notions of what children would think *such fun*, look like museum pieces now (and perhaps did then to some among their audiences). Rank's Children's Entertainment Films was a direct precursor of the Children's Film Foundation. Indeed many of the early C.E.F. titles were later incorporated into the Foundation's back catalogue. Thankfully, elsewhere in Europe children's film-makers were not afraid to be more challenging, more innovative, address more substantive real-life questions, and treat their public with a greater modicum of respect. If I seem unduly harsh on the British children's film industry, such as it was, their chief sin was complacency, and a very lazy attitude to what would stimulate the imaginations of the young.

See subject index under **BIKES & SKATEBOARDS**, [CHILDREN'S ENTERTAINMENT FILMS](#) and **SHORT FILMS**