

The Twins' Tea Party

UK : 1896 : dir.

Silent : 40 seconds

prod: R.W. Paul : scr: : dir.ph.:

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Cast unknown

Ref:	Pages	Sources	Stills	Words	Ω	8	∞	M	⊗	Copy on VHS	Last Viewed
5686	0.5	1	0	306	-	-	-	-	-	No	<i>unseen</i>

The British Film Catalogue 1895-1985
listing:

“Comedy. Two babies laughing, playing and crying over tea.”

[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", "The Critics' Film Guide", "The Good Film and Video Guide", "Movies on TV and Videocassette 1988-89", "Rating the Movies (1990)", "Speelfilm Encyclopedie", "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. Perhaps the first true home movie. The cinema itself was barely more than a year or two old, still very much finding its feet and groping for a vocabulary, so there are *three* infants on display here. Also, this title begs comparison with those chimpanzee tea party shorts that were popular forty years ago, and linger on today in the shape of *Typhoo Tea* commercials.

The exhibition date is given as August 1896. Other titles that year from producer R.W. Paul were “**UP THE RIVER**” and “**CHILDREN IN THE NURSERY**”.

Denis Gifford's British Film Catalogue is a staggering work of research, listing virtually every live action film shot in the UK over the first ninety years of the cinema, but uniquely valuable for information on these earliest silent pieces, the great majority of which we must assume to be lost.

See subject index under **BABIES**, [SILENT CINEMA](#) and [TWINS / LOOKALIKES / SWITCHED IDENTITIES](#).