



## Ideas of History

Last updated: January 2004

The 75 years of the British Pathe Archive holds films that record change in the structures of power, in national boundaries, in attitudes and beliefs, in fashion and technology and in the worldview of people. British Pathe was of course British and projected a Britannic-centric view of events, with many stories of the monarchy, the empire/alliance/commonwealth and bringing news as a commodity to the British consumer. It also managed to provide a continuing stream of spot news (events as they happen), without which the population would have been left uninformed, and many thoughtful pieces that consider alternatives and outcomes - and often let people speak for themselves, both in the UK and abroad.


## Big History

The British Pathe archive time-line with examples of major events



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| <b>1896 First Pathe</b>  | The first Pathe newsreel clips appeared within a year of the first public film shows by the Lumiere Brothers in Paris in 1895. (see history of film for more details on the birth and development of film and cinema.) |   |
| <b>Late Victorian and Edwardian period – 1896 – 1970<br/>Victoria died 189</b> | Pageantry of Monarchy established and acceptance of Empire<br>Trade and commerce<br>Industrial/social class structure in British Isles<br>Birth of film 1895 and modern communications                                 | <b>FIVE REIGNS</b> reel 1 1896 - 1914 2973.01<br>Historic events during the reign of five British Monarchs.   |
| <b>First World War 1914-1918</b>   | Mass slaughter; tanks.<br>New map of Europe<br>Wilfred Owen poems.   | <b>FIVE REIGNS</b> reel 2 1914 - 1918 2973.02<br>Historic events during the reign of five British Monarchs.   |
| <b>Depression 1918-1939</b>  | 1920s followed by Wall Street crash<br>Depression and General strike<br>Rise of fascism<br>'The Waste Land' Eliot<br>'Ulysses' Joyce   | <b>ADOLF HITLER ... ASSUMES BISMARCK'S MANTLE!</b> - 1041 downloads 02/02/1933 695.31<br>Good story covering Adolf Hitler assuming the role of Chancellor in Germany<br><b>JARROW UNEMPLOYED MARCH TO LONDON</b> 1936 3041.11<br>Jarrow Crusade to re-enter working environment takes them to London. Excellent |
| <b>Second World War 1939-1945</b>  | Hitler<br>Holocaust<br>H-Bomb<br>New Map of Europe<br>.  | <b>LONDON CITY FIRE AND DAMAGE</b> - 427 downloads 02/01/1941 1065.22<br>Massive fires in City of London as result of night bombing raid, good Blitz shots  |
| <b>Post War 1945-1963<br/>Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II, 1953</b>           | Aspirations - Health services, homes for all, consumer goods<br>Immigration<br>Break up of Empire  | <b>NYE BEVAN SPEECH</b> 1946 2193.06<br>Nye Bevan speaking on post war housing problem and its solution<br><b>THE CROWNING YEAR</b> 28/12/1953  |



## British Pathe Archive, Schools Licence – The Regions

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|------|---|---|
|      | <p>Cold War<br/>           Bill Hayley, Rockn'Roll,<br/>           Skiffle, vinyl and television,<br/>           CND<br/>           Synthetic materials – plastics,<br/>           nylon.<br/>           'Look Back in Anger'<br/>           Osborne<br/>           Francis Bacon paintings</p> | <p>134.01<br/>           A review of the year 1953<br/> <b>BILL HALEY MAKES HIS COMEBACK</b><br/>           1968 3314.09<br/>           Rock and Roller Bill Haley performs in<br/>           Munich</p>  |
| 1963 | <p>Youth culture<br/>           Mass media<br/>           Pop Art, Beatles<br/>           Third World</p>   | <p><b>SALISBURY SCENES</b> 1965 3144.26<br/>           Footage of Salisbury, Rhodesia as the talks<br/>           between Ian Smith and Harold Wilson<br/>           continue. (Silent)<br/> <b>ONE GIANT LEAP</b> reel 3 1969 1351.05<br/>           Retrospective look at the history of space<br/>           travel. c. 1969<br/>  <b>BATTLEFIELD CLOSE UP</b><br/>           03/04/1966 1791.04<br/>           American troops in action, burning village in<br/>           Vietnam.</p> |
| 1970 | <p>Pathe discontinued...change in film audiences...rise in TV,<br/>           3469.01   <b>CLAPPERBOARD</b> (1:00:09:00 - 1:21:20:00) 1972 – 1979<br/>           has conversation about influence of television.</p>  |   |





## Little History

### The British Pathe archive time-line with examples from social history

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|---|---|---|
| <b>1896 First Pathe</b>   | <p>The first Pathe newsreel clips appeared within a year of the first public film shows by the Lumiere Brothers in Paris in 1895. (see history of film for more details on the birth and development of film and cinema.)</p>     |   |
| <b>Late Victorian and Edwardian period – 1896 – 1970<br/>Victoria died 1901</b> | <p>Pageantry of Monarchy established and acceptance of Empire<br/>           Trade and commerce<br/>           Industrial/social class structure in British Isles<br/>           Birth of film 1895 and modern communications</p> |   |
| <b>First World War 1914-1918</b>  | <p>Mass slaughter; tanks;<br/>           New map of Europe</p>  | <p> <b>WONDERFUL SHELL SHOCK RECOVERY</b> 1914 - 1918 1900.20<br/>           Disturbing footage of shell shock victims, before and after treatment</p> |
| <b>Depression 1918-1939</b>   | <p>1920s followed by Wall Street crash<br/>           Depression and General strike<br/>           Rise of fascism</p>  | <p> <b>WELSH COLLIERY DISASTER</b><br/>           1927 672.13<br/>           Sorrowful scenes at the pit head in Monmouthshire</p>                     |



**British Pathe Archive, Schools Licence – The Regions**

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|--|---|---|
| <b>Second World War<br/>1939-1945</b>  | Hitler; Holocaust<br>H-Bomb<br>Break up of Empire.<br>New Map of Europe   | <b>LONDON CITY FIRE AND DAMAGE</b> -<br>427 downloads 02/01/1941 1065.22<br>Massive fires in City of London as result of<br>night bombing raid, good Blitz shots  |
| <b>Post War<br/>Coronation of Queen<br/>Elizabeth II, 1953<br/>1945-1963</b> | Aspirations - Health services,<br>homes for all, consumer goods<br>(influence of USA)<br>Immigration<br>Bill Hayley, Rock 'n' Roll,<br>Skiffle, vinyl, television, CND,<br>...  | <b>NYE BEVAN SPEECH</b> 1946 2193.06<br>Nye Bevan speaking on post war housing<br>problem and its solution<br><b>COAL MINING EMPLOYMENT<br/>TRAILER</b> 06/01/1947 1171.10<br>Great film to encourage men to take up jobs<br>in the newly nationalised coal mines.<br><b>DREAM HOUSES</b> 06/03/1958 1521.07<br>Great ideas and gadgets from the Ideal Home<br>Exhibition at Olympia.<br><b>DANCING 1950'S - YOUTH CLUB</b> 1950<br>- 1959 3333.13<br>Young men and women jiving in a youth<br>club - |
| <b>1963</b>  | Youth culture<br>Mass media<br>Third World  | <b>FASHION SHOW</b> 11/09/1969 2225.36<br>People fun at Battersea funfair, then watch a<br>fashion show on the boating lake<br> <b>ETHIOPIAN FAMINE</b> 1970 - 1979<br>3375.04 Unissued shots. Harrowing shots of<br>starving people in refugee camp.  |
| <b>1970</b>  | Pathe discontinued...change in film audiences...rise in TV,<br><b>CLAPPERBOARD</b> 3469.01 1972 – 1979<br>has conversation about influence of television.  |   |

**Recording change - 1  
Football**

Keyword search: football; Wembley; club names; training;

There are hundreds of Football stories in the archive.

Several stories about football. What's changed? What's the same?

The white horse final gives a fascinating glimpse of social change in our expectations of being a spectator at football; consider health and safety, tickets, standing/sitting, crowd control, dress, gender make-up, numbers watching, police activity; etc

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|  | <b>ALNWICK CELEBRATES LENT (aka ALNWICK,<br/>NORTHUMBERLAND)</b> 11/02/1932 663.36<br>People take part in a rough and tumble game with a football - a<br>ceremony going back many years. |
|  | <b>WEMBLEY FA CUP</b> 07/05/1923 304.11<br>Pitch invasion at first Wembley FA Cup resulted in all ticket games ever<br>after.  |
|  | <b>FOOTBALLERS IN TRAINING - "EVERTON"</b> 20/11/1923<br>858.18 Training regime for the Everton football team - Elliot,<br>Makepeace, Hart, McDonald etc are featured.                   |




**British Pathe Archive, Schools Licence – The Regions**

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|  | <b>JUST TEMPERAMENT</b> 13/05/1935 1116.04<br>Contrasting scenes between crowds at English and Italian football matches   |
|  | <b>THE CHAMPIONS</b> 21/12/1931 1044.18<br>Preston Ladies' Football Club are seen in training and in a match.   |
|  | <b>WORLD CUP - MIGHTY ENGLAND</b> - Technicolor 31/07/1966<br>2003.01   |
|  | <b>THE CUP GOES NORTH! and INTERVIEW SECTION</b><br>25/04/1932 669.30<br>Good coverage of the 1932 FA Cup final - Newcastle United beat Arsenal 2-1 and The Captains of the teams who played in the FA Cup final chat over the result |

**Recording change - 2  
The Role of Women.**

Keyword search: emancipation; suffragette; role of women; votes; franchise.

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| Derby<br>1913  | <b>THE DERBY</b> - 1912 & 1913 1912 - 1913 1938.09<br>Footage from 1912 & 1913 Derby during which suffragette Emily Davison ran into the path of a horse.   |
| Women's vote   |  <b>HERE'S TO THE MEMORY</b> - part 1 1896 - 1919 1363.02<br>Excellent retrospective looking back over 50 years - this reel features women's rights & political unrest. |
| Lyons Corner House<br>workers on Strike                    | <b>LYON'S (LYONS) TEASHOP STRIKE</b> 19/08/1920 218.29<br>Lyons' female employees hold a march to demonstrate against the dismissal of a colleague. London  |
| No change there then?<br>1921                              | <b>NO CAPS AND GOWNS FOR WOMEN</b> 24/10/1921 246.12<br>The Cambridge senate votes against full degrees for women and male students dress up as females in a parade.  |
| ...or here? 1941<br>Nancy Astor was the first<br>woman MP. | <b>WOMEN DEMAND EQUAL COMPENSATION</b> 29/09/1941 1131.04<br>Nancy Astor speaks at rally demanding equal compensation for war injured of both sexes.  |

**Eve's Film Review. A Pathe Cinemagazine 1921-33**

Compare these stories with stories from the magazine series that Pathe produced between 1921-1933 called 'Eve'. Eve was 'anywomen' and the stories showed women in a positive light – “the new woman” ...in sports, work or succeeding with mechanical things.

e.g. EVE AND THE NOBLE ART 25/05/1922 834.12

Training session for Dick Kerr's famous women's football team

**Women and War**

'Women at War' is an exhibition at the Imperial War Museum (<http://www.iwm.org.uk>) until Feb 27 2004. Kate Adie has written an accompanying book 'Corsets to Camouflage' (Hodder and Stoughton, £20.00). Having talked to some students about the exhibition and finding that they found it difficult to understand why women apparently didn't simply do their own thing – how could a twenty three year old women obey staying out rules of her father? – Adie made the point that “Unless we remember the prejudices women faced, we cannot fully appreciate their extraordinary wartime achievements.” As the stories from the Pathe Archive demonstrate the same is true of the whole story of the development of women's role in society.



### Recording Change - 3 The Health Service

Keyword search: hospitals; health service; national health service; doctors; nurses; patients

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| 1926<br>Before the national health service | <b>GIFT OF ANONYMOUS DONOR</b> 25/01/1926 448.18<br>Princess Mary opens a hospital in Cumberland.  |
|  | <b>MIDDLESEX HOSPITAL IS FALLING DOWN</b> 22/02/1926 454.21<br>Patients are moved into a new annexe when their wards are condemned as unsafe |
| 1945<br>Introduction of the NHS            | <b>THE STATE AND THE DOCTORS</b> 28/03/1946 1378.05<br>Three doctors speak about the pros and cons of the National Health Bill.              |
|  | <b>A HEALTHIER BRITAIN</b> 06/03/1944 1352.17<br>Minister for Health Henry Willink talks about the National Health Service.                  |
| 1950<br>New technologies                   | <b>ATOMIC MEDICINE</b> 06/04/1953 68.16<br>Scientists and doctors use radioactivity to treat cancer  |

Pathe Archives news stories about Health services consider many of the issues that face us today - what's the same and what's different?



#### Some WWW links for study of the NHS

**The Wellcome Trust** Medical museum from around the globe

<http://www.wellcome.ac.uk/>

**The Garret** What did an old hospital look like? <http://www.thegarret.org.uk/>

**NHS** History of the NHS [http://www.nhs.uk/thenhsexplained/history\\_of\\_the\\_nhs.asp](http://www.nhs.uk/thenhsexplained/history_of_the_nhs.asp)

**NHS** More history of NHS by the author Jeffrey Rivett at

<http://www.cripplegate.com/index.htm> and <http://www.nhshistory.com/>