
Disclaimer: This document was written in 1995 and concerns memories of 1930s life; as such there may be opinions expressed or words used that do not meet today's norms and expectations.

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- * Notes: This transcription has rendered the original text as written, including some spelling and grammatical errors. First contact with Denis Houlston, who also took part in two interviews. Letter in response to call for cinemagoing memories published in the *Manchester Evening News*.

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Not on 'phone
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MANCHESTER EVENING NEWS "POSTBAG" TUES 7th FEB

I should be pleased to help you with my memories of going to the cinema in the 1930s and would appreciate your guidelines on such a vast subject.

I presume you will take into account the then changing progressive circumstances of your correspondents. For instance, in 1930s I was 13 years old and addicted to Western films starring Buck Jones, Hoot Gibson and Tom Mix. At the other end of the spectrum, in 1939, when I joined the Army, I was 22 and revelled in Ernst Lubitsch style witty comedies. In all those years, growing up, I loved the musicals and still do.

Cinemas in the suburbs were plentiful so we had a good choice. I averaged 3 visits a week, 2 in the evenings and 1 to the Sat. childrens' matinee. This became, as I reached adulthood, Sat evening. Without cars, without our own flats and all the necessities of post-war youth we relied on

cinemas for our courting parlour - warm, comfortable refuges from the cold winter elements outside.

Memories? Plenty.

Yours sincerely

A D Houlston