

95-175-24
JULY 2000

If you want to reply quickly, please just tick the boxes. However, it would be really helpful if you can use the lines provided (or a separate sheet of paper if necessary) to add any details or anything to mind.

Tarzan Questionnaire

1. As a child, how do you feel about the Tarzan film starring Johnny Weissmuller? (Tick the appropriate box)

These films were among my favourites

I liked them a lot



Very popular

Quite popular

Not very popular

I do not like them Your Name: ARTHUR ORELL

Comments: Date of Birth: 1920

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If you want to reply quickly, please just tick the boxes. However, it would be really helpful if you can use the lines provided (or a separate sheet of paper if necessary!) to add any details or comments that spring to mind.

1. As a child, how did you feel about the Tarzan films starring Johnny Weissmuller? (Tick one box)

Jane (Maureen O'Sullivan)

These films were among my favourites

I liked them a lot

I quite liked them

I did not like them much *Jarjan* *Edwata crossed the bridge*

I hated them

I do not really remember

Comments: *I feel an experience of Jarjan films helped to create a sense of physical well being in boys in the days of Charles Atlas fitness advertisements fore runner of to days leisure groups*

Romantic

Boring

Violent

Sad

2. How popular were these films with children in general?

Predictable

Exciting

Extremely popular

Very popular

Quite popular *that they were suitable or unsuitable for children?*

Not very popular

I do not really remember

Comments: *Presented in a very attractive way*

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

Please mention anything you recall about watching Tarzan films as a child. For example, did you go alone, with family, or friends? What did you like most

3. Which of the following characters do you remember? (Tick as many boxes as you wish). Write beside each one whether you liked them, disliked them, or were indifferent. If you had a favourite, please indicate this.

- Tarzan (Johnny Weissmuller)
- Jane (Maureen O'Sullivan)
- Boy (Johnny Sheffield)
- Cheeta the Chimp

Comments: *Always Tarzan but Cheeta created the laughs*

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4. What were your impressions of the Tarzan films as a child?
(Tick as many boxes as you wish and add more descriptions if you want to)

- | | | | | | |
|-------------|-------------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------------|-------|--------------------------|
| Romantic | <input type="checkbox"/> | Boring | <input type="checkbox"/> | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Violent | <input type="checkbox"/> | Sad | <input type="checkbox"/> | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Fun | <input type="checkbox"/> | Sexy/Rude | <input type="checkbox"/> | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Predictable | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Exciting | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Frightening | <input type="checkbox"/> | Funny | <input type="checkbox"/> | | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Did you think that they were suitable or unsuitable for children?

- Suitable Fairly suitable Unsuitable

Comments: *Particularly of interest to boys - there did not seem to be a connection between Tarzan + girls*

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July 2000

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

Please mention anything you recall about watching Tarzan films as a child. For example, did you go alone, with family, or friends? What did you like most about the films? Was there anything you disliked? Do you remember any particular scenes or images? Did the films appeal to children in general, or to boys or girls specifically? Did you ever play at being Tarzan, Jane, or one of the other characters? MGM Tarzan films came out in 1932, 1934, 1937, 1939, 1941 and 1942, and the character of Boy appeared from 1939. Did the films change much over that time? If so, how? Any other comments are also very welcome!

..... Sometimes I would go alone or with friends at other times they were, that is Tarzan films, particular favourites to Saturday afternoon children. "Lenny Ruckes" almost as much favoured as "Boy" films. The boys played at copying Tarzan as we did "Boy" boys. The only mouth I remember was in imitating his jungle calls. — Most of all, it was like all that era of film world an easy & cheap form of escapism without associated violence. John Weismuller seemed to be the icon of all the Tarzans created by their prowess of physical achievements in the world of sport. Another Tarzan which sprang to mind the other day was the name of Herman Brix — I looked for reference to him in the library and was surprised to see his name changed to that of Bruce Bennett — champion shot putter — 1932 Olympic Games — He was the 8th Tarzan — born 19 MAY 1909 name change in 1940 born in Tacoma U.S.A. — Ref from "Macmillan International Film Encyclopedia" much reference here but in the Oxford History of World Cinema just a brief remark. Indonesia: 1970 Jakarta — some financial corruption! — As it is so long ago since seeing Tarzan in childhood memory of it became increasingly hazy. It would be interesting to see them again and revive thoughts. The world of the black & white silent films was a wonderful experience for old and young alike. As a matter of interest I live here within a few minutes walk from where the late Leslie Helliwell film dayen used to live for many years.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR TIME AND EFFORT

Best wishes Arthur Orrell