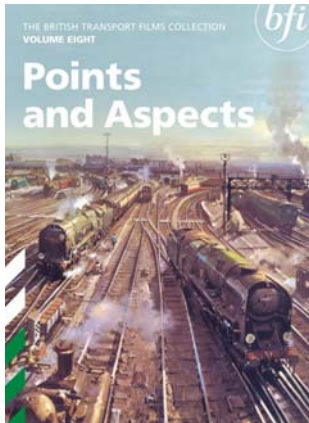




DVD press release



Points and Aspects

The British Transport Films Collection Volume Eight

Points and Aspects is the eighth volume of British Transport Films released in the BFI's acclaimed and best-selling DVD series. A 17-disc BTF box-set will be released later this year with an exclusive disc.

Digitally re-mastered and released in a double-disc DVD digi-pack, *Points and Aspects* contains 13 films – nearly five hours of footage – that look at a variety of topics and illustrate the wide range of subjects the BTF Unit covered during its

years of production.

Volume 8 shows some of the British Transport Commission's work in the 'bread and butter' titles from the film unit. Staff training films such as *Single Line Working* and *Day to Day Track Maintenance* played a large part of its core activity, and a good proportion of films made by the unit were never made available to the general public through the unit's non-theatrical library. Produced instead for staff meetings, lunchtime screenings and as part of training courses, the staff instructional documentary is the focus of the first disc.

The second disc looks at some of the wider aspects of BTF's work. Travel to the Channel Islands and a further reminder of reasons to visit Scotland are the subjects of two very different styles of the travelogue documentary, while a journey with the staff of a British Road Services lorry reminds us that BTF was the film unit for all nationalised transport and not just the railways. Also included are illustrations of technical achievement in *The Long Night Haul*, *Under the Wires* and *Points and Aspects*.

With the films preserved in the BFI National Archive, the DVDs continue to fascinate not only transport enthusiasts but also fans of historical British documentary filmmaking. A booklet with notes by BTF historian Steven Foxon who programmes this series accompanies the discs. **NB. Steven Foxon is available for interview.**

Disc one

Single Line Working (1958)
Day to Day Track Maintenance Pt 1 (1952)
Day to Day Track Maintenance Pt 2 (1952)
The Signal Engineers (1962)
Mishap (1958)
Spick and Span (1962)

Disc two

The Long Night Haul (1957)
Care of St Christopher's (1959)
Measured for Transport (1962)
Channel Islands (1952)
Under the Wires (1965)
Points and Aspects (1974)
Scotland for Sport (1958)

Release date: 18 August 2008

RRP £19.99 / cat. no. BFIVD764 / E

UK / 1952-1974/ black and white, and colour / 289 mins / ratio 1.33:1

BFI DVDs are available from all good retailers; by mail order from the BFI Filmstore

Tel: 020 7815 1350 or online at www.bfi.org.uk/filmstore

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Tel: (020) 7957 4759 or e-mail jill.reading@bfi.org.uk

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Notes to editors

About British Transport Films

British Transport Films are one of the largest and most impressive collections of documentary films in Britain and form one of the jewels of the BFI National Archive. These fascinating films entertain just as much as they inform and will appeal equally to film historians, transport enthusiasts and anyone wishing to catch a rare glimpse of a Britain rapidly vanishing from the present day.

Following the post-war thirst for visual teaching and educational entertainment and the nationalisation of transport in 1948, the British Transport Commission set up its own in-house film production and distribution unit in 1949. Over a period of 37 years, until its closure in 1986, it made over 700 films promoting travel on Britain's railways or providing technical instruction.

Edgar Anstey OBE, one of the pioneers of British documentary films, led the BTF unit for 25 years and it occupied a prestigious position alongside the Shell Film Unit and the National Coal Board Film Unit, winning over 200 film awards including an Oscar® in 1966.

About the BFI

There's more to discover about film and television through the BFI. Our world-renowned archive, cinemas, festivals, films, publications and learning resources are here to inspire you. To find out more go to www.bfi.org.uk