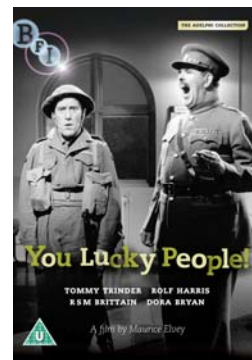
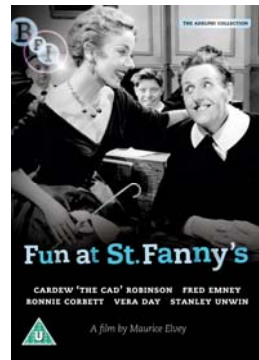


BFI DVD press release

## Two rare 1950s comedies from the BFI's Adelphi Collection released on DVD for the first time



On **22 August**, the BFI releases two more titles in its established strand, **The Adelphi Collection**. **Fun at St. Fanny's** (1956) and **You Lucky People!** (1955), both directed by Maurice Elvey, are rib-tickling 50s comedies both of which feature top British comedy names from the time, including Tommy Trinder and Gerald (Billy Bunter) Campion, as well as fresh-faced turns from **Ronnie Corbett** and **Rolf Harris**.

Digitally restored in High Definition from the original negatives preserved by the BFI National Archive, each film is packaged with a fully illustrated booklet that includes film notes, original promotional materials and recollections from the films' stars.

### **Fun at St. Fanny's**

Schoolboy howlers abound in this unforgettably odd vintage classroom comedy caper, starring radio favourite **Cardew 'The Cad' Robinson** and a host of familiar British film and television faces.

Gormless 25 year-old Cardew, wealthy beneficiary of the Robinson Will, should have left St. Fanny's School many years ago. However, seedy headmaster Dr. Jankers (music hall favourite **Fred Emney**) is in the toils of shady bookmaker Harry the Scar (boxer Freddie Mills) and has so-far kept his golden goose perched firmly at the bottom of the class. Blissfully unaware of nefarious intrigue around him, Cardew continues to flirt coyly with the French mistress and gamble for school dinners on the form room roulette wheel. But canny Scots solicitor McTavish has been sent to investigate...

*Fun at St. Fanny's* features television's Billy Bunter, **Gerald Campion**, the fabulous **Vera Day**, Will Hay cohort **Claude Hulbert**, muddle-mouthed **Stanley Unwin**, a young **Ronnie Corbett**, and enough old jokes to fill a Christmas cracker factory.

### **You Lucky People!**

Forward march for fun and laughter with legendary quick-fire comic **Tommy Trinder**, **Dora Bryan**, **Rolf Harris** and **R S M Brittain** in this raucous parade-ground comedy.

Reservist Tommy Smart (Trinder) has made his fortune selling army surplus and is not best pleased to be recalled to barracks for two weeks' compulsory training. Arriving with his trusty manservant, his dreams of a quiet life are shattered when he gets an ear-splitting welcome from his old enemy, Sergeant Thickpenny (**Rufus Cruickshank**), and the notorious **R S M Brittain**, who's already decided Tommy is an 'orrible little man.'

The war might be over but with a mountain of spud bashing to do, some highly irregular night manoeuvres to be carried out, and romance in the air, it's just one skirmish after another around this highly active army base. Will Tommy make it back to civvy street in one piece?

Cont...

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Also amidst the ranks of unwilling recruits is a young **Rolf Harris**, armed only with a pen, risking the Sergeant Major's wrath with his caustic caricatures...

**Actress Vera Day, Kate Lees from Adelphi Films and BFI National Archive curator Vic Pratt are all available for interview.**

The RRP for each title is £12.99. The next releases in The Adelphi Collection, in January 2012, will be **The Great Game** (1953) by Maurice Elvey and **Miss Tulip Stays the Night** (1955) by Leslie Arliss, both of which star British blonde bombshell **Diana Dors**.

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**For further information, review copies and interview requests please contact:**

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Images are available at [www.image.net](http://www.image.net) under BFI DVD & Blu-ray 2011

BFI DVDs are available from all good DVD retailers and the BFI Filmstore Tel: 020 7815 1350 or [www.bfi.org.uk/filmstore](http://www.bfi.org.uk/filmstore)

### Technical details

**Fun at St. Fanny's** Cat no: BFIVD929 / UK / 1956 / U / black and white / optional hard-of-hearing subtitles / 77 mins / Original aspect ratio 2.35:1 / DVD5

**You Lucky People!** Cat no: BFIVD930 / UK / 1955 / U / black and white / optional hard-of-hearing subtitles / 76 mins / Original aspect ratio 2.35:1 / DVD5 / PCM mono audio (48k/16-bit)

### About Adelphi Films

**Adelphi Films** was a small British company run by Arthur Dent and his sons that produced more than thirty films in the 1940s and 1950s from crime pictures and musicals to colourful melodramas and slapstick comedies. Peter Sellers, Sid James, Diana Dors, Petula Clark, Ronnie Corbett, Rolf Harris and Prunella Scales are just some of the many well-loved performers who appeared before Adelphi's cameras early on in their careers. Adelphi is now managed by Kate Lees, Arthur Dent's granddaughter, and the company's original film materials – for a long time stored in a suburban garage in London – are now safely preserved at the BFI National Archive.

Previous releases in the BFI series, all available now, are:

*Penny Points to Paradise* (1951) & *Let's Go Crazy* (1951)

*Is Your Honeymoon Really Necessary* (1953) & *My Wife's Lodger* (1952)

*The Crowded Day* (1954) & *Song of Paris* (1952)

### About the BFI

The BFI is the lead body for film in the UK with the ambition to create a flourishing film environment in which innovation, opportunity and creativity can thrive by:

- Connecting audiences to the widest choice of British and World cinema
- Preserving and restoring the most significant film collection in the world for today and future generations
- Investing in creative, distinctive and entertaining work
- Promoting British film and talent to the world
- Growing the next generation of film makers and audiences

July 2011