

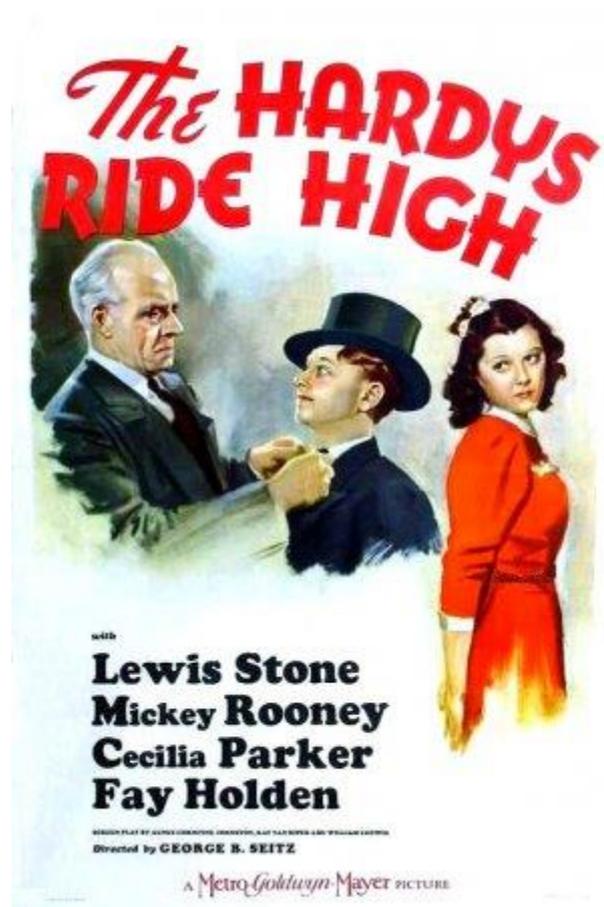
# PEPYS FILM FANTASY CARD GAME

A little bit about the films depicted in the game

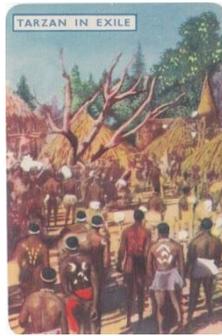
## THE HARDYS RIDE HIGH



The Hardys Ride High was the 6th in the series of films about the Hardy family. In it the family move to Detroit and stay in a mansion awaiting news of a \$2 million legacy. Once again, as in all the series of films, there is a moral to the plot. Life is best spent in helping each other and living in the "American Way".

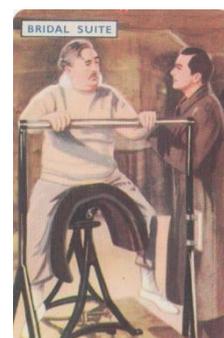


## TARZAN IN EXILE



This film was to be called *Tarzan in Exile*, but before release it was changed to *Tarzan Finds a Son*. This was partly because the emphasis in the film was more on the boy than on Jane. Maureen O'Sullivan had been expressing doubts about playing Jane anymore and played a more minor role in this film than the previous releases. Johnny Weissmuller made 12 Tarzan films altogether but Maureen O'Sullivan, who had already made 3 with him before this one, made only 6 in all. The plot revolved around the discovery by Cheetah, Tarzan's chimpanzee friend, of a young boy as the only survivor of an aircraft crash. Tarzan and Jane name him "Boy" and begin to teach him Jungle Craft. Five years later a search party turns up looking for the boy who is Lord Greystoke and the inheritor of a fortune. This is a big departure from Edgar Rice Burroughs books because in those Tarzan himself is Lord Greystoke. After defending Boy from murderous relatives Jane takes him safely back to civilization. This is where Maureen O'Sullivan would have liked to bow out but Edgar Rice Burroughs would have none of it and he persuaded MGM to increase her salary and she stayed. In fact she did make another 2 Tarzan films with Johnny Weissmuller. The last of the Tarzan films of this era was *Tarzan's New York Adventure* and no more were made until 1958.

## BRIDAL SUITE



Comedy in which Robert Young as a ne'er do well bachelor misses his wedding day three times and falls for a Swiss maid played by Annabella. Good fun I suppose but a little farfetched. Another sparkling performance by Billie Burke as his mother is always the best part of any 1930's film; sadly she doesn't appear in the card game.



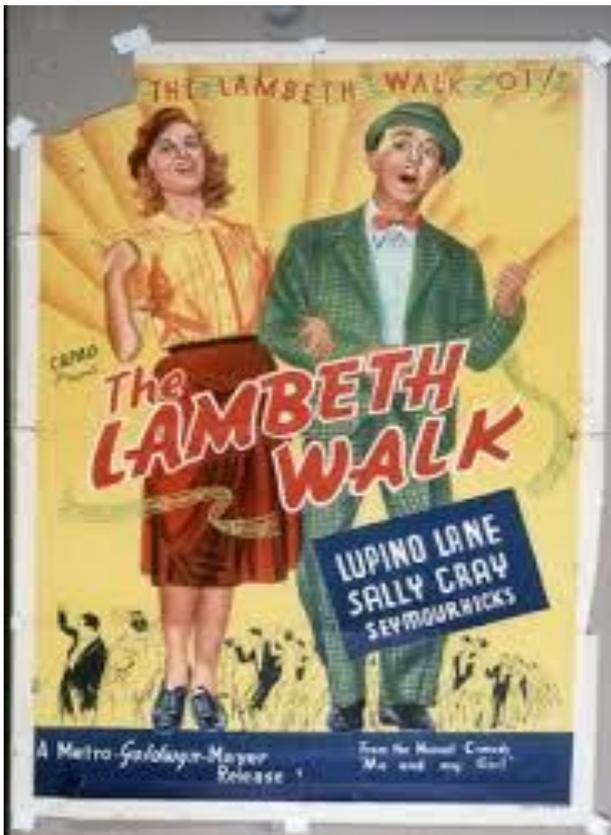
## SERENADE



Starring Jeanette MacDonald, *Broadway Serenade*, which was originally to be called just *Serenade*, was a vehicle for the biggest Hollywood star of the age. The plot concerned the break up between musical partners when the heroine, played by Jeanette MacDonald, had huge success and left her partner behind. This was rather too downbeat a plot for the times and the famous Busby Berkeley was brought in to direct a spectacular finale to save the film. It didn't.

Jeanette MacDonald had already made 22 films before *Broadway Serenade*. In all she made 32 films, many of them with Nelson Eddy but in 1949 she gave up making them and concentrated on concerts and stage musicals. She died in 1965.

## THE LAMBETH WALK



The Very Successful Stage Musical "Me And My Girl" of 1937 was made into this film in 1939 with its stage star Lupino Lane reprising his role on film. An East End wide boy will inherit a castle if he can convince his new family that he is one of them. It all goes very well until his girl friend (played by Sally Gray) turns up and the cat is out of the bag. It all ends well however, because he teaches all the posh folks how to dance "The Lambeth Walk". Well, it seems to work OK in the film!

## GOODBYE MR CHIPS



Goodbye Mr. Chips was a weepy romantic story of a schoolmaster, Mr. Chipping, known as Chips by the schoolboys he taught. On his deathbed Mr. Chips remembers his life in flashback. When he joined the teaching staff he was at first the butt of many jokes and this made him particularly strict with his Latin classes. When he was passed over for promotion he went on holiday to Austria with a fellow German teacher Max Staefel. Whist away he met Kathy Ellis (played by Greer Garson) and they fell in love. After they married she returned to his school and her influence changed him to a kind and understanding man who became very popular with the boys in the school. Unfortunately both his wife Kathy and their baby died in childbirth. After he retired he was called back to the school as temporary Headmaster during the First World War when there was a shortage of teachers. Each Sunday he read out a roll of honour of ex pupils and staff that had perished in the war. One Sunday he included his old friend Max who had been killed on the German side. As he was dying a friend says it was a pity that he had no children to which he replied "You're wrong. I have! Thousands of them, thousands of them – and all boys"

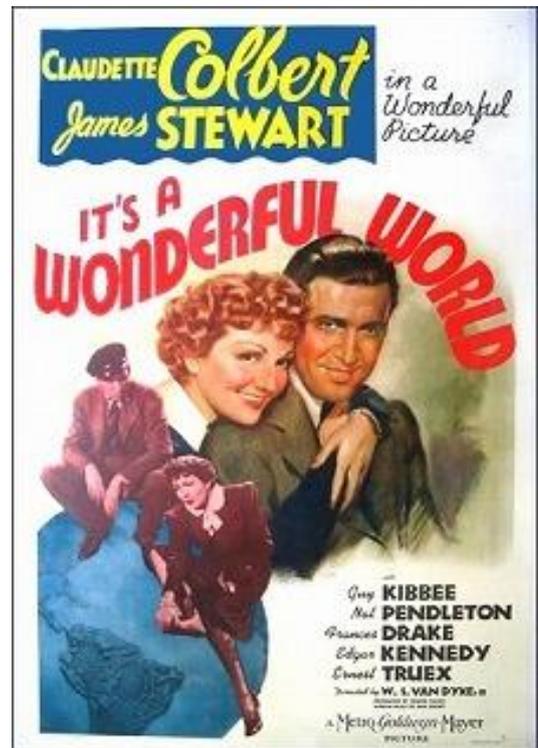
The film was a huge success but when it came to the Oscars it was up against "Gone with the Wind" which took most of the honours. However the Oscar for best actor went to Robert Donat who played Mr. Chips.

## LUCKY NIGHT



Two penniless people (Myrna Loy and Robert Taylor) meet in a park and pretend to be engaged to beg for some money. They succeed but on the way to a café they carelessly lose the money. Having eaten they discover the money has gone and the girl steals money from a table left as a tip. The man persuades her to put it in a slot machine where she wins. He then says they should make the most of their "Lucky Night" and go to a casino where they win lots of money and a car gambling. After lots of drinking they wake up in the morning to realise that they have married. The man tries to settle down in a regular job but his gambling habit gets the better of him and she leaves him to go back home (happy ending 1930's style now coming up). He follows her and she comes back to him (ahhh!).

## IT'S A WONDERFUL WORLD



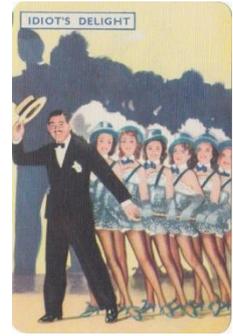
A complicated plot. Guy (James Stewart) is a private eye who has been arrested with his client who has been convicted of murdering his girlfriend. He is also sentenced to jail and on the way there reads about the murdered girlfriend's husband who is seeking her and mentions a half of a dime coin which will match the other half which is the only clue to prove Guy's client was not the killer. The murdered girl had pulled the half dime from jewelry worn by the murderer. Guy jumps from the train pulling the cop who is chained to him with him into a river. After a scuffle which is witnessed by Edwina (Claudette Colbert), a famous poetess, Guy frees himself from the handcuffs and kidnaps Edwina and her car to escape. At first Edwina thinks she has been abducted by a dangerous criminal but gradually accepts what he tells her as the truth. The scenes on the run are reminiscent of "The 39 Steps" of 1935. Eventually it all turns out well for Guy when Edwina gives police information which enables them to rescue him from the clutches of the real killer.

## CALLING DR KILDARE



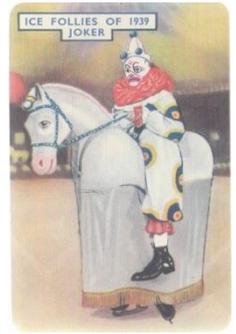
Young Dr Kildare (Lew Ayers) is placed in a clinic in a rough part of town by his boss to give him more experience. A nurse (Laraine Day) is planted to give reports on his progress. A man turns up with a friend who has been shot and wants it kept quiet. Dr Kildare treats him and finds out that the man is a murder suspect. He believes he is innocent and sets about to successfully prove it when he falls for the man's sister (Lana Turner).

## IDIOT'S DELIGHT



Although not a musical this was the only film in which Clark Gable sang and danced. It was the same year that he made "Gone with the Wind" and compares very poorly with that big success. The story is about a second rate mind reading act just after the end of the First World War when Harry (Gable) meets a young trapeze artist called Irene (Moira Shearer) and tries to persuade her to join him in the act. She refuses and goes on her way. Twenty years later, on the verge of the Second World War, he is returning from touring with his group of six dancers and is trapped when the border is closed between Switzerland and Romania. Also trapped is a woman he recognizes as the girl he met twenty years ago. She denies it and is travelling as the mistress of a wealthy arms dealer. A large number of bombers fly over and Irene blames her lover for the deaths his product will cause. He dumps her and when the border opens again the next day leaves her behind. Harry escorts his troupe of dancers safely away and returns for Irene. Once more the bombers approach and everyone goes down to the cellar for safety. Irene says she doesn't want to die in a cellar so they both remain in the lounge and when a bomb hits they are trapped in that room. Their fate is left to the audience to determine. Alternative endings were filmed for different markets but in the end the film was banned by all the countries which would form the Axis powers during the coming war. The film was the only Clark Gable film to make a loss. This was \$374,000 which at today's prices would have been around \$20,000,000.

## ICE FOLLIES OF 1939



Larry (James Stewart) and Eddie (Lew Ayres) are an ice skating duo when Larry falls for Mary (Joan Crawford). She is no good at skating but Larry insists she join the act. Because she is so bad they get fired from jobs and Eddie goes off and leaves the others to it. Larry and Mary secretly marry but when Mary gets the offer of acting work in the movies she hides her marriage because her new contract forbids her to be married. Larry is disgusted and leaves to meet up again with Eddie. Mary becomes a big star in the movies but Eddie also has success when he is able to put on his dream Ice Follies show. That too is a big success. Mary announces on the radio that she is giving up her movie career to become a loving housewife with her husband. Larry is offered another big job directing a film of the ice Follies and Mary is offered the leading role. This brings them all together again for a spectacular ending which is all filmed in Technicolor, the rest of the film having been black and white.