



BRITISH PATHÉ

British Pathés Date With History

British Pathé Limited today announced that from Monday 8th June 2009, the prestigious newsreel archive, comprising 3,500 hours of historical digital footage, is launching a dedicated operation in the UK. The company will be managed by new owners from a newly established and dedicated London Office. At the same time, British Pathé will launch a new, updated, quicker and simpler version of their web site www.britishpathe.com.

The new telephone number effective 8th June will be **0207 665 8340** and the email address for general enquiries will be info@britishpathe.com.

In a move that will see the British Pathe archive of 90,000 individual stories, dating from 1897, which capture some of the world's most historic moments on film, this new operation will be entirely dedicated to managing and developing this unparalleled collection.

The establishment of the new London office follows the recent acquisition of British Pathé from The Daily Mail and General Trust by private equity interests. Until now this impressive archive collection has been distributed by ITN. The lead investor in British Pathé is Tim Parker, formerly Head of the British Automobile Association, CEO of Kwik-Fit and former CEO of British shoemaker Clarks. Born in 1955, Parker is currently Chairman of luggage company Samsonite and Chairman of PBL Media owners of Nine Network in Australia. Joining Parker in this prestigious venture is venture capitalist Roger Felber, whose business interests include the creation and development of private company interests in engineering and in the foreign exchange inter-bank broking market. The Management at British Pathé also has equity in the new company.

The formation of the new and committed team of respected industry personnel is to be headed by Alastair White, who gained significant experience of the British Pathé archive whilst working at ITN at senior management level. White's experience spans over 20 years in the TV industry, from European Manager at BBC Worldwide, to National Geographic Television, where he was responsible for Programme Sales and Co-productions while managing the successful opening of the London sales office.

Stated White, "We see this move as a major development in re-establishing the unique and individual identity of British Pathé. Every one of the new team is experienced in the footage licensing business and is genuinely passionate about British Pathé. We are looking forward to working with one of the world's most influential archives and managing a seamless transition for British Pathé's customers."

Notes to Editor:

British Pathe is one of the oldest media companies in the world.

Their roots lie in 1890s Paris where their founder, Charles Pathé, pioneered the development of the moving image.

They were established in London in 1902, and by 1910 were producing their famous bi-weekly newsreel the Pathe Gazette. After the First World War they started producing various Cinemagazines as well. By 1930 they were producing the Gazette, the Pathetone Weekly, the Pathe Pictorial and Eve's Film Review, covering entertainment, culture and womens' issues.

By the time Pathé finally stopped producing the cinema newsreel in 1970 they had accumulated 3,500 hours of filmed history amounting to over 90,000 individual items.

Over the last 30 years this material has been used extensively around the world in television programmes, home videos, advertisements, corporate productions and, most recently, in web publishing.

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