H. C. McNeile

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Herman Cyril McNeile, MC (28 September 1888 – 14 August 1937), commonly known as Cyril McNeile and publishing under the name H. C. McNeile or the pseudonym Sapper, was a British soldier and author. Drawing on his experiences in the trenches during the First World War, he started writing short stories and getting them published in the Daily Mail. As serving officers in the British Army were not permitted to publish under their own names, he was given the pen name "Sapper" by Lord Northcliffe, the owner of the Daily Mail, the nickname was based on that of his corps, the Royal Engineers.

After the war McNeile left the army and continued writing, although he changed from war stories to thrillers. In 1920 he published Bulldog Drummond, whose eponymous hero became his best-known creation. The character was based on McNeile himself, on his friend Gerard Fairlie and on English gentlemen generally. McNeile wrote ten Bulldog Drummond novels, as well as three plays and a screenplay.

McNeile interspersed his Drummond work with other novels and story collections that included two characters who appeared as protagonists in their own works, Jim Maitland and Ronald Standish. He was one of the most successful British popular authors of the inter-war period before his death in 1937 from throat cancer, which has been attributed to damage sustained from a gas attack in the war.

McNeile's stories are either directly about the war, or contain people whose lives have been shaped by it. His thrillers are a continuation of his war stories, with gas attack in the war.

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Biography

Early life

McNeile was born in Bodmin, Cornwall. He was the son of Malcolm McNeile, a captain in the Royal Navy who at the time was governor of the naval prison at Bodmin,[3] and Christiana Mary (née Stoglet)[4]. The McNeile family had ancestral roots from both Belfast and Scotland[5] and counted a general in the British Indian Army among their members.[6]

McNeile did not like either of his given names but preferred to be called Cyril, although he was always known by his friends as Mac.[7] After attending a prep school in Eastbourne, he was further educated at Cheltenham College.[8] On leaving the college, he joined the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich[9], from which he was commissioned into the Royal Engineers as a second lieutenant in July 1907. He underwent further training at the Royal School of Military Engineering before a short posting to Aldershott Garrison. He received promotion to lieutenant in June 1910[10] and was posted to Canterbury, serving three years with the 3rd Field Troop, until January 1914, when he was posted to Malta.[11]

In 1914 McNeile was promoted to the rank of captain.[12] He was still in Malta when the war broke out and was ordered to France in October 1914[13]; he travelled via England and married Violet Evelyn Baird on 31 October 1914.[14] Baird was the daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel Arthur Baird Douglas of the Cameron Highlanders.[15][16]

First World War service

On 2 November 1914 McNeile travelled to France as part of the British Expeditionary Force.[17][18] Few details are known about McNeile's wartime service, as his records were destroyed by incendiary bombs during the Second World War. He spent time with a number of Royal Engineer units on the Western Front, including 1st Field Squadron RE, 15th Field Company RE and RE elements of the 33rd Division.[2]

McNeile's first known published story, Rambincances of Sergeant Michael Cassidy, was serialised on page four of the Daily Mail from 13 January 1915.[12][19] As serving officers in the British Army were not permitted to publish under their own names except during their half pay sabbaticals, many would write under a pseudonym.[20] Lord Northcliffe, the owner of the Daily Mail gave McNeile the pen name "Sapper", as the Royal Engineers were commonly known as the Sappers.[14][15] McNeile later confided that he had started writing through "sheer boredom".[20] Some of his stories appeared on page four of the Daily Mail over the following months.[11] Northcliffe was impressed by his writing and attempted, but failed, to have him released from the army to work as awar correspondent.[21] By the end of 1915, he had written two collections of short stories, The Lieutenant and Others and Sergeant Michael Cassidy, R.E., both of which were published by Hodder & Stoughton.[22] Although many of the stories had already appeared in the Daily Mail between 1915 and 1918 Sergeant Michael Cassidy, R.E. sold 135,000 copies and The Lieutenant and Others sold 139,000 copies.[13] By the end of the war he had published three more collections, Men, Women, and Guns (1916), No Man's Land (1917) and The Human Touch (1918).[12] In 1916 he wrote a series of articles titled The Making of an Officer, which appeared under the initials C. N., in five issues of The Times between 8 and 14 June 1916.[18][23] The articles were aimed at young and new officers to explain their duties to them; these were collected together and published by Hodder & Stoughton later in 1916.[24]

During this time with the Royal Engineers, McNeile saw action at the First and Second Battles of Ypres[25] – he was gassed at the second battle[26] and at the Battle of the Somme.[27] In 1916 he was awarded the Military Cross[28] and was mentioned in despatches.[29] In November that year he was gazetted to acting major.[30] From 1 April to 5 October 1918, he commanded a battalion of the Middlesex Regiment and was promoted to acting lieutenant-colonel.[30] The scholar Lawrence Treadwell observes that "for an engineer to command an infantry regiment was... a rarity".[31] His battalion, the Middlesex Regiment under McNeile saw action for the remainder of his command, and were involved in fighting during the Hundred Days Offensive in the St. Quentin-Cambrai sector in September 1918[32]; during the year, he was again mentioned in despatches.[29] On 2 October 1918 he broke his ankle and was briefly hospitalised, which forced him to relinquish his command of the regiment on 4 October. He was on convalescent leave when the war ended in November 1918. During the course of the war, he had spent a total of 32 months in France,[33] and probably had been gassed more than once.[34] His literary output from 1915 to 1918 accounted for more than 80 collected and uncatalogued stories.[35]

Post-war years

McNeile had a quiet life after the war; his biographer Jonathan Green notes that "as in the novels of fellow best-selling writers such as P. G. Wodehouse or Agatha Christie, it is the hero who lives the exciting life."[20] Although he was an "unremittingly hearty man",[36] he suffered from delicate health following the war.[20] He had a loud voice and a louder laugh, and "liked to enliven clubs and restaurants with the sight and sound of military good fellowship"; his friend and collaborator Gerard Fairlie described him as "not everybody's cup of tea"[37] and commented that "he was loud in every possible way—in his voice, in his laugh, in his clothes, in the unconscious swagger with which he always motivated himself, in his whole approach to life".[38] McNeile and his wife had two sons.[39]

On 13 June 1919 McNeile retired onto the reserve officer list and was confirmed in the rank of major.[39] The same year he also published a short-story collection, Mufti, in which he introduced a type of character as "the Breed", a class of Englishman who was patriotic, loyal and "physically and morally irreproachable".[39] Although well received by the critics, the book failed commercially and, by the end of 1922, had only sold 16,700 copies from its first print run of 20,000; the unsold copies were pulped and the novel went out of print later that year.[39]
In 1920 McNeile published Bulldog Drummond, whose eponymous hero—a member of "the Breed"—became his most famous creation. He had first written Drummond as a detective for a short story in The Strand Magazine, but the character was not successful and was changed for the novel, which was a thriller. Captain Hugh "Bulldog" Drummond DSO, MC, was described in the novel's sub-title as "a demobilised officer who found peace all but service during the First World War with the fictional Lancashire Regiment. Drummond went on to appear in ten full-length novels by McNeile and a further seven by his friend Gerald du Maurier. The character was an amalgam of Fairlie, himself, and his idea of an English gentleman. Drummond also had roots in the literary characters Sherlock Holmes, Sexton Blake, Richard Hannay and The Scarlet Pimpernel. Drummond was characterised as large, very strong, physically unattractive and an "apparently brainless hunk of a man", who was also a generalist with a private inroma; he could also be constilled as "a brutzid ex-officer whose thirst for excitement is also an attempt to reenact [sic] the war". The character was later described by Cecil Day-Lewis, author of rival gentleman detective Nigel Strangeways, as an "unspeakable public school bully". Drummond's main adversary across four novels is Peter Carter, a master criminal with no national allegiance, who is often accompanied by his wife, Irma. Irma is described by Jonathan Green as "the silkiest epitome of a twenties vamp" and by Lawrence Treadwell as dark, sexy and from an oriental background, "a true femme fatale". After Carter's death in the character is Patrol, Irma swears revenge on Drummond and kidnaps his wife—whom he had met in Bull-Dog Drummond—with the intent of killing him in the ensuing chase. Irma Peteron appears in six of McNeile's books, and in a further five by Fairlie.

McNeile adapted Bulldog Drummond for the stage. It was produced at Wyndham's Theatre during the 1921–22 season, with Gerald du Maurier playing the title role. It ran for 428 performances. The play also ran in New York during the same season, with A. E. Matthews as Drummond. Later in 1922 McNeile resigned his reserve commission with the rank of lieutenant-colonel, and moved as a tax exile to Ternitte, Montreux, Switzerland, with his wife. The swiss countryside was later described in a number of his stories.

The following year McNeile introduced the character of Jim Maitland, a "footsoldier of the period". Maitland was the protagonist of the 1923 novel Jim Maitland; he later appeared in a second novel in 1931. The Island of Terror. Around the time McNeile killed off the Carl Peterson character in The Final Count (1926), he also introduced the character Ronald Standish, who first appeared in "The Saving Clause" (1927) and "Tiny Cartoon" (1930) before becoming the protagonist in two collections of short stories. Ronald Standish (1933) and Ask for Ronald Standish (1936). The character also appeared in the final three Drummond novels, Knock-Out (1933), Bull-Dog Drummond at Bay (1935) and Challenge (1937). Standish was a sportsman who played cricket for England and was a part-time consul with the War Office.

In 1929 McNeile edited a volume of short stories from O. Henry, The Best of O. Henry; the stories had served as models for him when he had started as a writer. The same year, the film Bulldog Drummond was released, starring Ronald Colman in the title role. Colman was nominated for an Academy Award for Best Actor in the 3rd Academy Awards ceremony. The film earned $750,000 at the box office and McNeile received an estimated £5,000 for the rights to his novel. The same year he wrote his second play—The Way Out—which was staged at the Comedy Theatre in January 1930. About a year later the film version of Drummond was released, and settled near Purborough, West Sussex.

In 1935 McNeile, Fairlie, Sidney Gilliat and J.C. O'Connor collaborated on the screenplay Bull-Dog Jack, a "comedy thriller" with Jack Hulbert and Fay Wray, which was produced by Gaumont British.

In 1937 McNeil was working with Fairlie on the play Bulldog Drummond Hits Out, which was produced with terminal threat cancer. He came to an agreement with Fairlie for the play to continue after his death and for Fairlie to continue writing the Drummond stories. McNeile died on 14 August 1937 at his home in West Chiltington, West Sussex. Although most sources identify threat cancer as the cause of death, Treadwell also suggests that it may have been lung cancer.

Bulldog Drummond Hits Out was finished by Fairlie and had a short tour of Brighton, Birmingham, Manchester and Edinburgh, before opening in London at the Savoy Theatre on 21 December 1937. The story was later turned into a novel by Fairlie, with the title Bulldog Drummond on Dartmoor. Fairlie wrote four more Drummond novels, seven in total.

McNeile's chief literary legacy, became a model for other literary heroes created in the 1940s and '50s. For example, A. E. Matthews used McNeile's work as a model for his character Nigel Strangeways, which was produced by Gaumont British.

Death and legacy

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Writing

McNeile's works fall into two distinct phases. Those works published between 1915 and 1918 are his war stories, and relate directly to his experiences during the First World War, while the later works are largely thriller novels. His war stories were marketed by the Daily Mail and Hodder & Stoughton as a soldier's eyewitness accounts. When he started writing thrillers, Hodder & Stoughton advertised McNeile as a "fight and entertaining" writer, and began publishing his works in the "Yellow Jacket" series.

Style and technique

McNeile's early works, published before 1919, are often "plot-driven adventure narratives", such as the short stories "The Song of the Bayonet" and "Private Meyrick, Company Idiot", or "atmospheric vignettes", such as "The Land of Topsy Turvy" and "The Human Touch". McNeile would write about 1,000 words every morning in a routine that was rarely disturbed; he took no breaks while writing and would do no re-writes until he completed his work. The academic Jessica Meyer has critisied his style as having "little aesthetic merit, being stylised, cliched and often repetitive".

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Major themes

First World War

The major theme running throughout McNeile's works is the First World War. Between 1915 and 1918 he had five collections of short stories published about the war, while his post-war fiction can be seen as an extension of those stories, as "both treat the war as a trial with mankind at stake". His war stories were considered by contemporary audiences as anti-sentimental, realistic depictions of the trenches, and as a "celebration of the qualities of the Old Contemporaries". McNeile's view, as expressed through his writing, was that war was a purposeful activity for the nation and for individuals even if that purpose was later wasted: "a valuable chance at national renewal that had been squandered". The positive effects of war on the individual were outlined by McNeile in Making of an Officer, his series of articles in The Times, in which he wrote about "the qualities of leadership and selflessness essential to 'inspir' subordinates", a theme he returned to in his war stories particularly The Last of the Shires and Sergeant Michael Cassidy, R.E.

England

McNeile provided Drummond with a "tambourine aggressive patriotism" towards England, which Drummond defends physically against those who challenge its stability or morality. Hans Bertsch argued that the patriotism demonstrated by Drummond was closer to nationalistic pride and a paranoia about threats directed at the upper middle classes, of which Drummond was a member. McNeile's nickname—"Bulldog"—is symbolic of England, and he and his English gentleman friends—"the Breed"—fight the conspiracy of foreigners threatening England's stability.

Sport

Running throughout McNeile's books is the metaphor of warfare as sport. His war stories include descriptions of fights between individuals that carry a sporting motif: Sergeant Michael Cassidy, R.E., writes,"To bag a man with a gun is one thing; there is sport—there is an element of one against one, like when the quality goes big game shooting. But to bag twenty men by a mine has not the same feeling at all, even if they are Germans." The motif was continued into the Drummond novels. McNeile reinforces this theme through his use of the language of public school sports or of boxing, poker or hunting. The titles of his books also use sporting imagery; The Third Round, The Final Count, Knock-Out and Challenge.

Reception

McNeile's war stories sold well; nearly 50,000 copies of his first book, Sergeant Michael Cassidy, R.E., were purchased in its first year, and nearly 58,000 copies the following year. His thrillers were also popular, with Bulldog Drummond selling 396,302 copies between 1920 and 1939, exceeding the 100,000-copies benchmark for "best-sellers". At his peak in the 1920s, he was the highest paid short story writer in the world; and it was estimated that in the last five years of his life he was earning around £100,000 a year. The Daily Mirror estimated that during his writing career he had earned £85,000.
McNeile’s war stories were seen by reviewers as honest portrayals of the war, with British and American reviewers in the mainstream press praising his realism and avoiding sentimentality in dealing with his subject matter. Reviewing Men, Woman, and Guns for The Times Literary Supplement, Francis Henry Gibbs wrote that “Sapper has been successful in previous volumes of war stories. … When the time comes for poking out the writers whose war fiction has permanent value, his claim to be included in the list will call for serious examination.”[94] The reviewer of Sergeant Michael Casady, R.E. for The Atlantic Constitution reminded its readers that McNeile “has been called the foremost literary genius of the British army.”[95] Jaillant observes that once McNeile moved from war stories to thrillers, with the concurrent re-positioning of advertising and marketing by Hodder & Stoughton, the reviewers also treated him differently, and presented him as “a writer of thrillers, without any pretension to literary seriousness”.[96] When reviewing Bulldog Drummond Strikes Back[96] for The New York Times, the critic observed that “if you like a good knock-down-and-drag-out yarn with excitement and violence on nearly every page, you can’t go wrong on Bulldog Drummond”[97] for the novel Bulldog Drummond at Bay, the reviewer considered that “as a piece of fictional melodrama, the book is first rate”[98] In the British market, The Times Literary Supplement also characterised him as a mass-market thriller writer, which contrasted with its consideration of his earlier works.[99]

Controversy

From the 1950s on, McNeile’s work came to be viewed in the light of events of the Second World War[96] and journalists such as Richard Usborne highlighted aspects of the stories which he considered were “carrying the Führer principle”.[99] DeFlattore agrees, and considers that the second Bulldog Drummond novel—The Black Gang (1922)—is when the fascist element was introduced.[100] Jaillant notes that the accusations of fascism only came about after the Second World War[101] while the academic Ion Trewin considers that through the Drummond stories, McNeile was seen at the time as “simply an upstanding Tory who spoke for many of his countrymen”.[96]

Throughout the Drummond stories, much of the language used by McNeile’s characters relating to ethnic minorities or Jews is considered by DelFattore to be “intensely conservative by modern standards”[96] McNeile’s play of the same name, Bulldog Drummond, based on McNeile’s play of the same name, is considered by DelFattore to be “intensely conservative by modern standards”[96]

Works

Main article: List of works by H. C. McNeile

Notes and references

Notes

a. * Malcolm McNeile was also later the governor of Looe Naval Prison.[96]

b. * He is also named as Arthur Sholto Douglas in some sources.[96]

c. * Although there are claims that suggest Sapper’s first stories were published in Blackwood’s Magazine, none of these appear in the 1914–1918 issues under the name McNeile or Sapper.[102] His obituary in The Sunday Times states that he had written “practically nothing” prior to the war.[96]

d. * The ten Drummond novels are: Bul-Dog Drummond (1920), The Black Gang (1922), The Third Round (1924), The Final Count (1926), The Female of the Species (1928), Temple Temple (1929), The Return of Bul-Dog Drummond (1932), Knock-Out (1933), Bull-Dog Drummond at Bay (1935) and Challenge (1937).[96]

e. * Boum disparages the Fairlie background to the character, noting that it was Fairlie who made the claim, although “he was still at school when Sapper created his ... hero”. [34]

f. * The four Drummond novels with Carl Peterson are: Bul-Dog Drummond (1920), The Black Gang (1922), The Third Round (1924) and The Final Count (1926).[102]

g. * The six Drummond novels with Irma Peterson are: Bul-Dog Drummond (1920), The Black Gang (1922), The Third Round (1924), The Final Count (1926), The Female of the Species (1928) and The Return of Bul-Dog Drummond (1932).[102]

h. * Du Maurier again played the role on 8 November 1932 in a special charity performance at the Royal Adelphi Theatre attended by King George VI.[96]

i. * The play was later adapted for the screen and became the silent film Bulldog Drummond, with Carlton Blackwell as the lead.[96]

j. * Although published in the 1920s and 30s, the Mailhurst stories were set in 1912–13.[102]

k. * The cast for The Way Out included Ian Hunter and Beatris Thomas.[96]

l. * Jonathan Green names the play as Bulldog Drummond Again, although this is not supported by any other sources.[96]

m. * The seven Bulldog Drummond novels written by Fairlie are: Bulldog Drummond on Dartmoor (1929), Bulldog Drummond Attacks (1933), Captain Bulldog Drummond (1945), Bulldog Drummond Stands Fast (1947), Hands Off Bulldog Drummond (1940), Calling Bulldog Drummond (1951) and The Return of the Black Gang (1954).[96]

n. * The novel was first published in the UK under the title Knock-Out and was renamed Bulldog Drummond Strike Back for the US market.[96]

References

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Bibliography


Categories: 1888 births
1937 deaths
20th-century British novelists
British Army personnel of World War I
British male screenwriters
20th-century English writers
Cornish novelists
English writers
English thriller writers
Graduates of the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich
People from Bodmin
Recipients of the Military Cross
Royal Engineer officers
British male novelists
20th-century British male writers

1. World War I – World War I, also known as the First World War, or the War to End All Wars, was a global war originating in Europe that lasted from 28 July 1914 to 11 November 1918. More than 70 million military personnel were mobilized in the war, and it resulted in the deaths of more than 8.5 million soldiers and 7 million civilians. The war marked a dramatic acceleration of a series of long-term developments including the rise of nationalist-based states and the decline of the empires built on national compact agreements between the monarchies of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, the Ottoman Empire, and the Russian Empire. World War I also profoundly impacted political ideologies and traditional social hierarchies, with a significant number of people—especially young men—losing their lives and many more becoming disillusioned by the war’s outcome.

2. Daily Mail – The Daily Mail is a British daily broadsheet tabloid newspaper published in London. Its sister paper The Mail on Sunday was launched in 1982. Scottish and Irish editions of the newspaper were launched in 1987. The newspaper’s circulation has fluctuated over the years, but it is still one of the world’s most widely read newspapers. As of 2019, the Daily Mail and Mail on Sunday have a combined circulation of 3.3 million copies per day. The newspaper is known for its right-wing political stance and its support for conservative policies. It is also known for its personal and financial advice columns, as well as its daily sweepstakes.

3. Richard Hannay – Richard Hannay, during his time on the Western Front he would take himself on solitary raids through no man’s land. Drummond was also proficient in jujutsu and boxing, was a shot, played cricket for the Free Foresters. In addition to these interests, Hannay was also a military historian and wrote several books on the military history of World War I.

4. Royal Engineers officers – The Royal Engineers is one of the armed services of the British Armed Forces. It is the oldest branch of the Royal Armies and is also the oldest branch of the British Army, having been founded in 1716. The corps is divided into several regiments, barracked at various places in the United Kingdom and around the world. In Woolwich in 1716, the Board formed the Royal Regiment of Artillery and established a Corps of Engineers, the manual work was done by the Artificer Companies, made up of contracted civilian artisans and labourers. In 1782, a Soldier Artificer Company was established for service in Gibraltar, ten years later the regimental motto, Ubique Quo Fas Et Gloria Ducunt, was granted. The motto signified that the corps could fight anywhere in the world, and that it was obligated to serve in any capacity in which its services were requested.

5. Amalgamated Press subsidiary the Educational Book Company published the Harmsworth Self-Educator, The Childrens Encyclopædia, Harmsworth was created a Baronet, of Elmwood, in the parish of St Peters in the County of Kent in 1902, allegedly in- mental home. By 1900, Harmsworth had acquired a new mistress, an Irishwoman named Kathleen Wran, about whom little is known but her name, she bore him two more sons and a daughter, and died in 1923.

6. British Army personnel of World War I – The British Army was mobilized for World War I by the Government of the United Kingdom in response to the armed conflict between the Central Powers and the Allies. The British Army was initially composed of volunteers, but as the war progressed, conscription was introduced. By the end of the war, the British Army numbered over 5.5 million soldiers. The British Army played a crucial role in the war, participating in numerous battles and campaigns, including the Gallipoli Campaign, the Battle of the Somme, and the Battle of Passchendaele. The war took a heavy toll on the British Army, with over 800,000 soldiers killed and 1.7 million wounded.

7. Cornish writers – Cornish writers are individuals from Cornwall who have written in the Cornish language. The Cornish language is an ancient Celtic language that was historically spoken in Cornwall, England. Cornish literature dates back to the 9th century, and includes both religious and secular works. In the 19th and 20th centuries, Cornish writers have produced works in English as well as in Cornish. Some of the best-known Cornish writers include Thomas Hardy, Winston Churchill, and D.H. Lawrence.

8. H. C. McNeile – H. C. McNeile, born Hugh Bulldog Drummond, was a British fiction writer, created by H. C. McNeile and published under his pen name Sapper, following McNeile's death in 1937, the novels were continued by Gerard Fairlie and later by Robert Straw. Bullock was a war correspondent and a journalist, and his novels were published in the 1920s and 1930s. The novels were continued by his son Garard Fairlie until 1954, and later by Robert Straw. Bulldog Drummond is a First World War veteran, bruised by his experiences in the trenches and born with his post-war lifestyle. After his first adventure Drummond marries his client, Phyllis Benton, in later episodes she becomes involved in Drummond exploits, other serial Drummond films have followed, either based on McNeile stories or with unique stories written for the screen. The first film appeared in 1932, with John Longstaff and Allan Scutt. McNeile was a member of the Royal Army Medical Corps, formerly an officer in the Royal Indian Army, which, after the First World War, spends his new-found leisure time looking for adventure. Drummond also had roots in the literary characters Sherlock Holmes, Stefan, and the French films.

9. Hugh Bulldog Drummond – Hugh Bulldog Drummond is a fictional character, created by H. C. McNeile and published under his pen name Sapper, following McNeile's death in 1937, the novels were continued by Gerard Fairlie and later by Robert Straw. Bullock was a war correspondent and a journalist, and his novels were published in the 1920s and 1930s. The novels were continued by his son Garard Fairlie until 1954, and later by Robert Straw. Bulldog Drummond is a First World War veteran, bruised by his experiences in the trenches and born with his post-war lifestyle. After his first adventure Drummond marries his client, Phyllis Benton, in later episodes she becomes involved in Drummond exploits, other serial Drummond films have followed, either based on McNeile stories or with unique stories written for the screen. The first film appeared in 1932, with John Longstaff and Allan Scutt. McNeile was a member of the Royal Army Medical Corps, formerly an officer in the Royal Indian Army, which, after the First World War, spends his new-found leisure time looking for adventure. Drummond also had roots in the literary characters Sherlock Holmes, Stefan, and the French films.

10. People educated at Cheltenham College – Cheltenham College is a public single-sex secondary school and sixth form in Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, England. The school was founded in 1844 by John Edward Dresser and opened in 1845. Since its opening by Queen Victoria in 1871, the leading artists from every kind of performance genre have appeared on its stage. The Hall was designed by Edward Barnard for the governors of Cheltenham College, who wanted a new school building in the Gothic Revival style. The building was completed in 1873, and the college moved into the new building in 1874.
9. Bodim — Bodim is a ceremonial and major town in Cornwall, England, United Kingdom. It is situated south-west of Bodmin Moor, the extent of the civil parish corresponds fairly closely to that of the town so is mostly urban in character.

10. Cornwall — Cornwall is a ceremonial county and unitary authority area of England within the United Kingdom. It is bounded to the north and west by the Celtic Sea, to the south by the English Channel, Cornwall has a population of 551,700 and covers an area of 3,635 km². Cornwall forms the westernmost part of the south-west peninsula of the island of Great Britain, and this area was first inhabited in the Palaeolithic and Mesolithic periods.

11. Royal Navy — The Royal Navy is the United Kingdom’s naval warfare force. Although warships were used by the English kings from the medieval period, the modern Royal Navy traces its origins to the early 16th century, from the middle decades of the 17th century and through the 18th century, the Royal Navy vied with the Dutch Navy and later with the French Navy for maritime supremacy.
Royal Engineers

The Corps of Royal Engineers, usually just called the Royal Engineers (RE), and commonly known as the Sappers, is one...

Bulldog Drummond

Hugh "Bulldog" Drummond is a British fictional character, created by H. C. McNeile and published under his pen name...

Interwar period

In the context of the history of the 20th century, the interwar period was the period between the end of the First...

Upper class

The upper class in modern societies is the social class composed of the wealthiest members of society, who also wield...

Fascism

Fascism is a form of radical authoritarian nationalism, characterized by dictatorial power, forcible suppression of...

Bodmin

Bodmin (Cornish: Bosvena) is a civil parish and historic town in Cornwall, England, United Kingdom. It is situated...

Cornwall

Cornwall (Cornish: Kernow) is a county and duchy in South West England in the United Kingdom. The county is...

Royal Navy

The Royal Navy (RN) is the United Kingdom's naval warfare force. Although warships were used by the English kings from...

British Indian Army

The Indian Army was the principal army of the British Indian Empire before its dismantling in 1947. It was responsible...

Eastbourne

Eastbourne (East Sussex) is a town, seaside resort and borough in the non-metropolitan county of East Sussex on the...

Royal Military Academy, Woolwich

The Royal Military Academy (RMA) at Woolwich, in south-east London, was a British Army military academy for the...
infectious microorganisms," reads the entry. Wikipedia is here to dispel this harmful myth. “Most certainly, dropping food onto carpet cannot be seen as a guarantee ... will be in a sanitary condition when ingested - to imply such is both ignorant and dangerous given modern knowledge of ... 8. Metal umlaut. Motörhead and the sadly departed Lemmy Photo: Sheila Rock/REX/Shutterstock. Not just playground dogma, the five-second rule is apparently widespread. Fear not, because ... effects added There is an entire Wiki entry dedicated to it and all its forms, from lavish props and epic period dramas, ... dates and sombre subjects matters. Come See the Paradise, from 1990, has been identified as the ultimate Oscar- ... film artist. Destroyed in Seconds was a half-hour American television series that aired on Discovery Channel. Hosted by Ron Pits, it features video segments of various things being destroyed fairly quickly (hence, “in seconds”) such as planes crashing, explosions, sinkholes, beats crashing, fires, race car incidents, floods, etc. The nature of the show closely resembles Real TV. The show uses real video of real events, and commentary explaining the destruction portrayed. Most videos have stock sound effects added There is an entire Wiki entry dedicated to it and all its forms, from lavish props and epic period dramas, to savvy distribution dates and sombre subjects matters. Come See the Paradise, from 1990, has been identified as the ultimate Oscar-targeted film, but it failed to receive a single nomination. B. Metal umlaut. Motherhead and the sadly departed Lemmy Photo: Sheila Rock/REX/Shutterstock. Not just playground dogma, the five-second rule is apparently widespread. Fear not, because Wikipedia is here to dispel this harmful myth. “Most certainly, dropping food onto carpet cannot be seen as a guarantee that the food will be in a sanitary condition when ingested - to imply such is both ignorant and dangerous given modern knowledge of infectious microorganisms," reads the entry.