

The Paragon Multimedia DVD, VHS

Title: **Goodbye Mr Chips (1939)**



1 Disc
Library Image



ISBN: 7321900658379

Information

Release Title: **Goodbye Mr Chips** 1939 United Kingdom (London)

AKA Author James Hilton

Illustrator Ethel "Bip" Pares

Genre Psychological fiction

Publisher: Hodder & Stoughton (UK) Little, Brown (US)

Publication date: October 1934 (UK) June 1934 (US)

OCLC 8462789

Origin: United Kingdom

Release Date: United States: 15th May 1939 (New York)

Genres: Farce, Slapstick, Adventure, Comedy, Family

Disc Nos. – 1

Certification: U

Duration: 2h 18m (114m)

Region Code:

Region: 2

Product Code:

Languages: English, French, German, Italian, Japanese

Filming The exteriors of the buildings of the fictional Brookfield School were shot at Repton School, independent school (at the time of filming, for boys only), in the village of Repton in Derbyshire; whilst the interiors, school courtyards and annexes, including the supposedly exterior shots of the Austrian Tyrol Mountains, were filmed at Denham Film Studios near the village of Denham in Buckinghamshire. Around 300 boys from Repton School—as well as members of the faculty—stayed on during the school holidays so they could appear in the film.

Sound mix: 4-Track Stereo

Goodbye, Mr. Chips



Theatrical release poster

Directed by	Sam Wood
Screenplay by	R. C. Sherriff Claudine West Eric Maschwitz
Based on	<i>Goodbye, Mr. Chips</i> 1934 novel by James Hilton
Produced by	Victor Saville
Starring	Robert Donat Greer Garson
Cinematography	Freddie Young
Edited by	Charles Frend
Music by	Richard Addinsell
Production company	Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer
Distributed by	Loew's Inc. ^[1]
Release date	15 May 1939 (New York)
Running time	114 minutes
Countries	United Kingdom United States
Language	English
Budget	\$1,051,000 ^[2] or £243,340 ^[3]
Box office	\$3,252,000 ^[2]

Colour: Black and White

Aspect Ratio: 2.35:1 (35mm) 2.20 : 1 (negative ratio)

Storyline:— Goodbye Mr Chips

Due to a cold, retired schoolteacher Mr. Chipping misses a first-day assembly at Brookfield public school for the first time in 58 years. That afternoon, he falls asleep in his chair and his teaching career is related via flashback.

When 25-year-old Charles Edward Chipping first arrives as a Latin teacher in 1870, he becomes a target of practical jokes on his first day. He reacts by imposing strict discipline in his classroom, making him disliked but respected. Twenty years pass and he becomes the senior master. He is disappointed in not receiving an appointment as a housemaster within the school for the following year. However, the new German teacher, Max Staefel, saves him from despair by inviting him to share a walking holiday to his native Austria.

While mountain-climbing, Chipping encounters Kathy Ellis, a feisty English suffragette who is on a cycling holiday with a friend. They meet again in Vienna, where she persuades him to dance to the Blue Danube Waltz. (This piece of music is used as a leitmotif, symbolizing Chipping's love for her.) Staefel remarks that the Danube does not appear blue, but Chipping remarks it only appears so to those who are in love. On another part of the same boat, as Kathy looks at the river, she tells her friend that it is blue. Even though Kathy is considerably younger and livelier than Chipping, she loves and marries him. They return to England, where Kathy takes up residence at the school, charming everyone with her warmth.

During their tragically short marriage (she dies in childbirth, along with their baby), she brings "Chips" out of his shell and shows him how to be a better teacher. He acquires a flair for Latin puns. As the years pass, Chips becomes a much-loved school institution, developing a rapport with generations of pupils; he teaches the sons and grandsons of many of his earlier pupils.

In 1909, when he is pressured to retire by a more "modern" headmaster, the boys and the board of governors of the school take his side of the argument and tell him he can stay until he is 100, and that he is free to pronounce Cicero as SIS-er-ro, and not as KEE-kir-ro.

Chips finally retires in 1914 at the age of 69, saying, "Haec olim meminisse iuvabit" (One day, we'll look back on this and smile), but is summoned back to serve as interim headmaster because of the shortage of teachers resulting from the First World War. He remembers Kathy had predicted he would become headmaster one day. During a bombing attack by a German Zeppelin, Chips insists that the boys keep on translating their Latin, choosing the story of Julius Caesar's battles against Germanic tribes, which describes the latter's belligerent nature, much to the amusement of his pupils. As the Great War drags on, Chips reads aloud into the school's Roll of Honour every Sunday the names of the many former boys and teachers who have died in the war. Upon discovering that Max Staefel has died fighting on the German side, Chips reads out his name in chapel, too.

He retires permanently in 1918 but continues living nearby. He is on his deathbed in 1933 when he overhears his colleagues talking about him. He responds, "I thought I heard you say it was a pity—pity I never had any children. But you're wrong. I have! Thousands of them, thousands of them...and all...boys." [Wiki](#)

Goodbye, Mr. Chips was remade as a musical in 1969, starring Peter O'Toole and Petula Clark. The James Hilton novel has also been adapted for television twice as serials in 1984 (starring Roy Marsden) and 2002 (starring Martin Clunes). 2003 [Wiki](#) In the later years of the nineteenth century Latin master Mr. Chipping is the mainstay of Brookfields boys boarding school, a good teacher and a kindly person but he is considered to be married to the job so that it is a surprise when, on a walking holiday, he meets and marries the vivacious Kathie, who becomes his helpmate at the school but sadly pre-deceases him. Just before World War One insensitive new headmaster Ralston tries to edge Chipping out but the boys rally and Sir John Rivers, an old pupil of Chipping's and now head of the board of governors, invites him to stay and, when the war breaks out and Ralston joins up, Chipping becomes the new head. He is saddened by the waste of young lives in the pointless war and also by the death of his old friend and former German teacher Max, who had returned to his homeland to fight for Germany and he reminds the assembled boys that an individual's goodness is more important than their nationality. It is a sad day for all concerned when Chipping himself passes away....[IMDb](#)

Cast

Robert Donat as Mr. Chips M.A. (Cantab.). The 34-year-old Donat begins playing a man 10 years younger than himself and ages over the course of the film to his mid-80s. He remarked: "As soon as I put the moustache on, I felt the part, even if I did look like a great Airedale come out of a puddle." Greer Garson as Katherine. Garson was initially offered a contract for MGM in 1937 but refused all the minor parts she was offered until she was given this role. The AFI Catalogue reports that, according to modern sources, Garson was personally signed for the picture by M-G-M studio head Louis B. Mayer after Mayer saw her in a London stage play.

Terry Kilburn as John Colley, Peter Colley I, II and III (several generations of pupils from the same family taught by Mr. Chips)

John Mills as Peter Colley (as a young man)

Paul Henreid as Max Staeffel M.A. (Oxon.), the German master (credited as Paul Von Hernried)

Judith Furse as Flora

Lyn Harding as Dr. John Hamilton Wetherby D.D. (Cantab.), headmaster of Brookfield when Chips first arrives

Milton Rosmer as Mr. Chatteris, headmaster of Brookfield in the 1890s

Austin Trevor as Ralston, headmaster of Brookfield before the First World War

Frederick Leister as Marsham, headmaster of Brookfield when Chips dies

Louise Hampton as Mrs. Wickett, Chips' housekeeper

David Tree as Mr. Jackson B.A. (Cantab.), new history master at Brookfield

Edmond Breon as Colonel Morgan

Jill Furse as Helen Colley, the wife of the grown Peter Colley

Scott Sunderland as Sir John Colley, the grown pupil John Colley

David Croft as Perkins - Greengrocer's boy (uncredited)

Simon Lack as Wainwright (uncredited)

Parents Guide

Certification

Argentina-Atp, Australia-G, Brazil-Livre, Finland-S, France-Tous publics, Iceland-L, Japan-G, Netherlands-ALoriginal rating6re-rating, New Zealand-G, Norway-7, Portugal, M/6, Russia-0+, South Korea-All, Spain-A, Sweden-Btl, United Kingdom-U, United States-GPGVHS rating, 1990s, self-applied, West Germany-6nf

Sex & Nudity –None **Violence & Gore** - None, **Profanity** – None, **Alcohol, Drugs & Smoking** – None, **Frightening & Intense Scenes** - None



Cover of the UK first edition

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Illustrator	Ethel "Bip" Pares
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