

Contents

List of illustrations	<i>page</i> viii
Acknowledgements	x
Introduction	xi
1 National identity	1
Part I Empire	
2 British imperial heroes	31
3 The black man as hero	60
Part II Nation	
4 World War Two	85
5 National identity post-war	128
6 The Swinging sixties and after	147
Part III Region	
7 Scotland	175
8 Wales and Ireland	212
9 Lancashire	252
Part IV Culture	
10 Vaughan Williams, the cinema and England	283
11 Dickens – our contemporary	326
12 <i>Dad's Army</i> and the politics of nostalgia	351
Bibliography	367
Index of film titles	375
General index	379

List of illustrations

	<i>page</i>
1 The Scarlet Pimpernel (1935)	3
2 Around the World in 80 Days (1956)	5
3 The Prisoner of Zenda (1937)	20
4 Khartoum (1966)	45
5 Stanley and Livingstone (1939)	47
6 Rhodes of Africa (1936)	50
7 Sanders of the River (1935)	72
8 King Solomon's Mines (1937)	75
9 The Proud Valley (1940)	77
10 The Way to the Stars (1945)	88
11 In Which We Serve (1942)	107
12 Brief Encounter (1946)	124
13 The Lady with a Lamp (1951)	133
14 Passport to Pimlico (1949)	136
15 The Blue Lamp (1950)	140
16 Saturday Night and Sunday Morning (1960)	152
17 Help (1965)	161
18 Doctor No (1962)	164
19 The Master of Ballantrae (1953)	189
20 Whisky Galore (1949)	193
21 The Shipbuilders (1944)	207
22 How Green Was My Valley (1941)	217
23 The Quiet Man (1952)	234

24	The Informer (1935)	239
25	It's in the Air (1938)	260
26	Sing as We Go (1934)	263
27	Somewhere in Politics (1949)	269
28	49th Parallel (1941)	291
29	The Loves of Joanna Godden (1947)	310
30	Scott of the Antarctic (1948)	313
31	David Copperfield (1934)	335
32	Oliver Twist (1948)	340
33	A Tale of Two Cities (1958)	343
34	Dad's Army (1971)	354
35	Dad's Army (1971)	357
36	Dad's Army (1971)	361