

Kim Burfield

Titles: 3 Sources: 1 Stills: 2

Born: UK; c1960

In a decidedly mediocre Euro-mishmash “**TREASURE ISLAND**”, which showed all the hallmarks of being filmed on the cheap, Burfield was at least a more appealing Jim Hawkins than Jackie Cooper before him (or Christian Bale after him), and at least more in period than Bobby Driscoll in the 1950 Disney version. He scampers energetically about, a discreetly epicene creature, but does not look built to weather the rigours of shipboard life for very long. The film miscalculated badly, and bombed at the box office. He had also appeared that year in a thin soccer-based rehash of “**THE CHAMP**”, shot in Israel, but that fared no better. He did one more film – for the Children’s Film Foundation – and decided to call it a day.



Too dainty for the high seas, Kim

Source: The Moving Picture Boy



Hawkins sees red – and so does everybody else, with the colour so poorly balanced

Source: The Video Collection VHS VC3035

The Moving Picture Boy entry:

“After an inauspicious start as the hero-worshipper of a clapped-out soccer star (Richard Harris, who also directed with maudlin abandon) young Kim’s career was resurrected when Orson Welles chose him as Jim Hawkins to his oft-postponed Long John Silver. The introduction was presumably made by Wolf Mankowitz, who scripted both films, but Kim was too young and cute to be a convincing Jim, though he performed with spirit.

His final lead – as a boy called David Hawkins, oddly enough – was in a rather plodding time-travel fantasy from the Children’s Film Foundation.”

FILMOGRAPHY

Year	Age	Title	Role
69		BLOOMFIELD / THE HERO	
71		TREASURE ISLAND	UK/Fr/DDR/Sp - as Jim Hawkins
74		THE FLYING SORCEROR	C.F.F. - as David Hawkins