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Adventures of a Jungle Boy

UK TV series : 1957 : dir. George Breakston : ABC : 13 x 25 min
prod: : scr: Michael Carr Hartley : dir.ph.:
[Michael Carr Hartley Jr](#)
Adult cast unknown

Ref:	Pages	Sources	Stills	Words	Ω	□	€	Z	⚡	Copy on VHS	Last Viewed
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Halliwell's Television Companion review:

"A young Tarzan lives with a friendly cheetah in East Africa. Harmless, unimaginative, plagiaristic nonsense."

The Golden Age of Children's Television note:

"The African bush was the setting for "**White Hunter**", featuring Rhodes Reason, and "**Jungle Boy**", written by naturalist Michael Carr Hartley and starring his fourteen-year old son Michael Junior as a teenage Tarzan living with a friendly cheetah."

[no listing in "History of Television", "How Sweet It Was", "Into the Box of Delights - a History of Children's Television", "Television's Greatest Hits" or "25 Years of ITV - 1955-1980"]

No further information currently available. At least they did make the central figure a bona fide "boy", and not an oddly-clad teen beach hunk, à la Johnny Sheffield in his **BOMBA THE JUNGLE BOY** series, or television's "**Superboy**" for that matter. Most of the cinema's authentic jungle boys have been mere sidekicks for the various **TARZANS**. Steve Bond, for example, in the lame Mike Henry outing "**TARZAN AND THE JUNGLE BOY**" (68), was certainly young enough, but altogether too demure and well-mannered for a child who has survived by his wits in the wild, and he too had a guardian cheetah. The closest jungle boys have ever come to true feral children (as in Truffaut's "**L'ENFANT SAUVAGE**") were in the very earliest silent **TARZANS** (notably Gordon Griffith), and in the early sequences of "**GREYSTOKE: THE LEGEND OF TARZAN, LORD OF THE APES**".

Note that this children's series was directed by former boy actor George Breakston (of "**GREAT EXPECTATIONS**", "**NO GREATER GLORY**"). Nothing else is known of Michael Carr Hartley Jr, but with a name like that I'm sure he didn't starve.

See subject index under **AFRICA, ANIMALS, JUNGLES LIANAS & LOINCLOTHS** and **TV SERIES**, but see under **FERAL CHILDREN** for the more genuine article.