

HOPALONG CASSIDY.

Yes, it's Hopalong Cassidy himself - Bill Boyd, cowboy film hero to three generations of kids - arriving in Britain with his wife for a fortnight's stay. Hoppy's only been here once before; then he was escorting 48 British and 48 American boys on a tour of the British Isles. Hopalong and his wife, Tripalong (her real name's Grace) are so busy being fairy godparents to half a million children they don't often get a holiday - so now they've come to see Britain for themselves. That is, if the kids will give them any time to themselves! The reception committee are members of the 12,000-strong "Peace Club".

Hoppy celebrated two dates on the way over - his 62nd birthday and his 20th wedding anniversary. He and Tripalong have no children of their own - or perhaps it's more true to say they have many thousands!