

ReelINews

The official newsletter of the
Federation of Victorian
Film Societies

105

May 2015

In this issue

- From the Editor's Desk
- NFSA Strategic Plan
- Fantastic Film Facts
- ACOFS AGM & Conference
- From the President's Desk
- Director Visits Film Society
- News from the Societies
- Mini Movie Reviews
- Film Review: Four of a Kind
- Article - Ian Pinge
- News about Future Film Festivals
- Get to Know the Distributors
- What's Been Seen
- StarBox Ratings
- FVFS Independent Films Library



From the Editor's Desk

Editing a newsletter for the first time is a rather daunting task for me, especially following the very professional way that Barboo and Prodos produced it previously. At the outset I have to confess I cannot draw - not even a stick figure!

Even manipulating this programme has been a very steep learning curve but I can assure you all that with practice I will improve and production will not be so daunting in the future. Our newsletter will cover everything that you expect from FVFS and maybe a little bit more now and then!

In this issue we have continued items from previous issues but there are some new pieces that I'm sure will be informative. There are details about the ACOFS AGM being held in Melbourne on May 16, 2015.

The now familiar StarBox Results and "What's Been Seen" remain along with film reviews and some other snippets of information that have been sent from our film society colleagues.

As your new editor, I would like to invite any readers of ReelNews to submit articles, society snippets, film reviews or perhaps another item you have found interesting as I'm sure it would interest other film buffs.

This newsletter is the mouthpiece of you all and so please contribute to its content to make it the most interesting publication it can be. We want to limit the production to 16 pages so if I can't place it in one issue, I will certainly put it in the next.

Happy film watching,

Gail Arkins



The FVFS is proud to have David Stratton as our patron.

ACOFS AGM

Coming up in May 2015
Details on Page 3



fvfs.org.au

NFSA STRATEGIC PLAN

2015/2018

In an email dated 8th April from Michael Loebenstein (Chief Executive Officer, National Film and Sound Archive) he stated:

“I would like to thank you for your participation in last year's *Where We Are Heading* presentations and workshops and your input into shaping the **NFSA's Strategic Plan 2015-18** . We listened, we took the time to analyse the feedback we received and I believe that the plan reflects this. My staff and I are confident that this document provides us with a roadmap and clearly articulates what our focus and priorities will be for the next three years. I am pleased to announce it is now publicly available at <http://www.nfsa.gov.au/plan/> ”.

The Strategic Plan is a top level document which defines the NFSA focus and priorities under a number of key headings.

- The function of the NFSA,
- Purpose and Vision,
- Challenges,
- A living Archive for Everyone,
- Develop Leadership in the Digital Environment,
- The Creators' Archive,
- Indigenous Collections,
- Maximising Resources.

While the Strategic Plan does not talk about any specifics such as the future of, or access to, the 16mm or DVD collections, it does discuss the framework in which the NFSA will be making further detailed plans.

Representatives from the NFSA will be attending the forthcoming ACOFS AGM and Conference on Saturday 16th May and hopefully they will be in a position to provide more detailed information of relevance to FVFS members.

Download a copy of the Strategic Plan from <http://www.nfsa.gov.au/plan/>

If you have questions regarding the NFSA but cannot make it to the ACOFS AGM, please email them to Ian Davidson president@acofs.org.au before the meeting.

Abbreviations:

NFSA – National Film and Sound Archive

ACOFS – Australian Council of Film Societies

FVFS – Federation of Victorian Film Societies

Fantastic Film Facts

1. Sean Connery wore a wig in every single one of his Bond performances.
2. Some of the Wookiee suits in Star Wars were made from human hair.
3. Ryan Gosling was cast as Noah in *The Notebook* because the director wanted someone “not handsome.”
4. Fantasia (1940) was originally a short called *The Sorcerers Apprentice*, but Walt Disney overspent on the score and decided to make it a feature length film rather than waste money.
5. To thank Robin Williams for his work on *Aladdin*, Disney sent him a late Pablo Picasso painting.

ACOFS AGM and Conference - 2015

16th May 2015. 9:15am – 5:00pm

Willis Room, Whitehorse Civic Centre, 379 Whitehorse Rd. Nunawading, 3131 Victoria

This year the ACOFS AGM will be hosted by the FVFS at the home of the Whitehorse Film Society.

In addition to the usual wide range of topics covered by the AGM agenda, we are expecting representatives of the NFSA to attend the conference to enlarge on the NFSA plans for their 16mm and DVD collections, and their impact on non-theatrical borrowers. Here should be something of interest and importance to all film societies, so come along and participate in this important meeting.

DRAFT AGENDA (Estimated times only)

9:15am Confirmation of minutes from last AGM, 23/24 May 2014.

Matters arising from those minutes.
Correspondence
ACOFS Executive meeting report.
President's report
Treasurer's report
Reports from the State Federations – Vic, NSW, Qld, Tas, WA and Fismotron.

12:00noon LUNCH

1:00pm Presentation from the NFSA (Time to be confirmed)

International Federation of Film Societies report

Film and DVD Insurance
The ACOFS website

ACOFS Bulletin

Film Society History
Elections

Q&A

5:00pm Finish

ACOFS Delegates and observers from all film societies will be welcome.

Please let Ian Davidson (ACOFS President) know by 9th May if you plan to attend.
president@acofs.org.au or have any queries.

It is essential to RSVP if you plan to stay for lunch on Saturday.

JOHN'S PAGE

Report from the President's Desk

By John Arkins

FVFS AGM Saturday 14th March 2015 Richmond Library

The AGM of The Federation of Victorian Film Societies was held at the Richmond Library and was an all day affair with over 50 delegates attending.

The first part of the day was Society Snapshots which allowed the Delegates of the attending Film Societies an opportunity to talk a little bit about themselves, for 2 minutes in a structured manner. The information was well started by Suzanne Nunn who discussed the Ballarat Film Society and how they were able to have drinks at their film evenings. That set the tone for the delegates that followed and they alluded to either drinks or food in their comments.

The details of the comments made by the delegates will be published in the next issue of ReelNews.

After the Snapshots and Morning Tea, the formal AGM was held. The notes and minutes of the AGM are available on the website (www.fvfs.org.au) .

In summary, the President reported on a significant year and thanked the retiring members of the Committee for their efforts of the past years. The Treasurer reported an increase in funds and that the reduced membership subscriptions would remain for another year.

The meeting also passed three new Standing Resolutions which tidied up the way in which the management of the organisation was conducted. These changes will ensure compliance with the Consumer Affairs Vic. Act.

There are now a number of new faces on the Committee and since there were not more candidates than positions, no election was necessary. The retiring members were again thanked for their service.

The following delegates were elected:-

| | | |
|----------------|----------------|----------------------------|
| President | John Arkins | Croydon FS |
| Vice President | John Turner | International FG |
| Secretary | Susan Davidson | Whitehorse FS |
| Treasurer | Ian Davidson | Whitehorse FS |
| Committee | Frank Davin | Croydon FS |
| | Suzanne Nunn | Ballarat FS & Buninyong FF |
| | Ross Campbell | International FG |
| | Joan Goldsmith | Ballarat FS & Buninyong FF |
| | Jean Middleton | Croydon FS |

There are three vacancies which will be filled as required using the rules for casual vacancies.

Lunch was then held, a most enjoyable fare and during this time Prodos went around with Paul Green conducting video interviews with the delegates. This is planned to be an FVFS Video available on YouTube at a later date.

After lunch the session Meet the Distributors was held. Attending were Umbrella, Chapel and Hi Gloss. This was a most informative session and we were able to understand what motivated them and how they went about their "risky" endeavors. We all now have a greater appreciation of their risks. More information on them appears on Page 11.

We finished the day with the showing of one of the Independent Films on the FVFS list called "The Man from Coxs River" This was well received and had a Starbox score of 4.2. This was a great finish to a very good day enjoyed by all who attended.

DIRECTOR VISITS FILM SOCIETY

By Christine Caley

The Macedon Ranges Film Society was pleased indeed to have a film director present at its last meeting. The film, *Crushed*, was made and produced in Melbourne and director Ian Dixon visited Woodend for the screening. He explained to the group the inspiration behind the film and discussed some of the finer points of film making. **Crushed**, made in 2008, explores the notion of love when it comes up against duty and the difficult position this can create.

In May, the MRFS will pay tribute to one of the comic greats, Robin Williams, who died in August last year. The *Birdcage*, the remake of the classic French farce "La Cage aux Folles" is bound to bring tears of laughter to the audience as Val attempts to introduce his parents to his bride-to-be, a young woman who has been brought up in very protected circumstances. His gay father, Armand (played by Williams) and his flamboyant partner, Albert (played by Nathan Lane) try to make things go as smoothly as possible, but it's a comedy after all, so expect the unexpected.

The Macedon Ranges Film Society meets on the second Wednesday of every month so this film will be shown on Wednesday, 13th May at 7.15 p.m. in the Woodend Community Centre. Film notes are supplied and the film is followed by an informal supper. MRFS is a membership-based club so initial enquiries must be made by emailing mrfilmsociety@gmail.com or by phoning Christine on 5429 5452 or Lorraine on 5427 0921.



Tatura Film Society

By Christine Morom

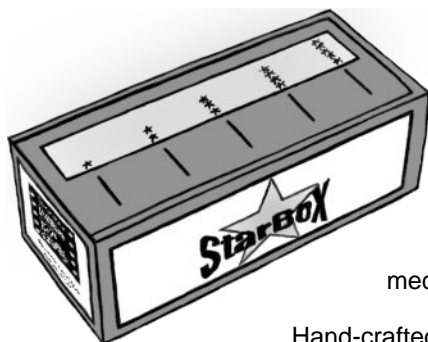
Tatura Film Society is now off and running after having its first screening on March 16th with 61 of the 79 members present. As members arrived there was a real buzz in the air, a wonderful sense of community, excitement and many expressions of gratitude that movies had returned to Tatura. "The First Grader", UK, 2010 was very well received by the members with comments such as – "Inspiring", "made you think", "fabulous, to bring tissues or not to bring tissues".

We are very grateful for all the assistance we have received from Goulburn Valley Film Club and FVFS. Attending the AGM of FVFS opened our eyes to many possibilities and whetted our appetite to explore some of these ideas.

Can't find it?

Ian Davidson is collecting names of all DVDs for which people cannot find Australian distributors (and hence the rights owners). If you know of any such DVDs, just let us know.

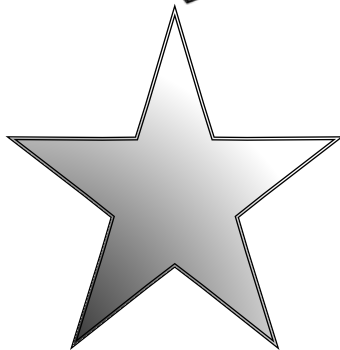
admin@fvfs.org.au



The Starbox scores on page 14 were generated using the latest technology in Film Society Feedback mechanisms!

Hand-crafted in Australia. Order a **StarBox** for your film society now!

Cost? Free of charge for FVFS members! Order yours now!



Phillip Island Movie Club

By Margaret Byrne - Secretary

The Phillip Island Movie Club (PIMC) recently changed management, with Lesla Saraghi who had led the club since the 1980s, retired leaving her baby to Margaret Byrne and Elizabeth Mulhern, who had studied film together at Monash University, but had never run a Film Society.

We could not have done it without the help of Ian Davidson, who helped with the practical day to day, especially in guiding towards insurance issues, and of course the introduction the StarBox. The StarBox has been warmly embraced by our members and will be an ongoing feature

After being sent ReelNews and attending the FVFS AGM, we approached Prodos after seeing the advertisement for a FREE Website. We had no website and after contacting Prodos we now have a fabulous website at phillipisland.movieclub.org.au.

We cannot even attempt to tell you how efficient and friendly Prodos has been and continues to be. If anyone is thinking about starting a website please contact him. It seems too good to be true, but it is true!!

Website up to Date?

One advantage of keeping your website up to date is that Susan gets some of our "What's Being Seen" information from Film Society websites.

Update regularly!

How about...

Some Questions ?

We'd like to hear from film societies on the following topics and include your replies in upcoming issues of ReelNews. Just choose one (or more) of the following questions and send them in to ReelNews@fvfs.org.au

- 1) How do you select your films?
- 2) What is your discussion process after your film?
- 3) How do you acquire and retain your Committee members?

"STILL LIFE" (UK)
BY Reels @ Wehl Film Society

Last night's movie began with the "long" short movie THE CAR filmed and produced by local talent from Eyre Peninsula.

The screening of STILL LIFE followed and everything was normal until members could hear a fire alarm. But the warning noise was out of sync with the sound track. It was the SRHT alarm system going off, we were in the hot seat!

Thanks to everyone (73) who left the theatre in an orderly manner and assembled outside while the SAMFS in their numbers responded to the emergency. After some time, the theatre was cleared and those who could stay on returned to watch the remainder of Still Life.

Possible causes of the emergency call out were traced by technicians to a fire detector in the foyer, while the Slow burning plot of Still Life was not ruled out by members!

45 votes were cast at the end of the movie for a StarBox rating of 3.9.

BY Marilyn Martyn
President - Little Film Society

Our new society, Little Film Society, had our first screening recently and I have not been as engrossed in a film for a long time. I have not seen a Japanese film before but I am certainly going to search for more.

Like Father, Like Son

Starring: Masaharu Fukuyama: Yoko Maki:
Machiko Ono: Lily Franki and Keita Ninomiya
Director: Hirokazu Koreeda who has many first class films to his credit.
Released September 2013 (Tokyo)
120 minutes.

Young professional man Ryota Ninomiya was, by and large, an absent father due to the pressures of work. This was the way his parenting had to be until one day when he heard the news that every parent dreads. His biological son was switched at birth. The child he has known and loved from birth isn't his. Although the plot of the film hinges on the obvious it is straight forward and subtle at the same time. The actors give outstanding performances and the little boys (especially Keita) are captivating. The setting also gives the viewer an idea of the diversity of a Japanese city.

We scored the film 4.5 in the Star Box and all agreed there was calmness about the film that allowed the story to really resonate.

Film Review:

FOUR OF A KIND screened at Whitehorse Film Society

Review by Ian Davidson

There was a real buzz in the 100-strong audience when we screened FOUR OF A KIND recently at the Whitehorse Film Society in Nunawading. I am not sure whether that was because the members were trying to work out “who dunnit” or maybe they were just eagerly awaiting the director, who spoke after the screening.

The director, Fiona Cochrane, told us a little about her background – that she was a Melbourne girl and trained as a doctor – and expanded on her experiences in making the film providing an insight into making feature films in Australia. The talk was very well received. It was also a pleasure to be able to talk to her over coffee after the film. FOUR OF A KIND scored 4.4 in our StarBox.

The Film

Australia, 2008, 115 mins, Drama. (M)

Directed by Fiona Cochrane.

Stars: Peta Brady, Nina Landis, Leverne McDonnell, Gail Watson.

Four women, each with a well-hidden secret they are coaxed, tricked or forced into revealing. There is a lot happening here between the main protagonists and the outcome is a very satisfying film. It was filmed in and around Melbourne.

IMDb score 6.8

FVFS panel voted 4.5 stars (out of 5)

FOUR OF A KIND is available from the FVFS Indie Library. See www.fvfs.org.au/indie-films

Review

So often I find that an otherwise promising film is let down by its script or actors, but FOUR OF A KIND ticks all boxes for me. The well-polished script is clear and the actors’ dialogue very believable, with light touches alternating with strong scenes and crisp and clear dialogue. The acting is spot-on, with all the main characters showing up as strong characters yet revealing their weaknesses as the film progresses.

The film is in four parts – each dealing with a different issue, two of which are murder investigations – revolving around the four key women. Each story is set in a single location but any sense of claustrophobia is avoided by intelligent use of brief flashbacks to other locations as the story unfolds. The four stories are separated by interludes by Joe Camilleri and the Black Sorrows, whose songs make wry comment on the situation developing in the film.

The result is a very intelligent, pleasing film with real feeling at its core, which has just the right balance of lightness and tension. The first three stories are straight forward enough, with overlap between the characters and their situations, but the last story will leave you thinking – although I believe there are enough pointers

along the way to explain the final outcome.

Four of a Kind has been screened at over 21 International Film Festivals in 2009 and 2010 and won over 5 Awards in that time.

Another Review from Croydon Film Society

Like the peeling of an onion, this story sheds its layers throughout the film; each layer more interesting than the last. Twists and turns are common, evoking the feeling of increasing suspense.

The concept of omission of the facts rather than actually lying is demonstrated throughout the film in various guises, in fact it is a central premise of the film.

The film is very much about the relationship between people and certain specific conversations and the language is beautifully crafted. The characters are believable and the performances fitting for the characters.

A film in four segments, each segment separated from the next by performances from Joe Camilleri and the Black Sorrows at a recording session, provides an interesting and intriguing method of moving from one story to the next.

We really enjoyed this intriguing film and would recommend it to all Film Societies.

Available from the FVFS Indie library as a free loan to members.

Screening rights payable by member film societies \$35.

FVFS score 4.5 stars (out of 5)

IMDb score 6.8

BUDGETS AND BOX OFFICE EARNINGS –

How does it all work?

By Ian Pinge - Portarlington Film Society

You may have noticed that the film *The Book Thief* was produced on a budget of \$19 million and box office earnings of \$76 million but what does all this mean and who gets what?

Box office earnings represent the revenue from ticket sales and not the amount paid to the film studio. As a rule of thumb, the cinema pockets approximately half of the revenue and the studio gets the rest. A crude calculation would suggest that the profits for the studio would be \$38 million (half of the box office) less \$19 million (the cost of producing and marketing the film) giving the studio an approximate profit of \$19 million or a 100 per cent return on their initial investment – a very satisfactory result!

But, as they say, that's not all. Figures provided by International Movie Data Base (IMDB) only relate to 'theatrical' receipts, those receipts taken by commercial cinemas. Further income has been traditionally earned by the studio from a number of other sources such as DVD/Blu-ray sales and rentals, screenings on Pay TV and free-to-air TV, merchandising and, the favourite of film societies, non-theatrical screenings.

DVD sales and rentals would traditionally be released 17 weeks after the initial release, ahead of their release on Pay TV and finally on free-to-air TV. Top titles could previously earn up to \$60-100million over and above the theatrical earnings or something like 14% of gross returns. The studios were able to get a much bigger cut on DVD sales due to the lower costs involved.

Gross returns (Box Office, DVD, TV, Merchandise) – some popular movies (\$US)

| | |
|------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <i>Avatar</i> | \$2,788 million (\$2.788 billion) |
| <i>Titanic</i> | \$2,187 million |
| <i>Skyfall</i> | \$1,109 million |
| <i>Toy Story</i> | \$1,063 million |

Non-theatrical earnings come from those exhibiting movies to closed groups where access is denied to the general public. Schools and universities are an important part of this sector as are, surprisingly, commercial airlines screening films in the air. Screenings are not to be advertised and the general public is to be excluded. This is the context in which film societies are allowed to operate, enjoying less expensive screening rights and access to recently released movies. Earnings to studios from this source have traditionally represented one to two percent of total earnings.

It now appears that revenue from DVD sales and hire has already peaked and has gone into decline due to the impact of on-line piracy and the growing popularity of video on demand (VOD) services such as Netflix. Witness the rapid closing of video hire services going on around us. Major studios are now making their movies available to these VOD services, shortly after their theatrical release, for a premium price, and well before they are released to Pay TV and even later to free-to-air TV. The movie industry is also becoming much more aggressive toward the pirating of movies and appears to be supported by legislators around the world so we might expect to witness a decline in piracy due to the threat of heavy fines and greater access to recent releases through VOD services.

Another significant change has been a small decline in theatre attendances. To counter this, studios and cinemas have invested in 'premium' theatrical experiences such as our own Gold Class and the production and screening of 3D movies, all of which generate higher admission prices. It remains to be seen whether such innovations are enough to stave off the impact of VOD services on cinema attendances and earnings.

Sources: CNET, Wikipedia, IMDB, io9

Need ideas - What to screen?

Have a look at six years of great ideas
in

“Film Lists You Can Download”

View hundreds of films and StarBox scores sent in by
FVFS members over the years.

Browse through Information Sheets 17.1 to 17.11.

Designed and guaranteed to get you thinking.

Find out more.

Lots more!

fvfs.org.au/ideas

FILM FESTIVALS

From: Emma Charlton (Deakin Uni)

F- Project Cinema and Port Fairy Film Society, as well as some local creatives, launched the Buckshot Film Festival website yesterday, and invite you to put the festival date in your calendars, and think about submitting a film for the festival.

Two categories of films are being invited for submission for this festival: an open category for films under 15 minutes long. These can be of any genre, and it's just asked that they be made in the last five years. The second category is a 3x3 film challenge in which film-makers are asked to create a three minute film in three days, including three concepts revealed at 3pm on July 31st. All films will be due Monday the 3rd of August before 3pm.

The Buckshot Film Festival follows the success in 2014 of F Project Cinema's Silver Ball Screening Festival, in which 33 locally-made films were screened in Warrnambool's laneways. It also follows a huge year of classical, summer, fundraiser and regular screenings for the Port Fairy Film Society, with some impressive new technology in the Reardon Theatre.

A bunch of creatives in Warrnambool, now known as the bulkheads (James Russell, Emily Bissland, Gareth Colliton, Emma Charlton, Steve Miller and Colleen Hughson) wanted to give film culture in their regional town a boost, so they've set a challenge for locals and beyond.

The Buckshot Film Festival is named after the coarse volcanic gravel to be found throughout the volcanic lakes country of Victoria.

This festival isn't just limited to local film-makers, but is a great opportunity for new and experienced local, national and international film-makers to make a film and screen it to a crowd of film-lovers. And what a great excuse to visit our beautiful coastal towns as winter turns to spring.

The film festival will occur on September 12th, in two screenings at the Reardon Theatre – one session in the afternoon and one in the evening. Select segments will be accessible to all ages, and it's going to be a great event! Put it in your diaries, crack out the cameras, and make a film!

For more details check out the website, and like us on Facebook:

<http://buckshotfilmfestival.com.au>

<https://www.facebook.com/Buckshotfestival>

From George Dummet (Port Fairy FS)

The September Short Film Festival is on Sat 12 September.

Tasmanian Breath of Fresh Air Film Festival

Wednesday 4th November - Sunday 8th November 2015

The Tasmanian Breath of Fresh Air (BOFA) Film Festival is intimate, thought-provoking and fun. BOFA is small enough to be friendly – not a black T-shirt or snooty attitude in sight – and big enough to be international in perspective. We find fresh, innovative stories to inspire you to see the world differently – truly a 'breath of fresh air'.

We show shorts at each screening and lead you in a conversation with film makers and experts after most films. We party hard at our red carpet opening night party, at the Share the Bounty dinner, at the Innovative Tasmania Awards, at the BOFA Devil Screen Industry Awards and on closing night. Just a short drive or flight away and with the beauties and wonders of the Tamar Valley and Tasmania to visit post-festival.

Inveresk Precinct
Invermay, Launceston Tasmania, 7248
Mobile: 0407 501 287

CANNES LINE UP

The Cannes Film Festival announced the majority of its 2015 program in a press conference on April 16th. More details on their web site - www.Festival-cannes.fr

Overseas Film Festivals and Activities



Planet in Focus Environmental Film Festival October 19 -25, 2015



Final deadline: May 15th, 2015



GETTING TO KNOW THE DISTRIBUTORS

At the 2015 FVFS AGM three DVD distributors were present for our “Meet the Distributors” segment. Potential Films was represented by Mark Spratt, Hi Gloss Entertainment by Simon Killen and Umbrella Entertainment by Jeff Harrison and Achala Datar.

Jeff Harrison - Umbrella Entertainment

Jeff spent many years in the music business where he was instrumental in building up the “Gaslight” music company, but over the last 15 years or so has been more involved in the movie business. His passion is to build up the Australian classic movies catalogue so they can be seen by Australians. Recently he has become involved in production as well, Babadook being his first involvement. This film, he says, is the least known film to win an AFI Award! It was well received in Europe and the USA but not here!

Jeff is ably supported by Achala Datar, who also attended the information day.

Simon Killen – Hi Gloss Entertainment.

Simon trained as a school teacher but started off working in the music industry, initially with “Aztec International” but then with “Gaslight”, working with Jeff Harrison. Until 2004 he focussed on bringing music rights to Australia, but then moved into DVDs where he was responsible for selecting DVDs from overseas to bring to Australia. The only advice he was given when he started in this role was “When at the Cannes Film Festival don’t be stupid”, as the movie industry in Cannes during the Festival is an industry on steroids! In 2012 Simon started his own company “Hi Gloss” and focusses on non-mainstream movie DVDs and bringing worthwhile films to viewers in Australia.

Mark Spratt – Potential Films, including Chapel Entertainment.

As a child, Mark was around adults who ran cinemas and got to know projection equipment, so after a brief interlude travelling the world, he took a job managing the “Brighton Bay Cinema” and helping out in distribution at Premium Films. In 1990 he set out on his own, and tellingly his first film was Admodovar’s “What have I done to deserve this?” 25 years later he is still going, focussing on Art-house films for Australians and keeping the Classics alive. In the late 1990’s he took over the Warner Brothers library of classics and then MGM and RKO libraries. Many of these are 16mm films.

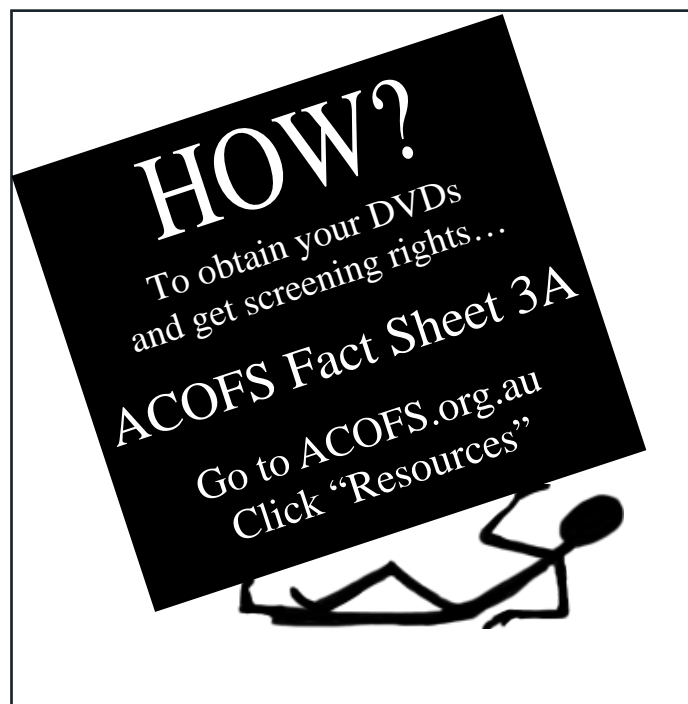
There seems to be a trend here. Passion for films! A similar motivation that drives many film societies! The other common element was that each distributor buys

only those films they believe in. In many ways there are real parallels between the music and the film markets. The chance of making a good return for a film purchase comes first from a theatrical release then followed by repertory, DVD sales, non-theatrical and streaming. Non-theatrical includes film societies, airlines, buses, motels etc. Although the film society market is not huge, it is healthy and not yet reducing.

Rights charges are usually negotiable, and will take into account the size of the audience, purpose of the screening, entry charges etc. But for film societies ACOFS has already negotiated the best possible non-theatrical deals for you.

Distributors will continue to advise film societies through the ACOFS Bulletin and ReelNews about new DVD releases or special recommendations.

With regard to copyright, all distributors agreed it was not a simple matter of knowing a film’s age to determine whether it is still under copyright. Most are still copyrighted for 70 years after the director’s death – although there are exceptions, and there is no way to determine the copyright status except to assume that every title is still under copyright somewhere.



WHAT'S BEEN SEEN ACROSS THE FILM SOCIETY CIRCUIT

Let ReelNews readers know what is being screened. Email Susan Davidson: secretary@fvfs.org.au

Alpine Film Society

Arapiles Motion Picture Society

Wadjda, Saudi Arabia, 2012.
Death in Brunswick, Australia, 1990.
Infernal Affairs, Hong Kong, 2002.
Song for Marion, UK/Germany, 2012.

Artist Film Screening Society

Arts Group of Flinders Film Society

Ballarat Film Society & Buninyong Film Festival

Belle, USA/UK, 2013.
Only Lovers Left Alive, USA, 2013.
Blood Oath, Australia, 1990.
Charlie's Country, Australia, 2013.
Eastern Boys, France, 2013.
Hannah Arendt, Germany, 2012.
Two Days, One Night, France, 2014.
Living is Easy with Eyes Closed, Spain, 2013.
Phantom of the Opera, USA, 1925.

Bannockburn Movies Film Society & Film Festival

Barwon Heads Film Society & Film Festival

Wadjda, Saudi Arabia, 2012.
Finding Vivian Maier, USA, 2013.
Jersey Boys, USA, 2014.

Beechworth Film Society

Bright Film Society

The Best Offer, Italy, 2013.
The Butler, USA, 2013.

British History Film Study Festival

Camberwell Film Society

Jersey Boys, USA, 2014.
Child's Pose, Romania, 2011.
Still Mine, Canada, 2013.

Celebrate Israel Film Study Festival

Cinerarium, The

Corangamite Film Society

Calvary, Ireland, 2014.
Ida, Poland, 2014.

Court Film Society

The Lunchbox, India, 2014.
Pride, UK/France, 2014.
Boyhood, USA, 2014.

Croydon Film Society

Gabrielle, Canada, 2013.
Still Life, USA, 2013.
Two Days, One Night, Belgium +, 2014.
Nebraska, USA, 2013.
The Lunchbox, India, 2014.
Sunshine on Leith, UK, 2013.

DADo Film Society

The Venice Syndrome, Germany/Italy, 2012.
The Grand Museum, Germany, 2014.
Making Space, UK, 2014.

F Project Cinema

Far East Film Society

Ferntree Gully Film Society

Calvary, Ireland/UK, 2014.
The French Minister, France, 2013.
Charlie's Country, Australia, 2013.

Flexible Respite Film Society

Flickside Film Society

(Arts Yackandandah)
A Good Lie, USA, 2014.
The Grand Budapest Hotel, Germany/UK, 2014.
Whale Rider, NZ, 2002.

Geelong Classic Cinema Inc

East of Eden, USA, 1955.
The Letter, USA, 1940.
84 Charing Cross Road, UK/USA, 1987.

God Loves Atheists Film Study Festival

Goulburn Valley Film Club

The Finishers, France/Belgium, 2013.
Living is Easy with Eyes Closed, Spain, 2013.
Inside Llewyn Davis, USA, 2013.
In Bloom, Russia +, 2013.

Grampians Film Society

In the Heat of the Night, USA, 1967.
The First Grader, UK/USA/Kenya, 2010.
The Railway Man, Australia, 2013.

Horsham Film Society

Living is Easy with Eyes Closed, Spain, 2013.
Force Majeure, Sweden +, 2014.
Two Days, One Night, Belgium +, 2014.

International Film Group

Two Days, One Night, Belgium +, 2014.
Like Father Like Son, Japan, 2013.
Philomena, UK, 2013.

Liberate Education! Film Study Festival

Little Film Society

Like Father, Like Son, Japan, 2013.

Lounge Lizards Film Society

LV Film Society

All Is Lost, USA, 2013.
Whiplash, USA, 2014.
Boyhood, USA, 2014.
Two Days, One Night, France, 2014.

Macartan Club (Inc) Film Society

Strictly Ballroom, Australia, 1992.
The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel, UK/USA, 2011.
Gallipoli, Australia, 1981.
The Glenn Miller Story, USA, 1954.

Macedon Ranges Film Society

Maldon Movies Film Society

Melbourne Horror Film Society

From Beyond, USA, 1986.
Q: The Winged Serpent, USA, 1982.

Melbourne Zombie Film Society

Moira Film Group

Mount Eliza Fifty-Five Plus Film Group

Moviehouse

Libeled Lady, USA, 1936.
Pursued, USA, 1947.
Swing Time, USA, 1936.
Hell is Sold Out, UK, 1951.
My Wife's Lodger, UK, 1952.
Great Day in the Morning, USA, 1956.
Give a Girl a Break, USA, 1953.
Dial M for Murder, USA, 1954.

Moving Clickers Inc & Lorne Film Festival

Venus in Fur, France/Poland, 2014.
The Dallas Buyers Club, USA, 2013.
Finding Vivian Maier, USA, 2013.

Murrindindi Film Society

Myrtleford Film Society

Network Film Club

Old Scotch Film Society

Monsieur Lahzar, Canada, 2011.
The Grand Budapest Hotel, USA/Germany, 2014.
Salmon Fishing in the Yemen, UK, 2012.
The Man from Cocks River, Australia, 2012.

Phillip Island Movie Club

Plaza Cinema Group

WHAT'S BEEN SEEN ACROSS THE FILM SOCIETY CIRCUIT

Let ReelNews readers know what is being screened. Email Susan Davidson: secretary@fvfs.org.au

Port Albert Movie Club

Port Fairy Film Society

Portarlington Film Society

The Intouchables, France, 2001.
Wadjda, Saudi Arabia, 2012.
Philomena, UK, 2013.
The Book Thief, USA, 2013.

Portland Film Society

The Infinite Man, Australia, 2014.
Whiplash, USA, 2014.
Two Days, One Night, Belgium, 2014.

PRODOS Film Study Group

Prom Coast Film Society

The Lunchbox, India, 2014.
Ernest and Celestine, France +, 2012.
The Triplets of Belleville, France +, 2003.

Red Rock Film Society

A Hijacking, Denmark, 2012.
Jedda, Australia, 1955.

Red Rum Film Society

Nick Cave: 20,000 Days on Earth, UK, 2014.
Scarface, USA, 1983.
The Lunchbox, India, 2013.

Science and Technology Film Study Festival

Smart Girls Film Club

Films featuring amazing women in history fiction

St Andrews Film Society

St Dunstan's Hall Film Society

Sun Country Movie Club

The World's Fastest Indian, NZ+, 2005.
The Way, USA/Spain, 2010.
Captain Phillips, USA, 2013.

Tatura Film Society

The First Grader, Kenya, 2010.
The Reluctant Fundamentalist, USA/UK, 2013.
Blue Jasmine, USA, 2013.
The Jammed, Australia, 2007.

Teddy Bobo Film Club

Short films + lateral thinking exercises. Most Tuesday nights.

The Impossible Film Club

Studying fantasy, science fiction, heroic adventure.

Trentham Film Society

Goodbye Lenin!, Germany, 2003.
Performance, USA, 2012.
The Guard, Ireland, 2011.

Vantastic Watchers Film Society

Whitehorse Film Society

Gardening with Soul, NZ, 2013.
Wadjda, Saudi Arabia, 2012.
Tracks, Australia, 2013.
The Rocket, Australia/Laos, 2013.
Philomena, UK/USA, 2013.

Williamstown Film Society

Blazing Saddles, USA, 1974.
Wadjda, Saudi Arabia, 2012.
Key Largo, USA, 1948.

Yarra Ranges Film Society

The King is Dead, Australia, 2012.
The Finishers, France, 2014.
The Angels' Share, UK, 2012.

Halls Gap Film Festival

(NPV Film Festival)

Port Campbell Community Film Festival (NPV Film Festival)

New South Wales

Deniliquin Film Society and Film Festival

South Australia

Adelaide Cinematheque

Adelaide Film Study Group

Adelaide University Film Society

Barossa Film Club

Adam's Rib, USA, 1949.
Calle 54, Spain +, 2000.

Flinders FACT Society

Port Lincoln Film Society

The Italian Job, UK, 1969.
Dean Spanley, NZ/UK, 2008.
Chocolat, UK/USA, 2000.
Kes, UK, 1969.
The Lunchbox, India, 2014.

Reels @ Wehl Film Society

Gallipoli, Australia, 1981.
Still Life, UK, 2013.
The 100 Year Old Man Who Climbed Out The Window And Disappeared, Sweden, 2013.

RiAus Film Society

Southern Fleurieu Film Society

Babette's Feast, Denmark, 1987.
Harold and Maude, USA, 1971.
Begin Again, USA, 2013.

Yankalilla & District Over 50s Film Club

★ StarBox Ratings ★

Send your StarBox results to starbox@fvfs.org.au - See what others are screening at www.fvfs.org.au/ideas

StarBox results received since Issue 104 - Feb

| DVDTitle | Society | Stars |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------|
| Intouchables. The | Portarlington FS | 4.7 |
| Chinese Take-away | International FS | 4.6 |
| Lunchbox, The | Reels @ Wehl FS | 4.6 |
| Railway Man, The | Grampians FS | 4.5 |
| Like Father Like Son | Little FS | 4.5 |
| History Boys, The | Barossa FC | 4.4 |
| Performance (A Late Quartet) | Portarlington FS | 4.4 |
| Belle | Barwon Heads FS | 4.4 |
| Four of a Kind | Whitehorse FS | 4.4 |
| Conversations With My Gardener | Portarlington FS | 4.3 |
| Most Wanted Man, A | Corangamite FS | 4.3 |
| First Grader, The | Grampians FS | 4.3 |
| Wadjda | Arapiles FS | 4.2 |
| Calvary | Barwon Heads FS | 4.2 |
| Tracks | Reels @ Wehl FS | 4.2 |
| Boyhood | St Andrews FS | 4.2 |
| Man from Coxs River | FVFS AGM | 4.2 |
| Living is easy with eyes Closed | Horsham FS | 4.2 |
| Calvary | Croydon FS | 4.2 |
| Lunchbox, The | Camberwell FS | 4.1 |
| First Grader, The | Tatura FS | 4.1 |
| Back of Beyond | Barossa FC | 4.1 |
| Man from Coxs River | Myrtleford FS | 4.1 |
| In the Heat of the Night (1967) | Grampians FS | 4.1 |
| Tracks | Corangamite FS | 4.1 |
| Jersey Boys | Whitehorse FS | 4.1 |
| Wadjda | Croydon FS | 4.1 |
| Past, The | Yarra Ranges FS - Healesville | 4.0 |
| Past, The | Croydon FS | 4.0 |
| Awful Truth, The | Camberwell FS | 4.0 |
| Lunchbox, The | Whitehorse FS | 4.0 |
| Chinese Take-Away | Whitehorse FS | 4.0 |
| Human Capital | Phillip Island MC | 3.9 |
| Like Father Like Son | Goulburn Valley FC | 3.9 |
| Lunchbox, The | Portland FS | 3.8 |
| Chinatown | Portarlington FS | 3.8 |
| Artist, The | Portarlington FS | 3.8 |
| Deep Blue Sea | International FS | 3.7 |
| Past, The | Yarra Ranges FS - Warburton | 3.7 |
| Stories We Tell | St Andrews FS | 3.7 |
| McLean's Money | Moira FS | 3.5 |
| Gravity | Croydon FS | 3.3 |
| All is Lost | Goulburn Valley FC | 3.2 |
| Whiplash | Portland FS | 2.8 |
| Her | Croydon FS | 2.6 |
| Ashes and Diamonds | Yarra Ranges - Warburton | 2.2 |
| Ashes and Diamonds | Yarra Ranges - Healesville | 1.9 |

FVFS Independent Films Library

Summaries of Currently Available Titles

(The price indicated is for loan of the DVD including rights for one non-theatrical screening. Many are also available for purchase.)

BLUE LIES: Australia, 2008, 80 min, M, Drama. Dir: Gerald Lawson. \$35.

The intriguing story of Stephanie McLean, a young police graduate and daughter of a respected doctor. When asked to investigate a seemingly minor incident, she finds herself on a fateful and dangerous path that leads unavoidably back to her own father and the secrets that threaten to unravel the family. Filmed around Newcastle, NSW. FVFS Score 3.5 stars.

CRUSHED: Australia, 2008, 90 mins. PG. Drama. Dir: Ian Dixon. \$20.

Love collides with duty when Nathalia, a 30-year-old schoolteacher, is forced to question her loyalties; she must choose between a vulnerable student and a fellow teacher, who also happens to be the object of her affections. Filmed in and around Melbourne, Vic. FVFS score 3.5 stars.

DAY IN A LIFE, A: Canada, 2000, 94 mins. Dir: Jean Mercier. \$35.

Tells the story of five seniors who decide to turn an ordinary day into something special. Covers love, aging, relationships, the choice of staying active, overcoming depression, the universal need for harmony, security and social contacts, family, healthcare and more. This film will stay with you for a long time. It was filmed in Victoria, BC, Canada. FVFS Score 3.0 stars.

FLIGHT OF AN ANGEL: Philippines, 2011, 94 mins. Drama. Dir: Clodualdo del Mundo Jr. \$10.

After doing some good deeds to neighbours, Gabriel finds he is developing Angel's wings. Although a fantasy, the message is one that will get you thinking. Is it better to be an obvious "Angel" together with the benefits and pitfalls, or are you better off just being yourself and be thoughtful towards other people around you? FVFS score 3.5 stars.

FLOWER IN THE POCKET: Malaysia, 2007, 97 min, Drama, Dir: Liew Seng Tat. \$10

A captivating but meandering film about two young boys who are growing up without a mother and without much attention from their father, who spends all his time at work fixing broken mannequins. FVFS score 2.8 stars

FOUR OF A KIND: Australia, 2008, 115 mins, Drama, M, Dir: Fiona Cochrane. \$35.

Four women, each with a well-hidden secret they are coaxed, tricked or forced into revealing. There is a lot happening here between the main protagonists and the outcome is a very satisfying film. Filmed in and around Melbourne. FVFS score 4.5 stars.

IT GETS BETTER: Thailand, 2012, 99 mins, Drama. Dir: Tanwarin Sukkhapisit. \$10.

At first sight this film comes across as four separate stories about four separate people, and unrelated stories about men questioning their gender or living a transgender life. Into this mix comes Tonmai, a young man returning from America to attend to his father's affairs on the occasion of his untimely death. The father owned and operated a successful nightclub (The Fountain) in the city. FVFS score 3.5 stars.

LITTLE LIES: Australia, 2004, 90 min, PG, Comedy/Crime. Dir: Gerald Lawson. \$35.

Little Lies is a crime-drama-comedy about six disparate characters who unexpectedly, overnight, find themselves in deep financial strife. They devise a foolproof plan to solve their problems once and for all! FVFS score 3 stars.

MAN FROM COXS RIVER, THE: Australia, 2014, 84 mins, PG, Doco, Dir: Russell Kilbey. \$35.

A wily mob of brumbies inhabit the Burragorang Valley, a water catchment area sealed off from the general public for over fifty years. Classed as feral pests, National Parks head office needs to have the animals removed from Sydney's water supply without any of the outcry that has marred some previous operations. Every good doco has an interesting story to tell and an interesting character at its centre. THE MAN FROM COXS RIVER is no exception as well as providing periods of excitement and even suspense. FVFS score 4.2 stars.

McLEAN'S MONEY: Australia, 2013, 97 mins, M, Comedy/Drama. Dir: Gerald Lawson. \$35.

Wealthy widower Edward McLean is heading towards a major health scare. Some of his relatives are more concerned about his will than his health, so he decides to "sort them out". Filmed in and around Newcastle, NSW. FVFS score 4.1 stars.

PEARLS OF THE FAR EAST: Vietnam. 2011, 103 mins, Drama/Romance, Dir: Cuong Ngo, \$35

Seven stories about Vietnamese women spanning different generations, exploring their inner lives and forbidden

loves. Not strong on storyline, but visually stunning and beautifully presented. FVFS score 4.7 stars.

PEPOT ARTISTA: Philippines, 2005, 103 mins, Comedy/Music, Dir: Clodualdo del Mundo Jr. \$10.

Pepot Artista is a comedy-musical that focuses on a ten-year-old boy whose dream is to become a movie star. Pepot, the dreamer, is surrounded by people who are equally dazzled by the movie world - from his own mother to the principal in his school to the impersonators in the neighbourhood carnival. FVFS score 3.5 stars.

SITA SINGS THE BLUES: USA, 2008, 89min, Animated, Dir: Nina Paley. \$10

Based on "The Ramayana of Valmiki". The glamour of India, the glamour of the 1920s, the depth-sounding drumbeat of the ancient mythic world, and the woman who loves the wrong kind of man - Nina Paley gets them all together, along with a relevant chunk of autobiography about a disappointing husband of her own, in her dazzling first full-length animated feature. FVFS score 4.0.

SONGS THEY SANG, THE: Australia, 2011, 94 mins, Doco, Dir: Rohan Spong. \$10.

The Songs They Sang was filmed in five countries by director Rohan Spong including Israel, France, Lithuania and America. It is the true story of the performances, which took place inside the Vilna ghetto, Lithuania, during World War II. These performances brought hope to the Jewish people during the horror of the Holocaust. FVFS score 3.5 stars.

WHAT I HAVE WRITTEN: Australia, 1996, 96 mins, Drama/Mystery. R. Dir: John Hughes. \$10.

An erotic mystery involving a couple married 7 years but on the verge of breaking up. After Christopher suffers a debilitating stroke Sorel discovers a novella which describes Christopher's secret affair during their recent trip in Paris. But what is real and what is fiction? Discovering the truth takes Sorel on quite a journey. Different film styles representing the different points of view and the different locations make this an intriguing and enjoyable film. FVFS score 3.5 stars.

See the FVFS website for more information about each film or how to book.

If you need to preview any film before committing, please ask.

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Items for possible publication are welcome, including your StarBox results, info about your Film Society's activities & any ideas!

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The FVFS does not necessarily endorse the statements or views contained in any personal statements in articles, letters to the ed., films, etc., mentioned in this newsletter.

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This "Little Titan" of a magazine in A5 size, comes out absolutely jam-packed with over 70 pages of information, ideas, & resources. Includes articles on: historic cinemas, profiles of film industry personalities, technical how-to articles, reviews of books & films. Features a "Trader" section where you can advertise "for sale" or "wanted" items. Offers an Events Diary, interesting Film Society news, and movie world news. It's gigantic!

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