



ReelNews

November 2015

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107

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Welcome to the following
New Film Societies.

Since 1st March 2015:

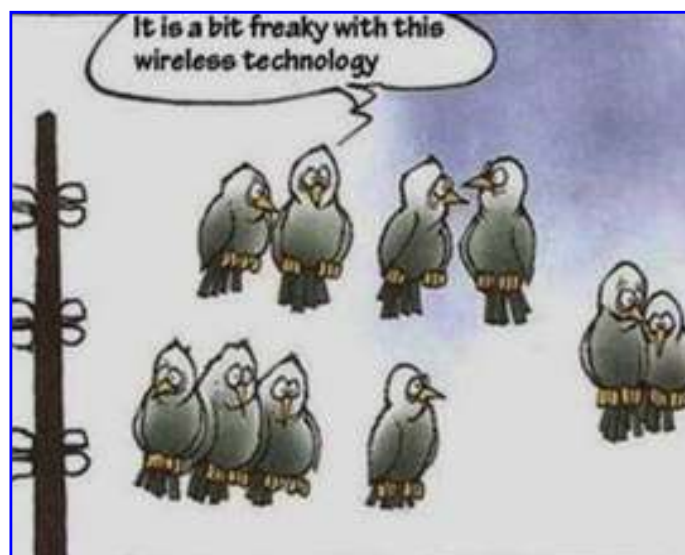
Little Film Society in March

Dookie Film Group in May

Warrandyte Film Society in June

Surf Coast Film Society in July

Two more applications in October.



FILM SOCIETY FREEBIE

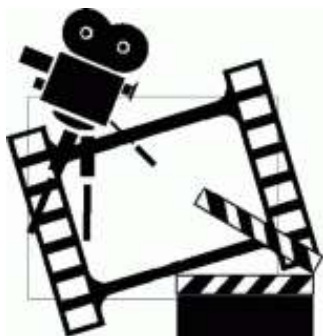
Network Film Club has finally gone digital!

If there's anyone left, still using 16mm, we have an assortment of equipment - free to a good home. Namely 3 Eiki projectors, all working, rewriter, large speaker, take-up reels, assorted shorts and feature films and sundry other bits and pieces. Strictly buyer collect (Selby, near Belgrave).

stuarthodgson@westnet.com.au

03 9754 7443

Official Newsletter of the Federation of Victorian Film Societies



From the Editor's Desk

Welcome to the *new look* ReelNews. It was again pleasing to receive some positive feedback about the last newsletter. Thank you to those who contacted me to say good things about ReelNews No 106. I hope those readers, who did not comment, were happy with the content. I am trying to include articles that will be of interest to all.

You will also notice a complete change to the front page – lighter and brighter. I am exploring all the new features of the new, for me, publishing programme I am using and having such a good time with it. Let me know if you like the *new look*!

Again, for this edition, I have contacted all film societies requesting interesting articles or photographs for inclusion into this newsletter. This input makes the newsletter so easy to read, to find out what other film societies are doing and getting new ideas that maybe can be introduced into your own film society. Unfortunately no contributions from the film societies arrived in my mailbox so I've had to rely on contributions from members of the committee and 'held-over' items from the last Email request.

This newsletter brings us all together and acts to prevent us being "islands"! So please, when you see the Email requesting articles or photos for Edition 108, send something to me and I'll be pleased to include it.

By the time some of you are reading this, John and I will be visiting Tasmania. We are going to Launceston for BOFA (Breath of Fresh Air) Film Festival on 4th – 8th November. We went last year and thoroughly enjoyed the mix of shorts combined with full-length movies. Socially it is full-on with opportunities to mix with other like-minded film buffs over drinks and nibbles. There is a dinner on the last evening when several awards are presented, including one for the best short film. John helped with the judging of the entries for this award and it will be interesting to see if his choice corresponds to the eventual winner.

For interest's sake, and to see the films that are being offered, here is the website www.bofa.com.au

Happy film watching,

Gail Arkins

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Editor: **Gail Arkins**
SubEditor: **John Arkins**

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

Email: **ReelNews@fvfs.org.au**
Phone: **(03) 9873 1369**
PO Box 125, Mitcham Vic 3132

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.

JOHN'S PAGE

From The President's Desk November, 2015

Here we are with the last edition of ReelNews for the 2015 Calendar year and by now most film societies will have commenced planning for their showings and their committees in 2016.

This brings me to the issue of committees, succession planning and encouraging members to join your committee. This is often regarded as a stumbling block and has in some cases led to the demise of a film society. So why do we have this resistance to work on a committee and especially to do certain jobs such as that of the treasurer and the secretary? Are there places that one can go to find out what to do and how to do it? The answer to both of these is yes, so let's go through some ideas.

When you formed your film society there were a number of people that got together with a single idea, a group of people interested in films being shown together. You decided who was to do what, who would look after the money, who would set up the films and who would recruit the members.

Referring to Information Sheet 6 on the FVFS Website (www.fvfs.org.au) you can see the roles of all the main players. Don't be dismayed by some of the lists of activities as many societies will have but a small subset of those activities. The jobs of the Secretary and Treasurer are often the hardest to fill yet they are the most rewarding as you are involved in all aspects of the operation.

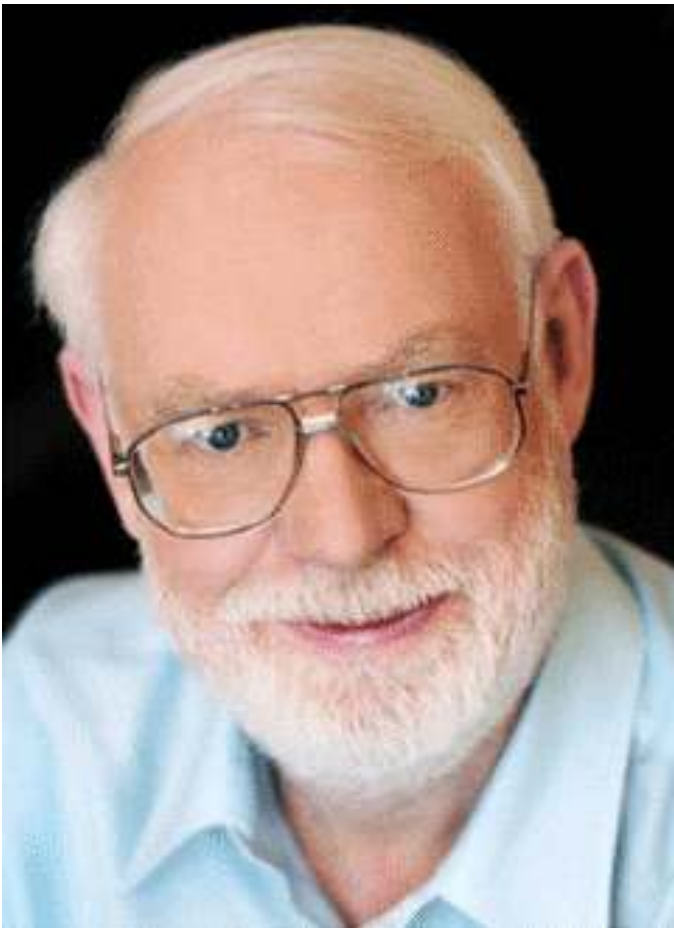
One tactic that has been used by some societies successfully is to create a number of projects during the year and ask members (who are not on the committee) to help out. Examples of such projects could be helping the Treasurer work out next year's budget, planning of the AGM function, collecting a list of films for members to vote on, collating the results and helping out with the membership renewals. If these tasks are seen as one project with a finite time, most people will be happy to help. This also means you can introduce members to the workings of the committee and later they may join as a committee member. This could be regarded as a subtle form of succession planning. They may also be happy to help out again and so reduce the load on the current committee.

For the film selection process it is most important that the members have the opportunity to have a say in the selection of the films. While they may not actually be at the meeting where the detailed list is finalized, participating in a survey is a good starting point. FVFS Resource Sheet 17 gives all the StarBox scores from many societies for quite a number of years.

I hope you have all had a great year of films and I wish you a happy and safe Christmas and New Year and look forward to successful year of films in 2016

John Arkins
President

Our Patron - David Stratton



The Importance of the Film Society

by David Stratton.

I discovered film societies when I was 18. I was living in Birmingham in the English Midlands at the time, and living away from home. It was a great period for catching up on movies of the past few years, because many of the scores of cinemas in the Birmingham area screened revivals on a regular basis.

But my discovery of the Bournville Film Society, one of the social activities of the Cadbury chocolate factory in the suburb of Bournville, and open for membership to non-employees of the company, was for me a turning point in my life as a filmgoer.

I joined the society in October 1957, and the first three screenings I attended introduced me to a wider world of cinema: *Smiles of a Summer Night* (European cinema, Bergman), *Long Pants*

(silent cinema) and *Double Indemnity* (Hollywood classicism). The fact that each feature was accompanied by an unusually interesting short film, and that detailed programme notes were handed out at screenings added to my enthusiasm.

When my stint in Birmingham came to an end a few months later, I was determined to start a film society in my hometown, Melksham, even though the population was less than 9,000 in 1958. With the encouragement of my uncle, John, who, like me, was a keen filmgoer, I placed an ad in the local paper, The Wiltshire Times, seeking interest in the formation of a film society in the town. The response was positive, and the first meeting of what became known as the Melksham and District Film Society was held in mid-1958 and was attended by half-a-dozen film enthusiasts from the area. These formed the basis of the Committee of the Society that was constituted later in the year with my uncle as Chairman and myself as Secretary/Treasurer.

The next step was to approach the Federation of Film Societies for registration – money for which came out of my own pocket – and to seek help from the Council, local schools and even the Anglican Church. Melksham's College of Further Education proved eager to get on board, and was willing to allow the Society to use its main hall, free of charge, for screenings. The College also owned a 16mm Bell & Howell projector and was willing to let us use it. A second almost identical projector was made available by the Church, on

David Stratton (article continued)

condition that the Vicar's deputy was allowed to attend Committee meetings. It turned out that he was mildly keen on movies, too, so this proved no hardship.

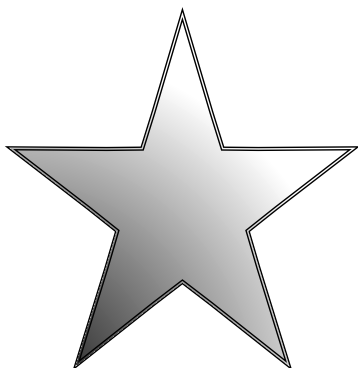
During the first months of 1959, the Committee discussed the Society's first season of films, worked out a provisional budget, and made contact with 16mm film distributors. My uncle, who – unlike me – was very good at carpentry, constructed a portable soundproof projection box in which to house the two projectors at the back of the hall.

Once again the local paper was used to advertise our first season of films, which consisted of Jacques Tati's *Monsieur Hulot's Holiday*, Ingmar Bergman's *Wild Strawberries*, Akira Kurosawa's *Seven Samurai*, H-G. Clouzot's *Les Diaboliques*, Juan Antonio Bardem's *Death of a Cyclist*, Luis Bunuel's *Los Olvidados*, Frank Capra's *Mr. Deeds Goes to Town* and Robert Hamer's *Kind Hearts and Coronets*. Films screened once a month and membership for the year was fifteen shillings. The response was excellent; if memory serves we had an initial subscription take-up of almost a hundred.

The first screening took place on September 20, 1959, a few days after my 20th birthday. I handled the projection myself. Although the seats in the hall were far from comfortable, membership reaction was extremely positive, and the Society flourished for the next five years until my departure for Australia.

Looking back, it's clear to me that the passion that led me to start the Melksham and District Film Society was the same force that would soon lead me to direct the Sydney Film Festival and, eventually, to present international movies on SBS.

(This is an expanded version of a segment of David Stratton's memoir, *I Peed on Fellini*, Random House 2007).



NOW AVAILABLE

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Cost? Free of charge for
FVFS members!
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Email: starbox@fvfs.org.au



DID YOU KNOW? Several of the major scenes in *Braveheart* had to be re-shot because extras were wearing wrist watches and sunglasses!

Bits and Pieces

STOP PRESS

Please save the date

The 2016 FVFS AGM will be held on Saturday, 12th March.

This year the function will change its location.

It will be held in the Willis Room of Whitehorse Civic Centre. (More information to come.)

Attention All FVFS Members

Your affiliation with the FVFS will be due by January 1st and the application form is ready for you to complete.

This year we have introduced an electronic version of the form which you can complete online. It is simpler than the paper version and guides you through the steps for completing the application. Just go to www.fvfs.org.au/join. We would also appreciate your feedback on how easy the new online form is to complete.

The traditional paper form is also available online, and can be downloaded and printed to be completed the old fashioned way and posted to the FVFS.

We can also post you a paper copy if you don't have the means of completing the form online or downloading one. Just email admin@fvfs.org.au or call 03 9873 1369.

As you know, the FVFS has a number of independently produced films available at low prices for film societies to borrow and screen. See fvfs.org.au/indie-films. We are always on the lookout for new and interesting films to include in this library, so if anyone from any member society wants to recommend a title of a suitable indie-film to us, we will consider including it in the library.

email to admin@fvfs.org.au

Website Up-to-Date?

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

Please update regularly!

Worth a Read!

This extract might have some relevance to the issue we have where Roadshow want to charge DCP rates for DVD screenings in DCP capable venues, whether they use DCP or not!

A lady decided to give herself a big treat for her 90th birthday by staying overnight in a really nice luxurious hotel.

When she checked out the next morning, the desk clerk handed her a bill for \$250. She demanded to know why the charge was so high. "I agree it's a nice hotel, but the rooms aren't worth \$250 for just an overnight stay – I didn't even have breakfast!"

The clerk told her that \$250 is the 'standard rate,' and breakfast had been included had she wanted it.

She insisted on speaking to the Manager.

The Manager appeared and, forewarned by the desk clerk, announced: "This hotel has an Olympic-sized pool and a huge conference center which are available for use." "But I didn't use them." "Well, they are here, and you could have."

He went on to explain that she could also have seen one of the in-hotel shows for which they were so famous.

"We have the best entertainers from all over the world performing here."

"But I didn't go to any of those shows," she pleaded.

"Well, we have them, and you could have," was the reply.

No matter what amenity the Manager mentioned, she replied, "But I didn't use it!" and the Manager countered with his standard response.

After several minutes discussion, and with the Manager still unmoved, she decided to pay, wrote a cheque and gave it to him.

The Manager was surprised when he looked at the cheque.

"But Madam, this cheque is for only \$50." "That's correct" she replied "I charged you \$200 for sleeping with me."

"But I didn't sleep with you Madam!" said the Manager

"Well, too bad, I was here, and you could have!"

DID YOU KNOW?

The alien language in *District 9* was created by rubbing a pumpkin!

Macedon Ranges Film Society News

By Christine Caley

One day, a group of Macedon Ranges friends were lamenting the lack of a cinema in their part of the world. Someone mooted the notion of forming a regional film society and investigation began with that aim in mind.

That was six years ago. The Macedon Ranges Film Society was an idea enthusiastically embraced by the locals and 60 people became members that first year. Although the viewing action takes place in Woodend, members come from the surrounding areas and townships such as Sunbury, Romsey, Kyneton and Gisborne.

The society prides itself on showing a range of films of broad interest. The year always begins and ends on a high note, so this year began with the uplifting Australian film, *Healing*, and will conclude with lots of laughs at *Best In Show*. As well this year, members have been captivated by Dame Judi Dench's performance in *Philomena*, laughed out loud at the antics of Robin Williams in *La Cage aux Folles* and been charmed by the outcome in the little-known Scottish film, *The Angels' Share*.

There appears to be no waning of enthusiasm in the audience attendance numbers and all seem to love an evening where a film with film notes, supper and the ability to borrow a DVD from the society's significant library is the order of the day.

What makes these things work? According to President Christine Wangerek, it takes four things: (1) a very good playlist with a wide range of genres, (2) taking into account the wishes of members, (3) fostering a relaxed and friendly atmosphere at meetings and (4) having a strong and reliable committee who take their responsibilities seriously and have a good time whilst doing so.



If you would like more information about the Macedon Ranges Film Society, you can email them on mrfilmsociety@gmail.com or phone Christine Caley on 03 5427 1011 or Lorraine Rutherford on 03 5427 0921.

President Christine Wangerek and Vice-President Vicki Wells (left) toast the health of the Macedon Ranges Film Society

Visit to some of our Western Film Societies

By Ian & Susan Davidson (June 2015)

When Susan and I planned our visit to Warrnambool, it was going to be at a time of good weather earlier in the year, but by the time we could get away it turned out to be in mid-winter. We contacted the local film societies and managed to get to see three of them in the time available.

Port Fairy Film Society has been a member of the FVFS since 1992. They have 254 members and the society operates in two streams, one DCP and the other DVD. They also conduct film festivals and community cinema, for which they negotiate rights with the distributors.

They currently operate under the auspices of the Port Fairy Community Group Inc. but issues have arisen recently over what insurance and incorporation cover this provides, and what they should be charged for their share. The society will be looking at the alternative of setting up independently and taking out their own incorporation and PL insurance. We were able to offer several avenues for further investigation. Succession planning may also be an issue as so much responsibility and knowledge lies in the hands of only a few people. In our view it would be advisable to get acquired knowledge down on paper and ensure any agreements with council etc. are recorded. We spoke with George Dummett by phone and met with Lawrence Gleeson in person.



Lawrence Gleeson and
Ian Davidson (FVFS)
after a productive
working coffee break.

Portland Film Society has been an FVFS member since 1962. They have 96 members and screen in a modern theatrette with tiered cinema seating. The venue is owned by CEMA and there exists an excellent relationship between the society, CEMA and the council. They have a strong committee and there don't appear to be any issues.

We met with Bronwyn Petrie, Clinton Saunders, Linda O'Hara, Judy Lane and Heather Richardson. We presented a certificate.



Portland committee - (including dog) with
their membership certificate. L - R Susan &
Ian Davidson (FVFS), Bronwyn Petrie, Clinton
Saunders, Heather Richardson and Judy Lane.

Visit to some of our Western Film Societies

(continued)

F Project Cinema Society is a relatively new society having joined the FVFS in 2012. They have 95 members and are going strongly.

They have an enthusiastic committee and no issues at this time.

They have recently moved to a new venue – Mozart Hall.

We met with Helen and Des Bunyon, Derek Guille, Judy and Rob Omni, presenting them with a certificate and StarBox.



After another working lunch. F-Project Cinema committee with their certificate and StarBox.

L-R Rob Omni, Derek Guille, Helen & Des Bunyon, Judy Omni with Ian Davidson (FVFS).

We were made to feel welcome everywhere and had a great time and are now able to put faces to names. Thanks to all film society committees for making us feel so welcome.

Most societies are doing well but some are very conscious of the need to put in place some succession planning and perhaps get more procedures down in writing.

Surf Coast Film Society?

Coincidentally, when we were at Warrnambool we received an email from Glenda Shomaly in Torquay asking about setting up a film society in Anglesea. We arranged to call in at her place at Torquay on the way home for a one-hour discussion. It is highly likely that a new film society will result from these discussions.

Editor's Note – Further update on above – Page 11

A New Film Society

By Glenda Shomaly

Surf Coast Film Society

We had our second screening last night, (24/09/2015) and about 23 people enjoyed *The Angels Share* which followed a short movie *Cone Wars* presented by a young man Sam Olorenshaw, who made it as a Year-12 project at Geelong High School; it won the People's Choice Award at the Odyssey Short Film Festival last year.

I was wondering if other film societies would like to show it, or if they also find short works by budding film makers to show.

Our previous showings' short movie was *Mutt* by local Glen Hunwick.

Our next film will probably be *Water Water* made under the auspices of SurfCoast Arts. It's going to be an interesting challenge finding good shorts, a tradition established by the previous film society.

Inside The Shining Hotel - Facts and Fear.

In October 1974, ascendant horror writer Stephen King and his wife spent a night in a cavernous old hotel at the foot of the Colorado Rockies. With the winter barrage of snow and cold looming, the hotel was about to close for the season, leaving King and his wife as its sole guests. After eating in a grand yet empty dining room – with the chairs up on every table except his – and walking through the endless empty hallways, a new novel began to take shape in King's mind.

That night, King had a terrifying dream about his son being chased through the hotel's halls by a fire hose, and immediately after, he knew he had to write. "I got up, lit a cigarette, sat in the chair looking out the window at the Rockies," he later said, "and by the time the cigarette was done, I had the bones of the book firmly set in my mind."

That book, *The Shining*, introduced that hotel, the Stanley in Estes Park, Colorado, to an entirely new generation. Soon, this faded remnant of early 20th century high life was reborn as "The Shining Hotel." Once you step inside the Stanley, you realize just how much life both does and does not imitate art.

The Stanley

Famed businessman/inventor *Freelan Oscar (F.O.) Stanley* finished construction of the hotel in 1909. Six years earlier Stanley's doctor ordered him to seek the clean, mountain air of the West, in the hopes that it would ameliorate his tuberculosis. When his trip to Estes Park Colorado did just that, Stanley fell in love with the area and vowed to return each summer.

Source: www.all-that-is-interesting.com

Story of Reels @ Wehl Film Society



In early 2015, the Reels at Wehl Film Society made the major decision to relocate from the charming Wehl Street Theatre in Mount Gambier to the Sir Robert Helpmann Theatre in the centre of the Blue Lake City. Reels screens once a month at the new venue and is supported by a growing number of members with many travelling from distant communities such as Coonawarra, Penola, Millicent in excess of 50 kilometers away. An essential part of the Reels movie experience is the light supper and pre-dinner drink that is looked forward to and appreciated by members each month.

The most popular movie so far this year has been the runaway StarBox rated comedy *The 100 year Old Man who Climbed out the Window and Disappeared* which was screened in June. It comes highly recommended from our society. In May 2015 we scheduled a double header in recognition of the historic landings at Anzac Cove in 1915. The Australian

Classic *Gallipoli* was twinned with *The Hero of the Dardanelles* a lesser known piece of Australian cinema history that was created in 1915.

As I email this, it is 100 years to this day (July 17th, 1915) that this film premiered at Melbourne's Majestic Theatre. The National Film and Sound Archive has saved 20 minutes of the original film and it is now available from the NFSA on DVD for \$24.95. The DVD now includes *The Spirit of Anzac*. Our members paid a rare tribute at the end of the movie by giving *The Hero* a heartfelt round of applause. We take this opportunity to applaud the efforts of our NFSA in making this possible and now easy for everyone to access.

Our exciting program of world cinema for the next six months has been set and our members are currently deciding on a name change that takes into account our relocation. We wish all Film Society members in the Federation success.

Contact: Rob Forgan
Mobile 0408 673 113

Reels @ Wehl Film Society
Lime Stones Inc
PO Box 2908
Mount Gambier SA 5290
<http://reelsatwehl-filmsociety.blogspot.com/>

Have Your Say!

We'd like to hear from film societies about the following topics and include your replies in upcoming issues of ReelNews. Just answer 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?

PLEASE BE INVOLVED!!

FILM SELECTION

By Sheryl Allen

Yarra Ranges Film Society

At this time of the year we are starting to seriously think about of a film program for the next year.

We have a democratic process which begins in August and is finalised in November before the December screening. To start the ball rolling, the committee members are asked to suggest any films that they may have seen.

With the Melbourne International Film Festival happening, many people get to see a range of new recent releases which are not yet screened at the cinemas. There are usually many suggestions from these. It is a great start towards putting together a film program.

This is followed by a member suggestion sheet available at the September screening. All members are encouraged to add their suggestions to this list.

Again, many members, especially those who have a strong interest in film, are able to make great recommendations. All the suggestions are then compiled and I would call this the long list of possible film screenings. All suggestions are considered and then a number of criteria are applied to produce the short list. Some of the criteria to be considered for a film to progress from the long list to the short list include:

Are the screening rights available?

Is there a copy of the film available?

Has the film been shown recently in the local commercial cinemas?

Is there a mix of international films suggested?

What classic or "from the vault" films are included?

For our program, we choose to screen three films from

the vault and the rest are recent releases.

The short list is circulated to members in the October newsletter and all members are asked to vote. The results from this voting survey produce the final selected films for the year, which are then put together into a screening program and sent to the publishers.

Last year's selection were the top films voted for by the members from the short list. Again, screening availability and local cinema programming may impact of the final selection. The screening dates for each film is selected by the committee and a program is prepared for the printers and for electronic publishing. These are available to the public, including the film community, before the December screening. This provides an opportunity to encourage new members to our film society, as well as provide an informed decision for current members to renew their membership at the December screening.

"Dress Circle" published by Ross Adams

\$25 per year. Four issues per year.

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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Phone **02 6353 1897** or Email **lawsonco@vic.chariot.net.au**

The Dressmaker

By Cass Savellis, Cadet Journalist, Deniliquin Pastoral Times

Acclaimed author Rosalie Ham and film producer Sue Maslin were special guests at the Deniliquin Creative Writers Group on Monday 27th July, 2015.

The pair were in Deniliquin talking about the soon-to-be-released Australian film *The Dressmaker*, which is based on the novel released by Ms Ham, originally from Jerilderie, in 2000.

About 40 creative writers and the executive of the Deniliquin Film Society attended the informal event at the Deniliquin Multi Arts Centre.

They were treated to a presentation on the making of the movie before enjoying a casual luncheon.

“I was just ecstatic at the success of the workshop,” coordinator Sally-Ann Dillon said.

“It was extremely informative and an enlightening insight into novel writing and film production.

“Both guests were so warm and generous with their time and the group enjoyed it very much.”

Ms Ham, who was the guest of honour for a 230-strong crowd at a Country Women’s Association high tea in Jerilderie the day before, said she was relishing the opportunity to get back to the Riverina.



Deniliquin creative writer Sally-Ann Dillon with producer Sue Maslin (left) and author Rosalie Ham (right)

“I have always been impressed with the diversity of history, art and culture in the country,” Ms Ham said.

“It’s great to meet all of these local people who are makers of writing, film and other creative pursuits.”

For Ms Maslin, it was also a chance to return ‘home’. She grew up at the iconic local property Pooginook, north of Jerilderie, and her mother, Louise Taylor, lives in Deniliquin.

Both Ms Maslin and Ms Ham attended the same Melbourne boarding school and were reunited through their work.

“We hadn’t seen each other for 30 years and then the book came out,” Ms Maslin said.

“It was a story that everyone can relate to and that’s what makes a great film.

“The book is so visual and it has such unique characters.”

The Dressmaker

(Continued)

The Dressmaker, to be released on October 22, features acclaimed stars Kate Winslet, Judy Davis, Liam Hemsworth and Hugo Weaving.

Set in the 1950s, it is a bittersweet comedy about a glamorous young woman who returns, after many years in Europe, to her home town in rural Australia in order to right some wrongs.

Ms Ham says the story is based on her travels and learning that everywhere has similarities.

The film adaptation has been in the works for seven years.

Ms Dillon said there was great feedback from all who met the two creatives.

“Everyone got so much out of it; I’m very thrilled it all went so well.

“Our writers and film enthusiasts were in awe of the two guests.”

Ms Dillon said they hope to have a bus travelling to Echuca for the first screening of The Dressmaker.

Film Festivals and Others

Jewish International Film Festival in Australia 2015

Sydney – 28 October – 18 November 2015

Melbourne – 4 November – 29 November 2015

Orry Kelly: Dressing Hollywood Exhibition

ACMI (Melbourne) August 18 2015 – January 17 2016

To complement Gillian Armstrong’s documentary on this great Australian film costume designer, who worked with the big stars of Hollywood in the 40s and 50s, ACMI has a free exhibition which showcases many of the costumes, designs and other memorabilia.

www.acmi.net.au

Japanese Film Festival

ACMI and Hoyts Melbourne Central,

26 November – 6 December 2015

Film Review by John Turner

MANGANINNIE.

Australia 1980.

Tasmanian Film Corporation. 86 Mins.

Director: John Honey. Producer: Gilda Baracchi. Script: Ken Kelso. Based on the novel by Beth Roberts. Photography: Gary Hansen. Music: Peter Sculthorpe.

Cast: Mawuyal Yanthlawuy (Manganinnie), Anna Ralph (Joanna), Philip Hinton (Edward Waterman), Elaine Mangan (Margaret Waterman).

Following the success of *My Brilliant Career* and several other Australian films of the time, *Manganinnie* was very much undervalued on its release. Set in 1830 it presents a child's eye view of one of the blackest events in Australian history, the virtual extinction of the Tasmanian native population. *Manganinnie* is the only survivor of a local massacre and the film charts her wanderings during the next year or more as she seeks for the vanished tribe in their annual places of settlement.

She is accompanied on her wanderings by Joanna, the young daughter of English settlers, through whose eyes and occasional voice-over recollections from a later life, we see the basic values and survival skills of the Aboriginal population. For instance, *Manganinnie* was the keeper of the flame for her people and the importance of fire, a fact which eventually she imbues Joanna, is constantly placed before us, becoming the thread which binds the film together.

The direction from John Honey is straightforward, the dialogue by Ken Kelso, sparse and the acting by mostly amateur actors is more than adequate. Gary Hansen captures the magnificent range of terrain and the music by Peter Sculthorpe never intrudes or over-emphasises the plot.

The implications of the hopeless search by the woman and child are expanded by the use of voice-over and although there are some obvious lapses in the narrative exposition these are more than outweighed by the many moving scenes and in particular the emotional final sequences.

If *Manganinnie* were produced today, because of the popularity gained by the films of Rolf De Heer, it would receive a much more widespread release than it achieved in 1980. It should be screened by Film Societies, even those who did show the 16mm print available at the time.

A copy of this DVD was donated to the FVFS DVD library by Umbrella Entertainment.

What's Been Seen

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

If your screenings are not listed below it means you have not submitted your 2015 program, or have not updated your website.

Alpine Film Society

Arapiles Motion Picture Society

Nick Cave: 20,000 Days on Earth, UK, 2014.
Charlie's Country, Australia, 2013.
The Commitments, Ireland/UK/USA, 1991.

Artist Film Screening Society

Arts Group of Flinders Film Society

Ballarat Film Society & Buninyong Film Festival

The Fall, India, 2006.
Lightning in a Bottle, USA, 2004.

Bannockburn Movies Film Society & Film Festival

Barwon Heads Film Society & Film Festival

Two Days, One Night, France, 2014.
The Grand Budapest Hotel, USA+, 2014.

Beechworth Film Society

Bright Film Society

Finding Vivian Maier, USA, 2013.
The Other Son, France, 2012.
Winter Sleep, Turkey+, 2014.
Begin Again, USA, 2013.

British History Film Study Festival

Camberwell Film Society

Shane, USA, 1953.
One Chance, UK/USA, 2013.

Celebrate Israel Film Study Festival

Cinerarium, The

Corangamite Film Society

The Dark Horse, NZ, 2014.
1000 Times Goodnight, Norway/Sweden/Ireland, 2013.

Court Film Society

Winter Sleep, Turkey+, 2014.
What We Do in the Shadows, NZ, 2014.
Folies Bergere, France, 2014.

Croydon Film Society

The Hundred-Foot Journey, India/UAE/USA, 2014.
Ida, Poland/Denmark/France, 2013.
Jimmy's Hall, UK/Ireland/France, 2014.
Venus in Furs, France/Poland, 2013.
Inside Llewyn Davies, USA/UK/France, 2013.
My Sweet Pepper Land, Kurdistan, 2013.

DADo Film Society

Dookie Film Group

The Station Agent, USA, 2003.
The Lunchbox, India, 2013.
The Hundred-Foot Journey, India/UAE/USA, 2014.

F Project Cinema

Whiplash, USA, 2014.
The Act of Killing, Denmark/Norway/UK, 2012.
The Savages, USA, 2007.
Cosmic Psychos, Australia, 2013.
Only Lovers Left Alive, Germany/UK+, 2013.
Life Itself, USA, 2014.

Far East Film Society

Ferntree Gully Film Society

Two Days One Night, France/Belgium, 2014.
Sunshine on Leith, UK, 2013.

Flexible Respite Film Society

Flickside Film Society (Arts Yackandandah)

Geelong Classic Cinema Inc

Young Mr Lincoln, USA, 1939.
Swing Time, USA, 1936.

God Loves Atheists Film Study Festival

Goulburn Valley Film Club

The Lunchbox, India, 2013.
Performance - A Late Quartet, USA, 2012.

Grampians Film Society

Red, USA, 2010.
Charlie's Country, Australia, 2013.
The Lemon Tree, Israel+, 2008.

Horsham Film Society

The Keeper of Lost Causes, Denmark+, 2013.
Fill the Void, Israel, 2012.
The Finishers, France/Belgium, 2013.

International Film Group

My Old Lady, USA/France, 2013.
The Past, France, 2012.
Living is Easy (with Eyes Closed), Spain, 2013.

Liberate Education! Film Study Festival

Little Film Society

The Immigrant, USA, 2013.
Interstellar, USA/UK, 2014.
Chinese Puzzle, France/USA/Belgium, 2013.

Lounge Lizards Film Society

LV Film Society

Locke, UK, 2014.
Still Alice, USA, 2015.
Magic in the Moonlight, France, 2014.

Macartan Club (Inc) Film Society

Tunes of Glory, UK, 1960.
Sea Wife, UK, 1957.
Travelling North, Australia, 1987.

Macedon Ranges Film Society

The Secret in their Eyes, Argentina/Spain, 2009.
To Have and Have Not, USA, 1944.
Best in Show, USA, 2000.

Maldon Movies Film Society

Melbourne Horror Film Society

Wolfen, USA, 1981.
Ginger Snaps, Canada/USA, 2000.

Melbourne Zombie Film Society

Moira Film Group

Snow Dogs, Canada/USA, 2002.
Paper Planes, Australia, 2014.
The Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel, UK/USA, 2015.
West Side Story, USA, 1961.

Mount Eliza Fifty-Five Plus Film Group

Moviehouse

A Star is Born, USA, 1954.
To Kill a Mockingbird, USA, 1962.
Mr. Chedworth Steps Out, Australia, 1939.
Shane, USA, 1953.
All That Heaven Allows, USA, 1955.
The Dam Busters, UK, 1955.
The Kid from Spain, USA, 1932.

Moving Clickers Inc & Lorne Film Festival

Living is Easy (with Eyes Closed), Spain, 2014.

What's Been Seen

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Murrindindi Film Society

Beneath Hill 60, Australia, 2010.
All About Eve, USA, 1950.
Smiles of a Summer Night, Sweden, 1955.

Myrtleford Film Society

A Day in a Life, Canada, 2000.
McLean's Money, Australia, 2013.
The Songs They Sang, Australia, 2010.
The Man from Coss River, Australia, 2014.
Banksy Does New York, USA, 2014.

Network Film Club

Old Scotch Film Society

The Fugitive, USA, 1993.
The Invisible Woman, UK, 2013.
What We Did on Our Holiday, UK, 2014.
Backyard Ashes, Australia, 2013.

Phillip Island Movie Club

Song for a Raggy Boy, Ireland/UK+, 2003.
Mystery of Happiness, Argentina, 2014.
Still Alice, USA, 2015.
Going Away, France, 2013.
Four of a Kind, Australia, 2008.

Plaza Cinema Group

Port Albert Movie Club

Port Fairy Film Society

Far from the Madding Crowd, UK/USA, 2015.

Portarlington Film Society

Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy, USA, 2011.
Lucky Miles, Australia, 2007.
Blue Jasmine, USA, 2013.

Portland Film Society

Charlie's Country, Australia, 2013.
All This Mayhem, UK/Australia, 2014.
Love is Strange, USA+, 2014.
20,000 Days on Earth, UK, 2014.
Wild, USA, 2014.
Leviathan, Russia, 2014.

PRODOS Film Study Group

Prom Coast Film Society

Boyhood, USA, 2014.
The Babadook, Australia, 2014.
The Little Girl Who Lives Down the Lane, Canada/France, 1976.
Dallas Buyers Club, USA, 2013.

Red Rock Film Society

Half of a Yellow Sun, Nigeria, 2014.
The Two Faces of January, UK, 2014.

Red Rum Film Society

Calvary, Ireland, 2014.
Advanced Style, USA, 2014.

Science and Technology Film Study Festival

Smart Girls Film Club

Films featuring amazing women in history fiction

St Andrews Film Society

Calvary, Ireland/UK, 2014.

St Dunstan's Hall Film Society

The Secret in their Eyes, Argentina, 2009.
Gandhi, UK/India, 1982.
The Imitation Game, UK/USA, 2014.
The Man from Coss River, Australia, 2014.
Evita, USA, 1996.

Sun Country Movie Club

The Best Offer, Italy, 2013.
Belle, UK, 2013.
The Big Lebowski, USA, 1998.

Surf Coast Film Society

The Angels' Share, UK+, 2012.

Tatura Film Society

The 100-Year-Old Man Who Climbed Out the Window and Disappeared, Sweden, 2013.
The Angels' Share, UK+, 2012.
A Separation, Iran, 2012.

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

Vantastic Watchers Film Society

Warrandyte Film Society

Whitehorse Film Society

Healing, Australia, 2014.
My Sweet Pepper Land, Iraq, 2013.
Calvary, Ireland/UK, 2014.
Still Life, UK, 2013.
The Gilded Cage, France, 2013.

Williamstown Film Society

Oh! What a Lovely War, UK, 1969.
Midnight in Paris, Spain/USA/France, 2011.

Yarra Ranges Film Society

The Invisible Woman, UK, 2013.
Two Days, One Night, Belgium, 2014.
M. Hulot's Holiday, France, 1953.

Port Campbell Community Film Festival (NPV Film Festival)

New South Wales

Deniliquin Film Society and Film Festival

South Australia

Adelaide Cinematheque

Twelve Monkeys, USA, 1995.
Donnie Darko, USA, 2001.
The Buddy Holly Story, USA, 1978.
La Bamba, USA, 1987.
Casablanca, USA, 1942.
Gaslight, USA, 1944.
Notorious, USA, 1946.
Journey to Italy, Italy, 1954.
The Bigamist, USA, 1953.

South Australia

Adelaide Film Study Group

South Australia

Adelaide University Film Society

South Australia

Barossa Film Club

The Red Circle, France/Italy, 1970.
Monsieur Lazhar, Canada, 2011.

South Australia

Port Lincoln Film Society

Searching for Sugar Man, Sweden/UK+, 2012.
Jean de Florette, France, 1986.
Grosse Pointe Blank, USA, 1997.
Fantasia, USA, 1940.

South Australia

Reels Film Society

Wadjda, Saudi Arabia, 2012.
The Lobster, UK, 2015.

South Australia

RiAus Film Society

South Australia

Southern Fleurieu Film Society

What's Eating Gilbert Grape, USA, 1993.
Hercules Returns, Australia, 1993.

South Australia

Yankalilla & District Over 50s Film Club



StarBox Ratings



StarBox results received since Issue 106 – July 2015

DVD Title	Society	Stars
Paper Planes	Moir FS	4.7
Philomena	International FG	4.7
All this Mayhem	Portland FS	4.7
Gandhi	St Dunstan's FS	4.6
Salt of the Earth, The	Croydon FS	4.6
Healing	Whitehorse FS	4.6
All About Eve	Murrindindi FS	4.5
Still Alice	Phillip Island MC	4.5
Whiplash	F Project Cinema	4.5
100-Foot Journey, The	Tatura FS	4.4
Hannah Arendt	F Project Cinema	4.3
100-Foot Journey, The	Dookie FG	4.3
Hundred-Year Old Man Who Climbed Out of the Window, The	Tatura FS	4.3
Nebraska	Whitehorse FS	4.3
Angels' Share, The	Barwon Heads FS	4.2
Birdcage, The	Camberwell FS	4.2
Dark Horse, The	Corangamite FS	4.2
St Vincent	Corangamite FS	4.2
What We Do in the Shadows	Portland FS	4.2
Women on the Sixth Floor	Myrtleford FS	4.2
Angels' Share, The	Macedon Ranges FS	4.2
Charlie's Country	Arapiles FS	4.2
Immigrant, The	Little Film Society	4.1
North by Northwest	Croydon FS	4.1
Song for a Raggy Boy	Phillip Island MC	4.1
Whistle Down the Wind	Yarra Ranges FS – Warburton	4.1
Healing	St Andrews FS	4.1
Source, The	Whitehorse FS	4.1
100-Foot Journey, The	Croydon FS	4.1
Living is Easy With Eyes Closed	Portland FS	4.0
Smiles of a Summer Night	Murrindindi FS	4.0
Whistle Down the Wind	Yarra Ranges FS – Healesville	4.0
Red Circle, The	Barossa FC	4.0
Supercondriaque	Reels FS	4.0
Hannah Arendt	Whitehorse FS	4.0
My Sweet Pepper Land	Whitehorse FS	4.0
Finding Vivian Maier	F Project Cinema	3.9
Hannah Arendt	Goulburn Valley Film Club	3.9
Living is Easy with Eyes Closed	Reels @ Wehl FS	3.9
Interstellar	Little Film Society	3.9
Calvary	St Andrews FS	3.8
Charlie's Country	Portland FS	3.8
Omar	Croydon FS	3.8
Jean de Florette	Arapiles FS	3.8
Savages, The	F Project Cinema	3.8
Lunchbox, The	Dookie FS	3.8
Station Agent, The	Dookie FS	3.8
Act of Killing, The	F Project Cinema	3.7
Blue Jasmine	Croydon FS	3.7
Still Life	GV Film Club	3.7
Man Most Wanted, The	Camberwell FS	3.7
Calvary	Whitehorse FS	3.7

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



StarBox Ratings



StarBox results received since Issue 106 – July 2015

DVD Title	Society	Stars
Ida	Croydon FS	3.7
Two Days, One Night	Barwon Heads FS	3.6
Coco Before Chanel	St Dunstan's FS	3.6
Guard, The	Arapiles FS	3.6
20,000 Days on Earth	Arapiles FS	3.6
To Have and Have Not	Macedon Ranges FS	3.6
Chinese Puzzle	Little Film Society	3.6
Charlie's Country	Goulburn Valley FC	3.5
Four of a Kind	Barossa FC	3.5
Love is Strange	Portland FS	3.5
Invisible Woman, The	Yarra Ranges FS – Warburton	3.4
Gun in Each Hand, A	Yarra Ranges FS – Healesville	3.3
Gun in Each Hand, A	Yarra Ranges FS – Warburton	3.2
McLean's Money	Myrtleford FS	3.2
Invisible Woman, The	Yarra Ranges FS – Healesville	3.2
Babadook, The	Reels FS	3.1
Like Father Like Son	Croydon FS	3.1
Banksy Does New York	Myrtleford FS	3.0
Trip to Italy, The	Whitehorse FS	2.9
Mystery of Happiness, The	The Phillip Island MC	2.8
Omar	Tatura FS	2.8
Tuesday After Christmas	International FG	2.2
Flower in the Pocket	Barossa FC	1.8
Pigeon Sat on a Branch, A	St Andrews FS	1.7

The StarBox scores submitted for ReelNews 107 have now been combined with the others from 2015 and have been published on the website as an updated version of Info Sheet 17-12 (Version 2).

www.fvfs.org.au

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