

Your Image is Our Focus

November 2022 #135

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## From the President

We need to talk about Starbox. The Federation's innovative film rating system was introduced in its present form around 2012 and has proved a popular enhancement to the activities of 47 Societies, three of whom have purchased a second Starbox (your first Starbox is free!).



Henry Screen

Starbox serves to stimulate thought and discussion among members about the merits or otherwise of the film in question.

Further it has created a comprehensive database of films which is a very useful resource when planning your season. Starbox scores are reported in ReelNews every quarter

and are available on the Federation website ([www.fvfs.org](http://www.fvfs.org)) Information Sheets 17.9 - 17.19. Here you can scroll what films were shown in a given year and their score - very useful when planning your season's program. There's a lot of data to trawl through to get an idea of how FVFS members rate the film . . .

So I am wondering, if there was a database of this information that one could search by film title and get its average score over all screenings, would this be of interest to members?

Our own 'IMDB' - It could help significantly when trying to choose films for your program. Do you think this is a good idea?

Let me know - email - [reelnews@fvfs.org](mailto:reelnews@fvfs.org) ★

## Streamers seek more revenue via ads and price increases

**Netflix** - From November, viewers will have four subscription options to choose from in Australia, with the cheapest option being \$6.99 a month - called Basic with Ads. It will have up to five minutes of ads every hour, on average, with each lasting 15-30 seconds before and during streaming.

That's \$4 down from the existing cheapest option, which currently sits at \$10.99 a month.

It becomes a more affordable option for viewers who still want access to the service but are looking to cut costs where they can.

**Binge** - Part of the Foxtel Group, owned by Telstra and News Corp - is the latest streaming service to introduce ads to its platforms, announcing the move on Friday to roll out in the first quarter of 2023.

**Disney+** - hasn't yet revealed any changes in Australia, subscribers should be warned that a price rise is coming. Disney+ has announced changes to come into effect in the US from 8 December. In August, the company's chief financial officer said the changes will be expanded internationally "sometime next year".

Another popular Streamer - **Stan** hasn't announced any plans for advertising so far, but is said to be watching developments closely.



## FVFS On-Line survey on Streaming - August 2022

“This brief survey was conducted to either challenge or support the suggestion that the growth in streaming services will bring about the death of film societies and that societies will need to move to 4K Ultra video projection to survive.”

### Number of responses

Responses were received from:

Victoria	18 from 82 member societies
Tasmania	5 from 16 societies
NSW	0
Qld	0
SA	0

Question 4. Has the introduction of streaming services impacted on your membership?

	Victoria	Tasmania
No	13	2
Maybe/Don't know	5	2
Yes	0	1
Total Responses	18	5

Question 5. How many times have you not been able to screen because...

	Victoria	Tasmania
A. Produced by a Streaming co.	4 socs (6 DVDs)	0
B. Rights held by streaming co.	1 soc (3 DVDs)	1
C Unable to find rights in Aust.	8 socs (17 DVDs)	2 (10 DVDs_

Question 6. Have you ever tried streaming a movie ....

	Victoria	Tasmania
a. For yourself (privately)?	17	1
b. Real-time to screen to members?	1	1
c. Recorded to screen to members?	5	0

Other issues were:

- Internet not reliable enough for streaming.(3 responses)
- We avoid titles that are available for streaming.
- Rights were approved but DVD was not available, so we streamed it – with difficulty.

Question 7. Would you download a movie to screen to members later (if rights are approved)?

	Victoria	Tasmania
Yes	14	2

Question 8. Do you screen Blu-ray in favour of DVD?

	Victoria	Tasmania
Yes	6	2

more ↓

## Question 9 Is your film society in a position to screen 4K?

	Victoria	Tasmania
Yes	3	0

## Question 10 Is your society interested in upgrading to 4K?

	Victoria	Tasmania
Yes	8	1

## Question 11. Further comments on the use of BluRay or 4K

- DVDs look good on a BluRay player or one with upscaling capability.
- You can “hire” downloads from Apple and screen them. (The question of rights was not mentioned – ID)
- We can play 4K but have not tried it yet.
- Not all committee are tech savvy.
- 4K is only possible if the venue owner installs it. (3 responses)
- We use mostly DCP.
- We prefer DVDs because we don’t want Blu-ray or 4K in the library – members generally only have DVD players.

## Question 12 Average age of members?

Average ages are from 50 through to 75, but the average of these averages was 64,

## Question 13 Is the Average age of members increasing?.

	Victoria	Tasmania
Increasing	4	1
Staying the same	6	2
Decreasing	5	2

## Question 14 How are you attracting newer, younger members?

- Getting younger people involved.
- Younger people are happy to stay home to watch movies on TV, streamed or on the PC.
- Getting the word out. Word of mouth (2 responses)
- Getting the information to the younger people.
- Forget 20-30 year-olds. 50 is still “younger”.

## Question 15. Are there any concerns that the Federations or ACOFS should follow up?

- Need new people on the executive committees.      • How to use Facebook to get new members.
- Finding rights owners.      • The availability of DVDs and BluRay will probably reduce over time.
- Buying DVDs on line and finding out the delivery date is not for months.  
(Note: Purchases from JB for example, are either for immediate delivery or by a given date if on Pre-order ID).
- Movies going to streaming without being released on DVD.
- ReelNews and The ACOFS Bulletin are useful.      • Piracy.
- Fewer non-theatrical rights.      • Negotiate with streaming services.
- The need to compete with streaming services and cinemas.

## Observations

The pessimism amongst some member societies about the future of DVDs and the impact that streaming will have does not seem to be born out in the experience reported by societies to date.

Many issues raised can be covered by education and promotion of the Information and Fact sheets already produced, which are available to download from the FVFS website. Streaming services do not offer much competition as long as the film societies offer more than just screening, remembering that the social aspects of film societies are important. The opportunity to move to 4K Ultra HD projection is seen as an option for many societies, but most are still unsure of what is involved.

## Subtitle Shenanigans



Where are those subtitles when you need them? Sometimes I think subtitles are like a sock in the washing machine . . . you know it's in there somewhere but then you can never find it! Where did it go? If you're lucky and you have a washing machine with a remote control there might be a 'sock locator' button.

Seriously though, playing a movie which has subtitles for the hearing impaired or for a foreign language film should be simple; often as not it isn't. If you're having subtitle anxiety here are helpful steps to fix it –

1. Check the disc cover details, usually it will have information about subtitles,
2. Start the disc – a menu should appear (Play/Settings/Features) select Settings and you should get an option to turn on subtitles – job done.
3. Generally almost all foreign language films will have English subtitles available automatically unless it's an 'international' release in which case it will probably have several language options. In this instance go to Settings, subtitles and then there'll be a choice of languages– choose English – job done.
4. Sometimes subtitles won't appear until you select them - by pressing the 'subtitle' button on your DVD/Blu-ray player remote control – can be easy to miss, I know I have.



**Buninyong Film Festival AGM**  
6pm Monday 28 November 2022  
at the Buninyong Community House  
407 Warrenheip St Buninyong  
Enquiries - [bunfilmfest@gmail.com](mailto:bunfilmfest@gmail.com)



## Buninyong Film Festival

### The 28th Buninyong Film Festival.

Red carpeted steps & dazzling shades of gold & orange lights lead to the inside of the 1886 Buninyong Town Hall, where more subtle lighting created a glorious atmosphere to hold the long-awaited 28th Buninyong Film Festival.

The transformation of the hall interior was in prime condition to host a sparkling array of Arthouse films on May 21 & 22, 2022.

The festivities started with the Friday screening of THE FURNACE, followed by SEBERG & much to the delight of the audience, a charcuterie supper with a glass of warm mulled wine was served between films.

Saturday's first film, THE KITCHEN BRIGADE, scored high audience ratings & following this screening, a local film maker, Erin McCuskey introduced two of her short films, 'Larger than Life' & 'Life as a Carnival'. These featured some of the footage taken by Jack & Marie Anderson who started the Ballarat Regent Cinema in the 1970s, the same family owning & running it today. (Jack Anderson's home movies have been donated to ACMI).

Continuing the movie theme, we were treated to TALKING ABOUT TREES, focusing on the history of Sudanese cinema & the struggle to try & bring it back to life.

Our Pot of Courage lunch was provided by women from refugee & migrant backgrounds, who share their cultures through their cooking. Blessed with a fine, sunny Saturday we were delighted to enjoy lunch outdoors. Those who wanted to stretch their legs joined a guided walk through the village: a peep across the garden wall at some interesting heritage buildings.

The very first Icelandic film for the Buninyong Film Festival, THE COUNTY, was our 2pm selection. It was quickly followed by A SONG WITHOUT A NAME, both of which created much discussion at our sell-out dinner. This year's venue was The Shared Table, the exciting new restaurant in Buninyong.

Before DAVID BYRNE'S AMERICAN UTOPIA, our final movie, a surprise Ukulele Flash Mob performed on stage to the delight of the audience.

It was so very nice to greet many returning patrons to the 28th festival & equally delightful to welcome some new faces including some younger people.

May 20 & 21 was a very happy weekend & how wonderful to have the Buninyong Film Festival back again. ★

## North Bellarine Film Festival

It's on again! The 2022 North Bellarine Film Festival will be held on: 18-19 November 2022 at the The Potato Shed 29-41 Peninsula Drive, Drysdale Victoria 3222

A fantastic program is instore -

Opening night on Friday evening will feature the critically acclaimed Australian film 'High Ground'.

Catering by Pier Street Café included with your ticket and a cash bar will be available.



Saturday afternoon -

short film and music session -

A selection of Australian and international short films, with locally made film 'Barwon Mansion' and a Q&A with its director Mia de Rauch.

Music by Bellarine muso Andrea Robertson. Refreshments by The Bean Cravin' Coffee Van.

Saturday evening

The Emerging Filmmaker Award Ceremony - featuring short films made by some of Victoria's best young filmmakers and the presentation of this prestigious award. The program includes two finalists from Geelong. Catering by Pier Street Café included with your ticket and a cash bar will be available.

Check full details at [www.northbellarinefilmfestival.org](http://www.northbellarinefilmfestival.org) for the complete program and to purchase tickets. ★

## Marysville Film Society

MFS is a community-based film society screening one film a month, from February to November, at the Marysville Golf Club. Drinks are available from the bar, which is open before the screening. Tea, coffee and supper are included for a gold coin donation.

This is a great opportunity to connect with locals— catch up with friends, meet new people in a relaxed friendly environment.

Where: Marysville Golf Club, 956 Buxton-Marysville Road  
When: 3rd Saturday of each month February to November. Time: may vary—usually bar open 6:30pm, film starts 7:00pm. Annual membership is \$50 individual and \$90 for a couple.

For 2023 we are offering the chance to enter a draw to win back the value of one individual membership for enrolment/re-enrolment before the end of 2022. Further details and enrolment form are available on the website: [www.marysvillefilmsociety.com.au](http://www.marysvillefilmsociety.com.au)



## Digital disruptions for physical media

Late breaking reports indicate that the Disney Corporation having acquired Searchlight Pictures (formerly Fox Searchlight) and their associated film catalogues have said they are not producing a DVD or Blu-ray edition for two films they are currently releasing on their streaming platform Disney+. It's not clear yet whether these are one-offs or a universal new policy. It does not auger well for availability of some titles societies will want to screen. And in a somewhat bizarre occurrence, the European

Union has 'banned 8k television sets from sale on the grounds that they don't conform to power consumption caps. The EU has regulations to ban or discourage products that are heavy users of electricity; 8K TVs consume much more power than the current range of 4K UHD TVs that many of us have these days. 8K TV is something of a novelty at this stage; they are around but very expensive and there's little program material available in 8K. ★



## Masks No Barrier at Willy

We have been wearing masks all year and our attendances have never been higher. The age range of the WFS membership certainly tends towards the retired end of the spectrum. Many have health issues or live with family who do. At the beginning of 2022 we decided to continue to wear masks whilst attending screenings as our way of supporting our more vulnerable members.

In March we moved to a smaller council venue space in the Williamstown Town Hall. The main reason for this was to improve sound quality (the new room is carpeted and has better acoustics than the previous space). It is also more comfortable. We were concerned that the reduced size might be of concern but this proved to be not the case. We are also creative thinkers and together with the Council re-configured our set up to allow more room between seats and rows.

Our June film 'Mystery Train' had an audience of 43 our largest for the year. Attendances used to average in the low 30s but now are in the high 30s. Our July turnout for 'Ford v Ferrari' took a dip, not for content or artistic reasons, it's just that colds, flu and Covid are taking their toll.

We have also welcomed some new members this year. We put this down to our new website, weekly emails & reminders, old fashioned programs and monthly flyers in local libraries and good old word of mouth. Members also enjoy each other's company, however, we all miss the shared tea & coffee which we will NOT re-introduce until 'things' improve... I think you know what 'things' we mean. Enjoy your movies.

Our remaining program for 2022 is:

August	Yesterday (UK, 2019)
September	The Insult (Lebanon, 2017)
October	My Octopus Teacher (South Africa, 2020)
November	The Grass is Greener (UK, 1960)

<b>Recent Starbox scores -</b>	Mystery Road	3.9
Paddington 2	4.8	Rosie The Riveter 3.5
Teacher's Pet	3.6	Timbuktu 3.3
Moulin Rouge!	4.3	Mystery Train 3.2
Woman In Gold	4.7	Ford v Ferrari 4.7

Michael Slee, President, Williamstown Film Society

*This article was originally submitted for the August edition of ReelNews.- Ed.*

## Changeover time at Ferntree Gully Film Society

Dorothy Davies began the September Newsletter of the Ferntree Gully Film Society with a plea - "When my sons were at Kallista Primary School in the 1960's another mother I met said she was off to see the Russian film "Battleship Potemkin" at the Ferntree Gully Film Society that night. She took me along and the rest, as they say, is history.

Yes, I was hooked and here I am still involved in 2022, older if not wiser.....all this is leading up to my need to let go of the overall running of the Society.....if there is someone with the Society who would like to be more involved they will be gently led into the role, not needing to completely fill the position until 2023. I would love to hear from someone who wants to see this Society, now in its 66th year, continue to flourish and be popular with film lovers."

The call was answered and our Film Society is now going to be led by Sally Kirkham a member of many years who has kindly put her hand up for the job. Sally has been sending out the Newsletters this year and is willing and very able to take the Film Society forward into its 67th year in 2023.

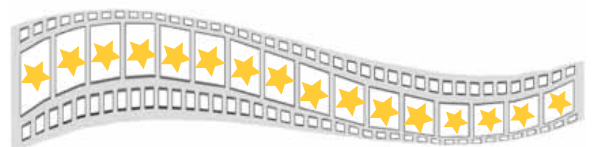
After the doldrums of the 2020 and 2021 pandemic years we have enjoyed a full program of films in 2022 and were able to keep audiences safe and well with good health protocols in place.

With the increase in streaming services, home theatre systems etc, it is hoped we can still lure people out for a "night at the movies". Our team are all behind Sally as our new Film Coordinator and planning is going ahead for 2023.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my years of activity with the Ferntree Gully Film Society and the Federation from Film Weekends at Marysville and Sorrento, Federation committee meetings in the State Film Theatre, catering for film appraisal nights, Festivals etc. and the friendships that evolved.

Now I can enjoy that "good night out at the movies" with less involvement.

Dorothy Davies



## Chewton Film Society trials new programming process

Here at Chewton FS, we have trialled a members' voting system for our 2023 program.

Earlier in the year, we asked members to suggest films for consideration in the program: we received two suggestions, which, incidentally, have made it to the final selection.

The committee then researched films and came up with a long list, any of which we would be happy to see in the final selection.

Then, we asked our members to vote on the long list. We did this in two ways: at the last screening night, we showed all the trailers and members voted. Alternatively, members could vote via our website with a designated page with links to all the trailers and a downloadable voting document.

This worked a treat! Not only do we feel it is more inclusive, we get a snapshot of members' preferences. The committee met last night and came up with our 2023 program.

We are kicking off in February with *Micmacs*, a 2009 French comedy film by director Jean-Pierre Jeunet and was billed as a satire on the world arms trade. Stars Danny Boon, Andre Dussollier and Nicolas Marie. The distributor is Roadshow.

Beverley Bloxham, Chewton FS



The Macedon Ranges Film Society convened a second successful **Short Film Festival** in the shadow of Hanging Rock on 3rd September this year.

The event, held in the picturesque village of Newham, saw sixteen short films screened over two hours.

Films with subjects as diverse as drama, comedy and animation drew laughs and sighs from an appreciative audience. A hundred and twenty-five viewers were able to choose from an afternoon or evening screening. During the interval, delicious food prepared by the committee was happily consumed and drinks were sold from a well-stocked bar.

The huge success of the event was testament to the committee's planning, selection and curation of the films, followed by some intense activity leading up to the event.

It is now hoped that the Cool Climate Cinema will become a regular part of the Macedon Ranges Film Society's biennial programme.

Submitted by Neil Aplin, MRFS Committee Member.



## WHAT'S BEING SCREENED . . .

All FVFS member organisations are listed below. Details have been sourced from programs, emails and websites. Films that have been programmed over the next couple of months are included where known. Due to Covid-19 lockdowns and restrictions not all films will have been screened, and some may be repeated from 2021. If your film society's screenings are not listed, please send program details to secretary@fvfs.org.au for inclusion in future issues.

**Alpine Film Society**

Elvis, Australia/USA, 2022.

**Anglesea Film Society**

Woman at War, Iceland, 2018.  
The Shipping News, Canada+, 2001.

**Arapiles Motion Picture Society**

Carpharnaum, Lebanon+, 2018.  
Backtrack Boys, Australia, 2018.  
Parasite, South Korea, 2019.

**Artist Film Screening Society**

The Middle of the Road is a Very Dead End, West Germany, 1974.

**Arts Group of Flinders Film Society****Ballan Film Society**

A Separation, Iran, 2011.  
Pulp Fiction, USA, 1994.  
Rams, Iceland, 2015.  
Best in Show, USA, 2000.

**Ballarat Film Society**

First Cow, USA, 2019.  
Beyond the Wasteland, Australia, 2021.

**Bannockburn Movies Film Society  
(in recess)****Baringo Film Club**

Martin Eden, Italy/France/Germany, 2019.  
Belfast, UK, 2021.  
The Duke, UK, 2020.  
Phantom Thread, USA/UK/China, 2017.  
The Fencer, Finland+, 2015.  
The Castle, Australia, 1997.  
The Truffle Hunters, Italy+, 2020.  
What We Did on our Holiday, UK, 2014.

**Barwon Heads Film Festival****Barwon Heads Film Society**

The Godmother (Mama Weed), France/Belgium, 2020.  
The Duke, UK, 2020.

**Beechworth Film Society****Bright Film Society**

RBG, USA, 2018.  
Parasite, South Korea, 2019.  
The Music of Silence, Italy, 2017.  
Heroic Losers, Argentina/Spain, 2019.

**British History Screen & Study Salon****Buninyong Film Festival**

Held 20th – 21st May 2022

**Camberwell Film Society**

To Kill a Mockingbird, USA, 1962.  
The Station Agent, USA, 2003.

**Celebrate Israel Screen & Study Salon****Chewton Film Society**

Sound of Metal, USA, 2019.  
Dr. Strangelove, UK/USA, 1964.

**Corangamite Film Society**

Never Gonna Snow Again, Poland, 2020.  
Sami Blood, Sweden, 2016.

**Court Film Society**

Dating Amber, Ireland/UK/USA/Belgium, 2020.

**Croydon Film Society**

The Drover's Wife, Australia, 2021.  
Cousins, NZ, 2021.  
It Must Be Heaven, France+, 2019.  
The Father, USA, 2020.  
Antoinette in the Cevennes, France, 2020.

**Deniliquin Film Society (NSW)**

Crock of Gold: a few rounds with Shane MacGowan, UK, 202.

**Dookie Film Group**

Gurrumul, Australia, 2017.  
Eifel, France, 2021.  
Woman in Gold, USA, 2015.  
The Duke, UK, 2020

**F Project Cinema****Ferntree Gully Film Society**

Rosa's Wedding, Spain, 2020.  
The Duke, UK, 2020.

**Flickside Film Society  
(Arts Yackandanda)****Forest Film Society 3461****Geelong Classic Cinema Inc  
(in recess)****God Loves Atheists Screen & Study Salon****Goulburn Valley Film Club**

Heroic Losers, Argentina/Spain, 2019.  
The Wife, UK/Sweden/USA, 2017.  
Can You Ever Forgive Me, USA, 2018.

**Grampians Film Society**

Boyhood, USA, 2014.  
The Bands' Visit, Israel+, 2007.  
Last Cab to Darwin, Australia, 2015.

**Healesville Mini Film Festival**

Held March 2022.

**Henkel Street Film Society****Horsham Film Society****Kingston Moviehouse**

Send Me No Flowers, USA, 1964.  
Room Service, USA, 1938.  
The Man from Laramie, USA, 1955.  
Can't Help Singing, USA, 1944.  
Stage Fright, USA, 1950.  
The Hanging Tree, USA, 1959.  
A Sunburnt Christmas, Australia, 2020.

**Liberate Education Screen & Study Salon****Little Film Society**

Martha: a picture story, USA/Australia, 2019.  
The Courier, UK/USA, 2020.

**Lounge Lizards Film Society****LV Film Society**

I Am Greta, Sweden+, 2020.  
The Worst Person in the World, Norway+, 2021.  
The Good Boss, Spain, 2021.  
River, Australia, 2021.  
Farewell Mr Haffman, France/Belgium, 2021.





## WHAT'S BEING SCREENED con't . . .

### Macedon Ranges Film Society

Double Indemnity, USA, 1944.  
Man in a Hurry, France, 2018.

### Maldon Movies Film Society

Klute, USA, 1971.  
Corpus Christi, Poland/France, 2019.  
The Italian Job, UK/USA, 1969.

### Marysville Film Society

The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance,  
USA, 1962.  
Duck Soup, USA, 1933.

### MDHAS Film Club

### Melbourne Horror Film Society

Roadgames, Australia, 1981.  
Demons, Italy, 1985.  
Psycho II, USA, 1983.  
The Blob, USA, 1988.  
Trick or Treat, USA, 1986.  
Uninvited, USA, 1987.  
Crawl, USA, 2019.  
Urban Legend, Canada/USA, 1998

### Moira Film Group

Mia & The White Lion,  
France/Germany/ South Africa, 2018

### Mount Eliza Fifty-Five Plus Film Group

### Movies at Numurkah Film Society

The Blues Brothers, USA, 1980.  
Elvis, Australia/USA, 2022.

### Murrindindi Film Society

The Man Who Sued God, Australia, 2001.  
Flame and Citron, Denmark+, 2008.  
Gaslight, USA, 1944.

### Myrtleford Film Society.

The Duke, UK 2020.  
Herself, Ireland/UK, 2020.  
Flee, Denmark++, 2021.

### Network Film Club

### North Bellarine Film Festival

Scheduled for 18th-19th November 2022.

### Old Scotch Film Society

The Dry, Australia, 2020.  
Rosalie Blum, France, 2015.

### Peterborough Film Society

### Port Campbell Film Society

First Cow, USA, 2019.

### Port Lincoln Film Society (SA)

The Farewell, USA/China, 2019.  
Buena Vista Social Club,  
Germany/USA/Cuba+, 1999.

### Portarlington Film Society

### PRODOS Screen & Study Salon

### Prom Coast Film Society

### Red Rock Film Society

### Reels Film Society (SA)

About Elly, Iran/France, 2009.  
Frantz, Germany/France, 2016  
The Kid, USA, 2021.

### Sale Film Society

Petit Maman, France, 2021.  
Belfast, UK, 2021.

### Science & Technology Screen & Study Salon

### Smart Girls Screen & Study Salon

### St Andrews Film Society

The Hunter, Australia, 2011.  
What We Did on our Holiday, UK, 2014.  
Leigh, Australia, 2021.

### St Dunstan's Hall Film Society

June Again, Australia, 2020.  
Moonrock for Monday, Australia, 2020.  
King Richard, USA, 2021.

### St Leonards Film Society

### Southern Fleurieu Film Society (SA)

Nashville, USA, 1975.  
A Boy Called Sailboat, USA/Australia, 2018.

### Sun Country Movie Club

### Surf Coast Film Society

### Tarwin Lower Film Society

The Fifth Element, USA, 1997.  
Fisherman's Friends, UK, 2019.  
A Man Called Ove, Sweden, 2015.

### Tatura Film Society

Breaking Bread, Israel, 2020.  
Captain Fantastic, USA, 2016.  
The Belier Family, France, 2014.

### Teddy Bobo Screen & Study Salon

### The Impossible Screen & Study Salon

### Trentham Film Society

### Vantastic Watchers Film Society

### Warburton Film Festival

Held on 17th-19th June

### Warrandyte Film Society

### Whitehorse Film Society

Cold War, UK+, 2018.  
The Guilty, Denmark, 2018.  
Leave No Trace, USA/Canada, 2018.  
The Insult, France/Lebanon, 2017.  
Nomadland, USA, 2020.

### Williamstown Film Society

My Octopus Teacher, South Africa, 2020.  
The Grass Is Greener, UK, 1960.

### Winchelsea Movie Club

The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel, UK, 2011.  
Last Christmas, UK/USA/China, 2019.

### Yarra Ranges Film Society

Hotel Mumbai, Australia, 2018.  
The Man Who Invented Christmas,  
Ireland, 2017.



## Seen and recommended . . .

### *The Lost City of Melbourne* ★★★★★

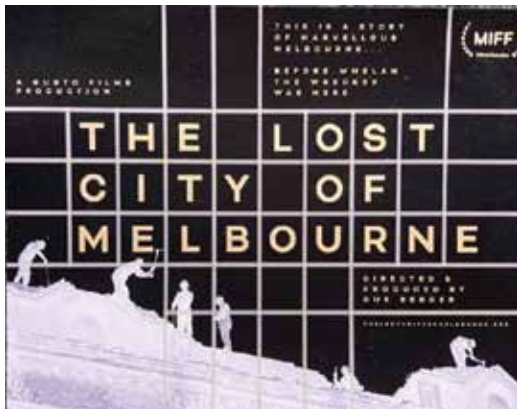
Written and directed by Gus Berger, the Lost City of Melbourne is a valuable documentary bearing witness to the destruction of many of Melbourne's finest buildings during the sixties and seventies - Whelan The Wrecker features prominently and was the most visible 'offender' during this period.

Impetus for this activity came from the early fifties when Melbourne was getting ready to host the 1956 Olympics and there was a prevailing mood of 'the city is looking old and dated, not fit to present the right image to the world at such an international event. There was a desire to 'modernise' and clean up the place'; and so the wrecking began. In fairness to Whelan, it wasn't their initiative to demolish, they were simply the people who did the work.

I saw the film at Cinema Nova recently and what I really enjoyed most was the coverage given to many of Melbourne's lost cinemas. Well worth a look if you're a movie-goer familiar with our picture houses of the past.

Currently in cinemas, there isn't a disc or digital download available yet but I am attempting to discuss the possibility with the producer.

Henry Screen.



### *The Quiet Girl* ★★★★★

This Irish gem is a marvellous film. Slow and considered, it's gentle pace disguises strong themes that are relatable and visceral, and although the conclusion is somewhat predictable, it's the journey not the destination that's central here. Excellence in cinematography, acting and directing; this is a mini masterpiece.

Henry Screen



## Port Campbell Film Society

Our cinematic screening of the great Buster Keaton classic "The General" felt like a celebration.

Like all film societies we are emerging from a two year period of cancelled screenings, and long breaks between films.

Since the formation of our group around 2015, we have been wanting to show a silent classic with the accompaniment of live music. This was finally a reality in the function room at our local surf lifesaving club in mid October.

The lucky patrons who attended our cinematic screening of "The General" were not disappointed! We all enjoyed delicious locally sourced nibbles (thanks Grassroots) and drinks prior to the movie, and revisited our childhoods with Choo Choo bars from the Port Campbell lolly shop. (get the connection?)

We learned some background on the movie and in particular the story of Buster Keaton himself. If you are a silent movie fan, you may or may not know that he did all his own stunts, and it was clear that OH&S was never a factor in how he managed to move, dance, fall and recover around his beloved train "The General"

But the main highlight by far was the musical accompaniment by Richard Tankard. Using piano, organ and synthesizer, he brought the movie to another level. We were all totally immersed in the film, forgetting that the music was coming from another place, and not just the movie soundtrack.

Richard's finesse in precision timing his accompaniment to the events in the film was extraordinary. His use of the piano, synthesizer and organ provided extra dimensions to the action on screen, far beyond the level of the original score using just the piano.

This is not a new idea for film societies, but it's one we highly recommend. I have included Richard's bio below for your information. (contact through "Tank dilemma" Facebook page.)

*Richard Tankard has played keyboards with artists such as Things Of Stone and Wood, Goanna, Badloves and Broderick Smith, as well as fronting his own band 'Tank Dilemma'. Jazz trained, he has performed the premier festivals and venues throughout*



*Australia. Richard has previously improvised live film scores including Fritz Lang's 'Metropolis' and Chaplin's 'The Gold Rush, and here performs another improvised work to Buster Keaton's The General using piano, organ and synthesizer settings, bringing a 20s classic into the current age*

Submitted by Lee McLeod, Secretary Port Campbell FS

## StarBox results received since Issue #134



Please report your StarBox scores as they are created!

See Starbox scores (in alphabetical order) from all years, at [www.fvfs.org.au/ideas](http://www.fvfs.org.au/ideas) Info Sheet 17+

Please calculate the scores to 1 decimal place and send them to us at [starbox@fvfs.org.au](mailto:starbox@fvfs.org.au) after each screening, so that our ReelNews report can be kept up to date. The formula is written on the side of the StarBox.

Don't have your StarBox yet? To receive your FREE StarBox, just email the FVFS at [admin@fvfs.org.au](mailto:admin@fvfs.org.au) and we can post one or have it at the AGM for you to collect.

Film Title	Society	Stars
The Dish	Macedon Ranges FS	4.9
I Have Loved You So Long	Barossa FC	4.8
Edmund Hilary - Ocean To Sky	Macedon Ranges FS	4.8
Gold Rush, The	Corangamite FS	4.7
What We Did On Our Holiday	St Andrews FS	4.7
Green Book	Arapiles MPS	4.6
Slim & I	Marysville FS	4.6
Nomadland	Tarwin Lower FS	4.6
Woman at War	Corangamite FS	4.6
Gurumul	Corangamite FS	4.6
Fencer, The	Baringo FC	4.6
Farewell Mr Haffman	LV FS	4.6
Belfast	Baringo FC	4.5
Secret in their Eyes, The	Corangamite FS	4.5
Penguin Bloom	Macedon Ranges FS	4.5
Gaslight	Murrindindi FS	4.5
Rabbit Proof Fence	Winchelsea FS	4.5
Yesterday	Corangamite FS	4.4
Divine Order, The	Corangamite FS	4.4
Dingo	Corangamite FS	4.4
Official Secrets	Goulburn Valley FC	4.4
I, Daniel Blake	Macedon Ranges FS	4.4
Quo Vadis Aida?	Sale FS	4.4
What we did on our Holiday	Baringo FC	4.4
Capernaum	Arapiles MPS	4.4
Martha – A picture Story	Little FS	4.4
Duke, The	Myrtleford FS	4.4
Backtrack Boys	Arapiles MPS	4.4
Rams (Australia)	Whitehorse FS	4.4
Breaking Bread	Myrtleford FS	4.3
Duke, The	Baringo FC	4.3
Mad Bastards	Corangamite FS	4.3
Official Secrets	Winchelsea	4.3
Cold War	Barossa FC	4.3

more ↓

## StarBox results continued . . .



Film Title	Society	Stars
Paul	Marysville FS	4.3
Man Who Shot Liberty Valance	Marysville FS	4.3
First Cow	Port Campbell FS	4.2
Heroic Losers	Bright FS	4.2
Man Who Sued God, The	Murrindindi FS	4.2
Chinese Takeaway	Corangamite FS	4.2
Danish Girl, The	Corangamite FS	4.2
Our Little Sister	Yarra Ranges FS – Warburton	4.2
Guilty, The	Whitehorse FS	4.2
Minari	Croydon FS	4.1
RBG	Bright FS	4.1
Drover's Wife, The	Croydon FS	4.1
Adam	Croydon FS	4.0
Camera Buff	Little FS	4.0
Mole Agent, The	Barossa FC	4.0
Artist, The	Corangamite FS	4.0
Firestarter	Corangamite FS	4.0
River	LV FS	4.0
Elvis	Alpine FS	4.0
Leave No Trace	Whitehorse FS	4.0
Get Low	Corangamite FS	3.9
Emu Runner	Tarwin Lower FS	3.9
There is no Evil	Croydon FS	3.9
Gurumul	Dookie FS	3.9
Farewell, The	Corangamite FS	3.8
Duke, The	Dookie FS	3.8
Good Boss, The	LV FS	3.8
Trash	Whitehorse FS	3.8
Mystery of Henri Pick, The	Croydon FS	3.7
Antoinette in the Cevennes	Goulburn Valley FC	3.7
Heroic Losers (2019)	Goulburn Valley FC	3.7
The African Queen	Macedon Ranges FS	3.7
Bellbird	Yarra Ranges FS – Warburton	3.7
Bellbird	Yarra Ranges FS – Healesville	3.7
Our Little Sister	Yarra Ranges FS – Healesville	3.7
Cousins	Croydon FS	3.7
Castle, The	Baringo FC	3.6
His Girl Friday	Sale FS	3.5
Man in the Hat, The	Reels FS	3.5
About Elly	Reels FS	3.5

more ↓

## StarBox results continued . . .



Film Title	Society	Stars
Shoplifters	Whitehorse FS	3.5
Cold War	Whitehorse FS	3.5
Worst Person in The World, The	LV FS	3.4
Martin Eden	Baringo FC	3.4
Phantom Thread	Baringo FC	3.4
Cousins	St Dunstan's Hall FS	3.4
Truffle Hunters, The	Baringo FC	3.4
Fifth Element, The	Tarwin Lower FS	3.4
Careful, he might hear you	Winchelsea MC	3.2
Nine Days	Corangamite FS	3.2
Parasite	Bright FS	3.2
Jules et Jim	Croydon FS	2.7
Worst Person in the World, The	Myrtleford FS	2.6

## Hooray for 4K . . .

After some months of research, planning, and financing we at Macedon Ranges Film Society have succeeded in our mission to upgrade our projection facilities to 4K level so our members can experience the best possible movie viewing experience.

After establishing that we would need approximately \$5000 to fund the upgrade, we sought and obtained grants from our local Shire Council and our local Community Bank (Bendigo Bank) to which we added the balance from our own funds. The cost of the new equipment (being JVC NX3 4k projector and a Panasonic 4K Region Free Blu-ray player) was \$5236

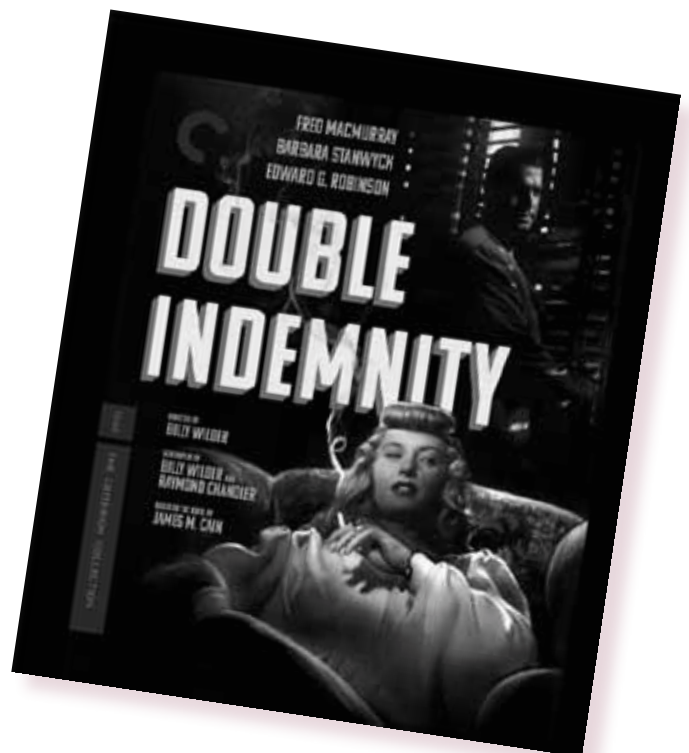
The Council share was approx. 29%, the Community Bank share was approx. 59% and our share was approx. 11%.

This month we will be our first 4K screening - the 1944 film noir classic 'Double Indemnity'. This Billy Wilder masterpiece has been restored and remastered into 4K and it looks and sounds brilliant!

We opted for a mid- price range projector and mid price range player with region free conversion (sourced from The USA). This player means we can play any type of disc - DVD, Blu-ray and 4K Blu-ray, regardless of region.

It's been an interesting and occasionally challenging journey but well worth it.

If any Society is interested in considering a 4K upgrade we're happy to share our experiences - feel free to contact me - Henry Screen 0411 418 468





## ReelNews - Pass It On

As all our readers will know, we aim to make ReelNews as useful and informative as possible for all FVFS Member organisations. We would like you to view ReelNews as “Your Newsletter” for communication between FVFS members.

### Share your activities -

please send us lots of contributions, big and small, where you pass on your valuable experience and knowledge to other members. You can do this by:

- Submitting your selected movie programs to the FVFS at [admin@fvfs.org.au](mailto:admin@fvfs.org.au) so it can be included in “What’s Being Screened”.
- Keeping your website up to date to both promote your group and making your program and ideas available to other groups.
- Submitting your StarBox scores as you generate them to [starbox@fvfs.org.au](mailto:starbox@fvfs.org.au) to assist other groups in their program selection.
- Include the name of the film distributor with information submitted to assist others who might like to program the same movie. Including the distributor’s name with the promotion also acknowledges that distributor.
- Include film date or director’s name with any movie title submitted that might be ambiguous, eg where there is more than one film with the same title.

We would also like to follow up any suggestions as to how we can promote dialogue between member groups, and we hope to hear from any Member Organisation who would consider hosting an FVFS Information Day or similar.

### Know Your Rights -

Many society programmers have commented on how difficult it is to organise the screening rights for DVDs screened, yet others have commented how easy it is when following the ACOFS DVD Rights Fact Sheets 3A and 3B. These documents cover all aspects of finding and obtaining screening rights, so anyone involved in this work should download the latest versions from [www.acofs.org.au](http://www.acofs.org.au) and study them carefully. If they don’t answer all your questions, then please let us know.

**Rights hint:** When searching the Classifications index for the company that sought censorship clearance (assuming they also have the rights) take careful note of the date the movie was released, as there are often several movies of the same name.

Also, if your search does not succeed for a movie made in a foreign language, try searching for the original title. If you don’t know what it is, check IMDb. For example, try looking up Delicious, 2020 (Original French title Delicieux).

### Amend your email addresses -

When completing your re-affiliation form for 2023, may we suggest that you quote personal email addresses for your executive members and your delegates rather than a generic email address. This way each of you will get your own copy of ReelNews, the ACOFS Bulletin and any special notice. If only one generic email address is quoted for everyone, then only the one copy will be supplied to whoever checks that single email in-tray. Your personal address will be kept private and not published anywhere. The email address you ask us to list on the societies’ contact list (on the FVFS website) however, is recommended to be a generic address as it is available for the public to see and use. (for example, [info@my.filmsociety.org.au](mailto:info@my.filmsociety.org.au)).

### Sound knowledge -

Inaudible soundtracks are something we often encounter and questions arise about solutions. There are numerous solutions, some easily applied, some not.

First thing is to check and adjust your speaker positioning, the height and angle. Next, if you have a 5.1 AV receiver (amplifier) then consult the manual for instructions on how to adjust the speaker balance with particular attention on the centre speaker which usually carries most of the dialogue track. Next, consider whether you can apply sound absorbing things like curtains and carpets to reduce the echo affect of too many hard surfaces - if your venue will permit this type of alteration or may assist with it. It’s a slow process of trial and error, with small incremental changes to achieve some improvement. To learn more, Youtube is a good resource; search for home theatre acoustics, home theatre speaker setup, etc. Good luck!



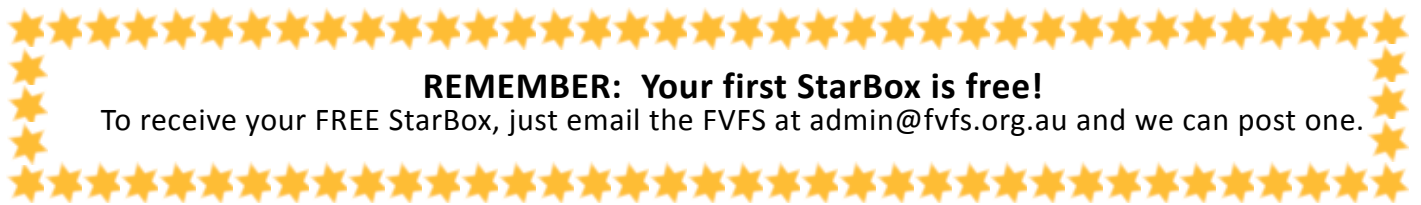
## A brief reminder . . .

To all members to ensure your contact details as shown on the FVFS website are kept up to date. They are intended to be used by the FVFS secretary and DVD distributors as well as potential new members, so it is important that they are current. Check [www.fvfs.org.au/members/](http://www.fvfs.org.au/members/) to check the contact details for your society.

When you re-apply for membership with the FVFS each year, you are asked to check these contact details but it appears that many applicants approve the details without actually checking the website. In some cases the contact is not the secretary of the film society, so unless you tell us when there is a need to change the details, they will remain the same. We will only change the details at your request.

If you are unsure about publishing your email address, consider setting up a generic email account, such as [fredsfilmsociety@gmail.com](mailto:fredsfilmsociety@gmail.com) and arranging for it to forward all incoming emails to the address of your current secretary.

**Contact the membership officer on [admin@fvfs.org.au](mailto:admin@fvfs.org.au) if you need to update anything.**



### **REMEMBER: Your first StarBox is free!**

To receive your FREE StarBox, just email the FVFS at [admin@fvfs.org.au](mailto:admin@fvfs.org.au) and we can post one.

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## Tell your story.

Items for possible publication are welcome, especially your StarBox results, info about your film society's activities and any ideas you would like to share.

**Please send your submissions for articles to [reelnews@fvfs.org.au](mailto:reelnews@fvfs.org.au)**

**Deadlines for submissions are the end of January, April, July and October, for publication in the following months.**

**Please send StarBox scores to [starbox@fvfs.org.au](mailto:starbox@fvfs.org.au)**

**Note:** If you are submitting an article for inclusion in ReelNews, please add your name and the name of your Society to the article so that you can be credited as the author.

To make life easier for the editor, please send your articles in Word format or in the body of the email, and send your jpeg images separately.

**And please ask someone to proof read your article before submission. Thank you!**