

Your Image is Our Focus

MAY 2026 Issue 149

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In This Issue . . .

From the President

Welcome to winter 2026. It's that time of year when we wonder/hope that our venues are warm and comfortable.



Henry Screen

I'd like to hear from you about your venue; is it good, is it bad, is the venue's projection equipment up to scratch? Is it warm and comfortable?

Please send me a 'review' of your venue - what you like, what you don't like, what could be better, is it affordable, is your 'landlord' helpful? How have you solved problems?

Just a few lines and a photo will form part of our survey to inform us and all members of the state of our picture palaces.

The FVFS 2026 AGM & Information Day

The 2026 AGM and Information Day was held on Saturday March 14 at the Williamstown Town Hall, generously hosted by the Williamstown Film Society.

The day was well attended and the guest speaker, Simon Kileen proprietor of Hi Gloss Entertainment gave us interesting and informative insights into the world of film distribution.

The AGM was duly completed and the following committee positions were filled with all nominees elected unopposed -

President - Henry Screen
 Vice President - Suzanne Nunn
 Secretary - Susan Davidson
 Treasurer - Ian Davidson
 John Shortridge - Committee
 Yvonne Holmes - Committee
 Geoff Holmes - Committee
 Kerry Deakin - Committee
 Garth Wesson - Committee

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Healesville Mini Film Festival three films in one day . . .

I attended the Yarra Ranges Film Society 'Healesville Mini Film Festival' (HMFF) on Sunday March 29 held at 'The Memo' Auditorium in the centre of town.

I attended representing the FVFS as guest speaker.

The Festival has a theme and this year the theme was British Cinema.

The atmosphere was great; the venue was decorated with Union Jacks, balloons and organisers in decorated apparel.

The three films represented excellent British examples of dark drama, social realism and quirky comedy.

Patrons could buy the whole three film program for \$39 or just opt for one or two films at \$15 each.

A thoroughly enjoyable day well attended and well done by the Yarra Ranges Film Society team.

[A Mini Film Festival will also be held in Warburton in June. -](#)



Deakin Scholarship awarded

Each year for the past five years, the FVFS has awarded a scholarship to an Honours student in Film Studies at Deakin University.

This year, Henry Screen and I joined with Dr Ashlee Barton to form the selection panel for awarding the scholarship.

The selection process was a little different this year. In previous years the candidates put forward written applications. This year, the panel interviewed each candidate on-line.

There were three candidates. Each candidate had prepared for their interviews by responding to four questions:

- Why have you enrolled in Honours?
- What is your research area?
- How will this scholarship help to achieve your goals?
- Pitch your project.

Each candidate was passionate, articulate and a high standard student. Each candidate had their own very different background, project and style.

Making the selection for recipient of the scholarship was never going to be easy. After much deliberation, considering merits, and comparing and contrasting claims, the panel has finalized its selection. The candidates are to be notified very soon. The decision will be publicly announced later this year.

The Honours students' films are due to be finished in October this year. Toward the end of the year, the public announcement of the scholarship award will be made at Deakin's formal screening of the completed films.

Aside from awarding the scholarship, participating in the panel afforded Henry and me the genuine pleasure of meeting the three remarkable young film-makers, and discussing their backgrounds and film projects. Henry and I wish each Honours Student the best for their future.

Kerry Deakin FVFS Committee

STOP PRESS - We can now Advise that the winner of the FVFS Scholarship is Emily Quattrocchi.
More details in the next ReelNews - Editor

Little Film Society's report on the 2026 FVFS AGM/Info Day

Henry Screen (President FVFS) welcomed delegates and thanked the Williamstown Film Society for hosting the day.

Suzanne Nunn managed a roll call of the attendant society representatives and invited them to provide a summary of their organization, focussing on the number of members, venue costs and any outstanding matters during their year. The societies were: Anglesea, Baringo, Barwon Heads, Corangamite, Croydon, Dookie, Goulburn Valley, Little, Latrobe Valley, Macedon Ranges, Maldon, Portarlington, Williamstown, Whitehorse, Winchelsea, Yarra Ranges and finally Ballarat.

Simon Killen, from Hi Gloss Entertainment described his boutique distribution company and described the film business from a distributor's perspective.

Michael Slee (President, Williamstown FS) presented a talk on the history of cinemas in the Williamstown region. He also provided a summary of the very large range of films (both Australian and international) and TV shows which have been shot in the environs of Williamstown. He believed that the different 'light' factor was an important reason for film-maker's choice.

Two delightful short films, *The Money*, an extortion interrupted by a *Who Wants to Be a Millionaire* phone call, and *Chocolate Bar Thief* about a mismanaged servo robbery were shown.

After lunch Henry Screen opened the AGM and presented his annual report, stressing again the importance of succession planning, and the fact that film societies were now in a competition for 'eyeballs', considering the many new methods (streaming, TV catch-up etc.) were available for people to see films. The FVFS policy of funding scholarships and student film-makers was outlined and discussed.

The special resolution: That that the current "FVFS Standing Resolutions" be replaced by the proposed updated rules and renamed "FVFS Supplementary Rules" was passed unanimously. The election of the new committee saw the previous incumbents reinstalled.

Yvonne Holmes (Maldon FS) gave a presentation on obtaining film rights, emphasising the need to find the film rights owner as the first step. She tabled a revised version of the ACOFS Fact Sheet.

A short film, *Crescendo*, about a mum whose babysitting plans fall through on the morning of an audition for a career-defining role, was shown. It was made by Lianne Mackessy, who won the TROPFEST 2026 award.

A 4-team programming exercise, to select a program of 10 films from a list of 20, was conducted.

Ian Davidson discussed and demonstrated a DVD cleaner and scratch-removal device.

Ian then presented several graphs examining various characteristics of 75 film societies, for the delegates to gauge how typical or exceptional their societies were. The graphs showed that the statistically mean society has 50 members; an audience of 30 (representing 60% of membership); an annual subscription of \$50; and a fee per movie of \$4.55. The graphs also showed other characteristics such as how many used DVD/Blu-ray/4K/USB/16mm/streaming as their method of screening; how many have an ABN; are registered as a charity with ACNC; are incorporated; operate under another group.

A general Q&A session closed the gathering.

Barry Cheney (Little FS delegate)



Whitehorse FS - DVD woes

Whitehorse Film Society members were disappointed with the DVD copy of Swedish film **'The Last Journey'** (aka DEN SISTA RESAN) and felt we should pass on our comments for all to see.

The white subtitles were often displayed over a white background, the sound was unbalanced with music very loud compared with soft voices (not that it really mattered because it was Swedish), and there was a persistent low-volume buzzing in the soundtrack for the whole film.

IMDb scored this film 7.8 stars which is equivalent to 3.9 StarBox stars, while we scored it 3.7 stars. So despite the negatives, the members still enjoyed this film and got something from the Swedish humour and pathos in the story. It could have scored so much higher if the DVD were of a higher quality production.

Ian Davidson

A good quality digital version of this film is available to rent or buy from Apple or Prime.

Editor.

FERNTREE GULLY FILM SOCIETY

From 1956 to 2026

Even though the Film Society held its inaugural meeting on February 2, 1956, it was not until mid 1958, under a new committee with Allan Gross as President, Gordon Mitchell as Vice President and Roxy and Geoff Roper as “stalwarts”, that the Society really took off. The Society had as its aim, the encouragement and appreciation of “film”. The Film Society was formed as part of the Ferntree Gully Arts Society and films were shown at the Hut Gallery, 157 Underwood Road, Ferntree Gully.

The 1958 Committee had inherited from the original Committee a second-hand 16mm Carpenter projector. This machine was “black listed” by the State Film Centre because of the damage caused to films that had been loaned. Funds for the purchase of a new projector were slowly built up; the goal was a Bell & Howell projector.

The 60’s and 70’s were the Golden Years of the Film Society. People were hungry for foreign films and films that were stimulating and thought provoking. At that time the Society had a membership of around 120 people and for some years a waiting list. Gordon recalls that the main concern was that not all members turn up to one screening, for the Society only had seating for about 85 people.

But perhaps the Film Society’s greatest achievement was to break the Victorian Government’s ban on Sunday screenings, when, in 1969, they hired the Loyalty Cinema, Upper Ferntree Gully, for the showing of the Indian film-maker Satyajit Ray’s “Apu Trilogy”. Three screenings were run during the day and people came from all over Melbourne and the theatre was filled to its capacity of 350 seats. The films were introduced by Australian film-maker John Murray, who had worked with Ray.

Another feature of the Film Society were the “Discussion Nights”. Special nights arranged every two or three months which gave members and guests the opportunity to see, and later discuss, films of a special type or of a definite topic, such “Television and Politics – Are We Being Massaged by the Modern Media?” featuring Canadian, Marshall McLuhan and “Not a Love Story” when a woman from the Prostitutes Collective in Melbourne was invited to lead the discussion.

A Junior Film Group was formed in 1964 which ran on Saturday afternoons for about 10 years. Many of the Film Society members were heavily involved with the Film Federation and the Melbourne Film Festival as well as the film weekends held in various country locations. Names long associated with the Film Society and the Federation of Victorian Film Societies are Gordon Mitchell, Bob Rothols and Dorothy Davies.

Early in 1994 the Manager of the re-opened local cinema at Boronia offered the use of his facility on a monthly basis and the decision was to change to 35mm. The Society chose its own program and it has not looked back. Village Cinemas took over Boronia, finally closing it down in 2002 and the Society moved to the new complex at Knox City in Wantirna where members enjoy the comforts of the Europa Cinema whilst appreciating the interesting programs the Film Society chooses each year.

Covid years proved difficult but we survived with a reduced program and the co-operation of the cinema complex.

2026 is the 70th anniversary of the founding of the Ferntree Gully Film Society and it is still going strong.

Sally Kirkham - Ferntree Gully Film Society



Cinemas of Williamstown

This is an article based on a presentation by Michael Slee at the FVFS Information Day hosted by the Williamstown Film Society on Saturday 14th March 2026.

The content was mainly provided by the Williamstown Historical Society with some additions by Mr Jack Neill the WFS projectionist and long-time resident of Williamstown.

Since the early 20th century there have been five cinemas, or picture theatres, in the Williamstown and Newport area. They are The Empress, The Plaza, The Shore Cinema, The Mechanics Institute and a theatrette in the Newport TAFE.

Knowledge of a sixth surfaced during my actual talk (from Jack Neill of course). Jack spoke of a theatre at the rear of a property in Verdon Street Williamstown devoted to film classification.

The Empress/New Empress

The Empress Pavillon was in Garden Street, adjacent to Williamstown Beach and a truly multipurpose venue - skating rink, children's playground and an open-air picture garden, screening biograph pictures, an early form of movie.

Its Grand Opening took place in November, 1911. The proprietor was the appropriately named Mr W J Dark.

In 1915 The Empress was the site of the first screening in Victoria to use electric light for projection, run by a diesel generator, which is still in place but no longer in working condition.

The Empress and the Plaza in Newport shared programming with canisters of film ferried between venues by motorcycle.

In 1931 'Vocaltone' Talking Picture Equipment was installed.

The dilapidated original building was demolished in 1954 and replaced with the brick building which remains today. It was re-named as 'The New Empress' with the initials NE tiled into the foyer floor. This tiling closely resembles that of The Sun Theatre in Yarraville.

[more](#) ↗

As well as a picture theatre the venue was used by the local High School on the corner of Verdon and Pascoe Streets for assemblies with students walking through the railway station subway towards the beach.

In 1960 it ceased operating as a theatre. It became a roller-skating rink then a table tennis centre and eventually became vacant and the building gradually fell into disrepair.

The theatre was rescued by a group of teachers and their families and became the Williamstown Italian Social Club. In 1978, when the building came up for sale two hundred Italian families pooled their money and purchased it from the council, and it has been going strong ever since.

An Italian Film Festival was held in 2023 organised by Matt Vitiello (a second-generation family member) with assistance from Michael Smith at the Sun Theatre. Of course, one of the films screened was The Italian Job (1969) which was the perfect excuse to display some fabulous Italian cars (not Minis).

The Plaza – Newport

Located at 435 Melbourne Road Newport, a short walk from the Newport Railway Station, the Plaza shared programming with the Empress down by Williamstown Beach, with reels of celluloid ferried between cinemas by motorcycle (pre-dating Uber by half a century or more).

Sadly, there are no confirmed photos of the Plaza Cinema. Personally, I'd love to see some. I arrived in Williamstown, as a 13-year-old, in January 1972 and the Plaza had ceased operation the year before in 1971. One of my new friends from Willy High made me green with envy with his stories of Saturday matinees full of kids, full of lollies. It was an experience which I had heard of but never had and time had run out. I have a very vague recollection of the building itself but it was replaced by light commercial buildings with shop fronts in the late 1970s and again in early 2000s. There are authentic photos of this theatre and a grand cinema it was.

[more](#) ↓

Cinemas of Williamstown con't.

The Shore Cinema

Its story begins in 1911 with the formation of The Williamstown Picture Theatre Company and a great number of enthusiastic investors applying for shares. Land was purchased and shares were issued. Tenders were sought for construction of the Williamstown Picture Theatre on the corner of Ferguson St and Bath Place, Williamstown - the site of the current library, adjacent to the Williamstown Town Hall.

With a seating capacity of 1600, including a gallery of 320 'tip seats' upstairs, it was officially opened in February 1912. Pretty smart work. A sliding roof of 14 square feet ensured ample ventilation for hot summer nights.

I feel that the Williamstown Picture Theatre was a bit like a 'project name' and at some stage it became the Shore Cinema. I'm just not sure when. Extracts from newspaper articles use the names interchangeably.

A mere 5 years after its official opening shareholders agreed to sell in 1917.

Remaining history is quite sketchy but it was still operating in 1920 as it was fined for overcrowding on the final night screening of 'The Sentimental Bloke'.

At some stage in the 1940s Hoyts took over management and it became Hoyts Shore Cinema. It was demolished in 1964 and eventually replaced by a municipal library (the first version).

The Mechanics Institute

This once grand building is situated on the apex of land where Electra Street and Melbourne Road converge. The double storey Italianate section facing Electra Street is the most commanding aspect of the complex which was constructed in stages over 30 years beginning in 1860.

But it is the outdoor area behind the picket fence where silent movies were screened in the 1920s. Films were accompanied by a 'pianist and on occasion realistic sounds created by using a sound effects machine'.

The Mechanics Institute became the home of the Williamstown Film Society from the late 1990s

until 2016 when it was closed for renovations. Our screenings initially took place in the theatre then later in The Supper Room.

The MI was also home to the Williamstown Historical Society Museum from 1964 until 2018 and they too have used temporary homes since.

The future of the Mechanics Institute is in doubt ...

Newport TAFE

If I can trust my memory the theatrette at Newport TAFE in Champion Road was located in the main Administration block (building A on the map). The TAFE was opposite the Williamstown Cemetery and parking was in the street.

The purpose-built theatre was small, possibly 100 seats. Fully equipped with a projection booth, wonderful sound, raked seating, screen curtains and all.

I attended a film group there with my father for a couple of years in the early 1990s (memory is a bit hazy). I have a program somewhere which I will try and hunt out (no luck so far).

The TAFE closed in 2013 and had a brief second life as a film studio when Fremantle Media bought it. The prison set for Wentworth (the re-boot of Prisoner) was constructed on site. Facebook posts by a number of tradies who had trained at Newport said that it was perfect place for a 'prison'.

Sadly, the TAFE too has gone. Demolished.

And that leaves what I will refer to as the 'backyard theatre' in Verdon Street, Williamstown. As stated at the beginning of this piece it is rumoured to have been used as a screening room for film classification. And now you know as much as I.

But fear not, I have the team from the Historical Society on the job. They just happen to be members of the Williamstown FS and have never heard of this fragment of Williamstown History. Like us they are keen to learn more. So, watch this space...

Michael Slee, President, Williamstown Film Society

See photos next page [more](#) ↓

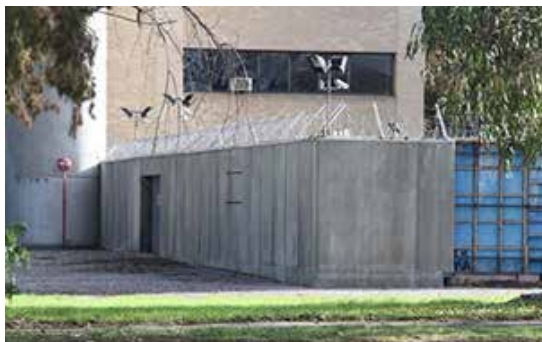
Cinemas of Williamstown con't.



Williamstown Picture Theatre/Shore Cinema/Hoyts Shore Cinema



Hoyts Shore Cinema Auditorium



Newport TAFE Theatrette



Sun Cinema floor tiling



Mechanics Institute



Sun Theatre Foyer



Williamstown Italian Social Club



Italian Social Club interior nowadays

Winchelsea Film Club

Winchelsea is a small town in the Surf Coast Shire 30 minutes west of Geelong. The town had a population of 1500 people when the Movie Club was started 9 years ago and apparently is heading for 10,000 by 2050.

The Movie Club is in a 100-year-old heritage listed hall built by the father of renowned opera singer Marjorie Lawrence. With its age come all sorts of limitations when renovations are required.

We were fortunate to have the backing of the Shire initially and had \$30,000 spent on equipment. This included a new screen to replace the 100-year-old one, ceiling projector, an average DVD player and iPad, (to replace a computer we were using) and something like 7 speakers.

Over the years our main problem was..... Did the equipment always work? Every month prior to movie night, we had a test run with equipment. There are other users of this public hall.

One memorable night, the equipment was not working, even after a check a few hours before. 50 members were waiting. Eventually someone pointed to the cover of the ceiling projector. It was hanging down and covering the projector light. Problem solved but how to fix it. The local fire brigade, who just happened to be at a meeting next door brought in a ladder, closed the cover and we were up and running. Joys of living in a small town.

During the first year of our club, we did reach 100 members but for the next 7 years we averaged 50 financial with about 40 in attendance each night.

We put this down to..... COVID.... like everyone. Then a slow return of our age group to go out at night,

Primitive heating of the hall until an air conditioner was installed. White ant infestation and 18 months for a new floor. We were functioning from a smaller hall and TV style equipment.

But NOW we seem to be on a roll.

First night was Feb 19th and we had 60 financial members present with 80 on the books.

We have just shown our third movie for this year. Remarkably all three scored 4.8. They were The Castle for opening night, Tina (the school teacher in NZ after the earthquake) and last week Anthony Hopkins in One Life.

We appreciate the FVFS committee for collecting and collating the Star Ratings from other Clubs and all the articles in ReelNews. We use both these sources and other recommendations when preparing our annual list. We don't always get it right.

Last year the men wanted a Western of their choice. We showed The Magnificent Seven (2016) Star rating was 2.8 Can't win them all but we all have fun.

Winchelsea Movie Club Committee.



Just a bunch of lefties . . .

Left handed people are only about 10% of the population but that doesn't seem to be a problem in the film world.

Here's one list of actors and filmmakers who are left handed.

Some of these names are controversial, disputed or doubtful and the lists are largely made up from film scene observations where the actor concerned is seen to be writing with/favouring or holding a pen or object in their left hand. This is unreliable evidence because of course the actor in question may be directed to hold the object in a particular hand to suit the layout of the scene.

Several including Tom Hanks, Robert De Niro, Marilyn Monroe, Kate Winslet and Tom Cruise were on this list but I could find no evidence of their genuine left-handedness.

Anyway it's a way to fill in an idle moment or two.

This is a selection, there are many more but space does not permit.

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| Pierce Brosnan | Paul McCartney |
| James Cameron | Demi Moore |
| Richard Dreyfuss | Julianne Moore |
| Morgan Freeman | Christopher Nolan |
| Martin Freeman | Kim Novak |
| Judy Garland | Julia Roberts |
| Hugh Jackman | Ridley Scott |
| Scarlett Johansson | Jerry Seinfeld |
| Angelia Jolie | Sylvester Stallone |
| Diane Keaton | Hilary Swank |
| Nicole Kidman | Emma Thompson |
| Spike Lee | Owen Wilson |



Nicole Kidman

Emma Thompson

Christopher Nolan

Hugh Jackman

And for some perspective, here's a few famous but non-actor lefties . . .

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| Albert Einstein | Michelangelo |
| Charles Darwin | Barack Obama |
| Isaac Newton | Bill Gates |
| Aristotle | Napoleon Bonaparte |
| Helen Keller | Winston Churchill |
| Marie Curie | Jimmi Hendrix |
| Wolfgang A Mozart | King Charles III |
| Bill Clinton | Prince William |
| Julius Caesar | Queen Elizabeth II |
| Leonardo Da Vinci | |



Phoenix at The Rex - Daylesford Cinema Revived



The Early Story of the Rex

The Original Cinema:

Aubrey Moulden Christie, a Daylesford resident and movie enthusiast, despite the looming economic depression, was able to raise over £10,000, a huge sum in comparative terms to build the cinema now known as 'The Rex' in Vincent Street Daylesford.

The Rex was designed as an "Atmospheric" theatre in the grand Spanish colonial style by architectural firm Bohringer Taylor & Johnson, who were at the forefront of cinema architecture in Australia and New Zealand. They were also responsible for the famous Forum Theatre in Melbourne, and several other regional cinemas including Hamilton, Horsham and Sale. The Rex is one of the few remaining Spanish colonial style cinemas in Australia and its exterior is heritage listed.

On 26 Dec 1929 the grand new theatre opened on the evening of Boxing Day 1929 with a seating capacity of 859 (306 in Dress Circle and 553 in the Stalls). The first screening was an early version of 'The Student Prince', definitely earlier than the one with Mario Lanza, being dubbed over Edmund Purdom, with synchronised sound rather than the integrated soundtrack of more modern times.

Sound was installed in the cinema in March 1930 and Cinemascope was introduced in 1955 (thought to be one of the first small theatres outside of Melbourne, Ballarat and Bendigo to have it).

The cinema entertained the burgeoning tourist industry and delighted locals over the next 34 years which encompassed difficult financial times and World War 2. Unfortunately, the coming of the Olympic Games to Melbourne in November 1956 and

the simultaneous introduction of television signalled the beginning of the end for picture theatres all over Australia.

After the regional television channels began transmitting in 1961 and 1962, the dwindling audiences caused the cinema to close its doors in May 1963 after 34 years of service.

The Cinema Opens Again.

In May 2012, the first meeting was held by a group of people dedicated to bringing a cinema back to Daylesford. In August 2012, this group formally incorporated to become the Daylesford Community Theatre, a Not-for-Profit (NFP) organization committed to bringing a quality cinema and performing arts experience to the communities of the Daylesford region.

The cinema located at the rear of the Rex Shopping Arcade providing a 99 seat cinema and theatre venue opened in March 2013 was a true community enterprise funded by \$150K in donations from the community and donated time from local tradies. It had a fantastic group of volunteers and the future looked bright.

The Cinema Closes Again

The Hepburn Council purchased the Rex on 18 Aug 2016 for the Hepburn Hub Project for \$6.345 million. A huge community campaign to save the cinema ensued but the last screenings were held at the end of October 2017. In 2023 the building was sold by the Council to local developers- the Comelli and Bromley families.

The Cinema To Open Again

In 2023 the Daylesford Community Theatre trading as the Daylesford Cinema approached the new owners and have been able to come to an agreement to renovate the front part of the building within the footprint of the original cinema with the intention of reopening the cinema in 2025.

more ↓

... Daylesford Cinema Revived

One last bit of history- the Chips Rafferty signature

Near to the front entrance opposite the stairs, you can see something remaining, a relic from another time when the Rex Theatre was the centre of the town's social life, a connection to the wider world and the glamour of movies. Not too many people know about the Australian actor Chips Rafferty these days but it is safe to say he was the Russell Crowe of his day. He appeared in over 25 features from the 1940s through to his death in 1971, not long after appearing in his final film Wake in Fright.

In the 1950s he had also formed a production company called Southern International with the intention of securing financial assistance for a series of movie projects he had in mind. It was in the course of promoting these projects that Chips Rafferty came to visit Daylesford in October, 1954.

A local resident Winsome Moffat remembered the day well. "Chips was going around to all the theatres in Australia to try and drum up money for a film he was planning (Walk into Paradise).

He came and made a little speech at The Rex." In his letter to the organizers "Chips" said "I thoroughly enjoyed myself and I only hope that it will not be too long before I am able to once more visit the town of Daylesford. Please convey my best wishes to Harry Watts, Wally Fenner and those lovely hospitable and convivial bibbers at that little pub we went to late at night."

Source: Daylesford Cinema website



Reels Film Society - Rights and digital files . . .

It all started with Limelight Film distribution (NZ). In 2024, they sent a digital download file about a month before the screening. This was the same with Vendetta film (NZ). We could test it before the due date, for peace of mind. This year Moving Story sent a file a few weeks before the screening for \$60, if we wanted a hard drive. They also have DCP available @ \$165 for the rights and file. Potential Films can do the same thing, sending a file download for \$110.

We are also using Justwatch.com to check on availabilities from screening services.

*Graham Carpenter, Reels Film Society
Mount Gambier South Australia*

www.reelsatwehl-filmsociety.blogspot.com



Portarlington Poultry Chook Doco A Hit



Filmmaker, Maité Martin-Samos, introduced her documentary, Mother of Chooks, at the Portarlington Film Society's March screening. The production was a joint project with her son, filmmaker Jesse Samos Leaman, and has shown at film festivals around the world. The heart-warming documentary is about Bellarine Peninsula resident Elaine James and her bond with a chicken named Flapper. The documentary was applauded after it was shown. It will soon be available on SBS.

*Photo: Maité Martin-Samos celebrating
the screening of her documentary.*

Not only Barwon Heads FS . . . 'but also John Clarke'

Barwon Heads Film Society members filled the Hall for their April film, screening the Australian documentary 'But Also John Clarke' directed by his daughter Lorin Clarke.

We were very fortunate to have Lorin attend our film night with her daughter, Claudia.

Lorin introduced the film and led a Q & A session then joined members for supper. In her introduction, she expressed the importance of film societies and festivals for filmmakers to have their films screened.

Lorin's insights and knowledge added to our enjoyment of the documentary and gave us all a greater understanding of the life and talent of the amazing John Clarke.

Lorin herself is a very talented writer, performer and director. We were extremely grateful to Lorin for making herself available to attend our screening and it was no surprise that she was delightful company.



Claudia Clarke, Alex Kuebler & Lorin Clarke

Murrindindi FS to close

After 20 years of screening to the local community, Murrindindi Film Society has made the sad decision to cease operations. This was brought about by a number of factors including an aging demographic, increasing costs and competition from emerging technology. The decision of the NFSA to cease lending DVD's with rights included was a blow as we had discovered some hidden gems there such as the wonderful Canadian film The Company of Strangers and the moving D Day depiction of Overlord. The main reason however was, despite lots of effort, the inability to attract new and younger members.

We are left with memories of some really outstanding films that were inspiring and thought provoking. And some we wished we hadn't shown: a Swedish film without subtitles, a short film which featured a cat eating a goldfish ad nauseam. We learned a lot, number one being that you can't please everyone; also that strong language is worse with subtitles and that Australian productions were the most popular with our members. Mostly we remember the companionship, the social interaction and a whole lot of fun. We thank everyone who helped over the years and most of all our loyal members, some of whom are now watching the big screen in the sky but who are fondly remembered.

Best wishes to the FVFS whose help was much appreciated and to all other film societies who are forging on despite the current challenges.

Jill Dwyer, Secretary, Murrindindi Film Society.



Buninyong 2026



“Each year, the Buninyong Film Festival transforms our historic village into a window to the wider world, screening a carefully curated selection of acclaimed Australian and international films. These are the kinds of stories that don’t always make it beyond the city cinema circuit—films that challenge, inspire, and linger long after the credits roll.

The 2026 program is no exception, bringing a diverse and compelling line-up to Buninyong across one packed weekend.

Opening Friday night is the powerful Australian frontier drama **Wolfram**, followed by the gripping Iranian thriller **It Was Just an Accident**.

Saturday takes audiences on a global journey—from the desert rave odyssey of **Sirāt**, to the intimate documentary portrait **Twiggy**, and the moving Indian drama **Homebound**, a story of friendship and resilience.

The program continues with the Cannes standout **The Secret Agent**, before the evening draws to a close with **One to One**, the final screening after dinner.

But the festival is about far more than what happens on screen. It’s the little extras that have become part of its charm—Friday night’s much-loved retro supper (served between sessions and included with your ticket), relaxed moments between films, and the ever-popular guided historic walk offering a chance to explore Buninyong’s rich heritage.

And then there’s the social heart of the weekend: the Saturday evening dinner at The Shared Table, where audiences gather to share a meal, a glass of wine, and plenty of conversation about the films.

It’s these moments—between screenings, over supper, out on a walk—that turn a film program into a full experience.

The Buninyong Film Festival is proud to offer something truly special: world-class cinema in a village setting, paired with a warm, welcoming atmosphere that invites you to slow down, connect, and enjoy the weekend as much off-screen as on.

Visit - buninyongfilmfestival.com.au



Tropfest . . and the rise and rise of John Polson



The Tropfest and John Polson stories are forever entwined.

Tropfest was started by actor/director John Polson in 1993 and has made a massive contribution to the growth of the Australian film industry, fostering new young filmmakers and launching many careers.

[Watch the story of Tropfest and John Polson on ABC iView - Australian Story - 'The Hustler'](#)

Well worth a look.



John Polson



Documentary resource . . .

DocAccess, Documentary Australia's free resource that helps film clubs and societies, communities and organisations easily book and host documentary screening events.

DocAccess now features 85+ documentaries, including new and award-winning films that explore some of today's most urgent social and environmental issues, giving you a simple, ideal way to engage, entertain, and educate your community.

DocAccess offers:

- Curated playlists across themes such as Indigenous stories, Environment, Disability, LGBTQIA+, Human Rights, Health & Wellbeing, The Arts, Women & Girls, and Youth & Education
- Ready-to-use templates, promotional assets, and detailed guidance to help you host successful screenings with ease.
- Direct licensing contacts for you to book your screening events.

Newly added films include award-winning titles such as Yurlu Country, Future Council, The Pool, Floodland, and Careless, among others. These compelling titles open the door to meaningful discussion and connection.

Simply register to discover DocAccess, browse curated playlists, and discover how DocAccess will support your upcoming film screenings

docaccess@documentaryaustralia.com.au

Film Noir; Your top twenty?

We noticed this list of someone's top twenty Film Noir movies . . . and we wondered, what is your list ? Is this list in the order you would choose?

Send us your list and we'll publish it.

#	Film Noir Title	Year	Director	Starring
#01	Sunset Boulevard	1950	Billy Wilder	Gloria Swanson, William Holden
#02	Blade Runner	1982	Ridley Scott	Harrison Ford, Rutger Hauer
#03	Blue Velvet	1986	David Lynch	Isabella Rossellini, Kyle MacLachlan
#04	The Asphalt Jungle	1950	John Huston	Sterling Hayden, Jean Hagen
#05	Ace In The Hole	1951	Billy Wilder	Kirk Douglas, Jan Sterling
#06	Touch Of Evil	1958	Orson Welles	Charlton Heston, Orson Welles
#07	Double Indemnity	1944	Billy Wilder	Fred MacMurray, Barbara Stanwyck
#08	White Heat	1949	Raoul Walsh	James Cagney, Virginia Mayo
#09	The Big Sleep	1946	Howard Hawks	Humphrey Bogart, Lauren Bacall
#10	Chinatown	1974	Roman Polanski	Jack Nicholson, Faye Dunaway
#11	The Killing	1956	Stanley Kubrick	Sterling Hayden, Coleen Gray
#12	In A Lonely Place	1950	Nicholas Ray	Humphrey Bogart, Gloria Grahame
#13	Criss Cross	1949	Robert Siodmak	Burt Lancaster, Yvonne De Carlo
#14	The Third Man	1949	Carol Reed	Orson Welles, Joseph Cotten
#15	Mildred Pierce	1945	Michael Curtiz	Joan Crawford, Jack Carson
#16	The Maltese Falcon	1941	John Huston	Humphrey Bogart, Mary Astor
#17	Out Of The Past	1947	Jacques Tourneur	Robert Micham, Jane Greer
#18	The Postman Always Rings Twice	1946	Tay Garnett	Lana Turner, John Garfield
#19	Laura	1945	Otto Preminger	Gene Tierney, Dana Andrews
#20	Detour	1946	Edgar G. Ulmer	Tom Neal, Ann Savage

Mirboo North Arts Film Society

Mirboo North has a new cultural group-The Mirboo North Arts Film Society. This group has recently been formed and is now affiliated with the Federation of Victorian Film Societies(FVFS).

The new Film Society is also a sub committee of Mirboo North Arts Inc. The initial members of the Film Society committee are Ken Fraser, Cliff Hammond, Max Honigsberg and Ned Dennis.

Mirboo North Arts Inc has supported film activities for many years. Helping establish a Film Society, with access to many film resources via the State and National federations, is a positive way to help expand the range of films that can be screened locally.

This plan has also been aided by the installation of a new screen and projection equipment by the Mirboo North Hall committee. Many locals saw this new equipment in use when the Best Of The St Kilda Short Film Festival was screened here last August.

The initial film society committee has chosen a selection of famous Black and White features and a selection of films that focus on music for the inaugural season. Potential Film Society members may well have seen some of these films on their TV, but the experience of seeing them on a big screen, and enjoying the experience with other film enthusiasts is quite different.

At most screenings a short film will also be screened-sometimes a documentary from South Gippsland, sometimes a Cine tone newsreel from times past. Subscribers can bring along a drink to enjoy as well, and can contribute to the selection of films for 2027.

The only way to see the films is by becoming a subscriber-the Film Society is not allowed to accept patrons for individual screenings. However-by being a formal Film Society we can hire films for a much lower cost per screening than would be the case for a commercial screening, and that is why it only costs \$50 to be able to come to all eight films.

The new Film society committee is grateful to the Federation of Victorian Film Societies for all their help and to the film distribution companies who have been very cooperative.

The Film Society is also grateful for the assistance provided by the Mirboo North Hall committee in helping us get underway.

We will screen a film on the 2nd Friday of each month at Mirboo North Hall commencing on 8 May.

Subscription is \$50 for the season and can be purchased via trybooking.com/DLHLC or at our 1st screening on 8 May. You can also subscribe at The Wren's Nest Books 90B Ridgway, Mirboo North.

For more information you can contact Ned by email : ned@dcsi.net.au

The films selected for 2026 are -

- Casablanca (1942)
- The Rocky Horror Picture Show(1975)
- The Grapes of Wrath(1940)
- Cabaret(1972)
- Pyscho(1960)
- The Music of Strangers(2015)
- Some Like It Hot(1959)
- South Pacific(1958)

From - Ned Dennis Convenor



StarBox results received since Issue #148



Please do not forget to report your StarBox scores immediately after the screening!

Please calculate the scores to 1 decimal place and send them to us at 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.

See compiled results (in alpha order) from all years, at www.fvfs.org.au/ideas Info Sheet 17+

DVD Title	Society	Stars
Tina	Ocean Grove FS	4.9
Lee (with Kate Winslett)	Tatura FS	4.9
Roofman	Alpine FS	4.8
Flow	Ballarat FS	4.8
Old Oak, The	Healesville Mini FF	4.8
Quartet	Marysville FS	4.8
Bank of Dave	Ocean Grove FS	4.8
One Life	St Andrews FS	4.8
Radical	Violet Town FS	4.8
Shawshank Redemption	Warrandyte FS	4.8
Castle, The	Winchelsea MC	4.8
Tina	Winchelsea MC	4.8
One Life	Winchelsea MC	4.8
Driving Madeleine [Roadshow]	Camberwell FS	4.7
Penguin Lessons	Chewton FS	4.7
Freedom Writers	Macedon Ranges FS	4.7
Teacher Who Promised the Sea [Palace]	Reels FS	4.7
Lee	Sale FS	4.7
Balloon	Sale FS	4.7
Spit (with D Wenham)	Violet Town FS	4.7
Best Exotic Marigold Hotel, The	Grampians FS	4.6
To Kill a Mockingbird	Maldon Golden Movies	4.6
Beautiful Mind, A	Marysville FS	4.6
Biggest Little Farm, The	Tatura FS	4.6
Tina (Mother)	Whitehorse FS	4.6
Tina	Bright FS	4.5
Ablaze	Little FS	4.5
Tina	Maldon GM	4.5
Hamnet	Mildura FS	4.5
Ballad of Wallis Island	Prom Coast FS	4.5
Riviera Revenge [Potential]	Reels FS	4.5
Penguin Lessons	Whitehorse FS	4.5
Wicked Little Letters	Arapiles MPS	4.4

more ↓

StarBox results continued . . .



Juliette in the Spring	Baringo FC	4.4
Ray	Barossa FG	4.4
Dressmaker, The	Grampians FS	4.4
Gilded Cage, The	Maldon Golden Movies	4.4
Conclave	Whitehorse FS	4.4
When Fall is Coming	Yarra Ranges FS – Warburton	4.4
Last Journey, The	Baringo FC	4.3
Penguin Lessons	Baringo FC	4.3
Lee	Dookie FG	4.3
EL 47	Sale FS	4.3
Balloon	Whitehorse FS	4.3
EL 47	Yarra Ranges FS - Healesville	4.3
When Fall is Coming	Yarra Ranges FS – Healesville	4.3
EL 47	Yarra Ranges FS – Warburton	4.3
Eight Mountains, The	Bright FS	4.2
All the President's Men, 1976 [Roadshow]	Camberwell FS	4.2
There's Still Tomorrow	Croydon FS	4.2
Wicked Little Letters	Dookie FG	4.2
Red, White & Brass	Portarlington FS	4.2
Widow Clicquot	Portarlington FS	4.2
Kangaroo	Dookie FG	4.1
Conclave	Goulburn Valley FC	4.1
I'm Still Here	St Andrews FS	4.1
Rosalie Blum (2016)	St Leonards FS	4.1
Ballad of Wallis Island	Tatura FS	4.1
My Favourite Cake	Arapiles MPS	4.0
Downton Abbey Grand Finale	Baringo FC	4.0
Lies We Tell	Healesville Mini FF	4.0
To Catch a Thief	Marysville FS	4.0
Living	Warrandyte FC	4.0
All We Imagine as Light	Ballarat FS	3.9
My Favourite Cake	Macedon Ranges FS	3.9
Youth (2015 Italy)	Tarwin Lower FS	3.9
Phantom Thread	Yarra Ranges FS – Warburton	3.9
Phantom Thread	Yarra Ranges FS – Warburton	3.9
Father, The	Arapiles MPS	3.8
Life of Chuck	Baringo FC	3.8
Wolves Always Come at Night, The	Films at the Bundy	3.8

more ↓

StarBox results continued . . .

Sully	Grampians FS	3.8
And Mrs	Healesville Mini FF	3.8
Singing in the Rain	Warrandyte FS	3.8
Thelma	Whitehorse FS	3.8
My Favourite Cake	Whitehorse FS	3.8
One, Two, Three	Barossa FC	3.7
Memoirs of a Snail	Goulburn Valley FC	3.7
Jane Austin Wrecked my Life	Baringo FC	3.6
Widow Cliquot	Dookie FG	3.6
Phantom Thread	Yarra Ranges FS – Healesville	3.6
Rumours (2024)[Roadshow]	Films at the Bundy	3.5
Godland (2015)	Tarwin Lower FS	3.5
Lucky Grandma	Barossa FC	3.4
Emilia Perez	Baringo FC	3.3
Black Dog (Hi Gloss Entertainment)	Reels FS	3.3
Phantom Thread	Yarra Ranges FS – Healesville	3.3
Hard Truth	Croydon FS	3.1
Sita Sings the Blues	Baringo FC [FVFS]	3.0
Out of Season	Croydon FS	3.0
Triangle of Sadness	Goulburn Valley FC	3.0
Banshees of Inisherin, The	Myrtleford FS	3.0
Monster (2023, Japan)	Little FS	2.6

Starbox results compiled by Ian Davidson



WHAT'S BEING SCREENED . . . May 2026

FVFS Affiliates who have provided screening details are listed below. If you have not yet sent in your current programme, please send details to:

secretary@fvfs.org.au

for inclusion in future issues. [When provided, the rights owner is shown in square brackets].

Alpine Film Society
Roofman, USA, 2025

Anglesea Movie Club
The Old Oak, UK+, 2023. [Roadshow]
Singin' in the Rain, USA, 1952.
The Man Who Invented Christmas, Ireland+, 2017.

Arapiles Motion Picture Society
WALL-E, USA/Japan, 2008.
Manganinnie, Australia, 1980.
Tina, New Zealand, 2024. [Amalgamated]

Ballarat Film Society
Black Dog, China, 2024. [Hi Gloss]
Monster, Japan, 2024. [Palace]
Journey Home, Australia, 2025. [Madman]

Baringo Film Club
I'm Not Scared, Italy/Spain/UK, 2003.
Ego: The Michael Gudinski Story, Australia, 2023.
There's Still Tomorrow, Italy, 2023.
Sita Sings the Blues, USA, 2008.
Emilia Perez, France/Mexico/Belgium, 2024.
Jane Austin Wrecked My Life, France, 2024.
Downtown Abbey: the Grand Finale, UK/USA, 2025.

Barwon Heads Film Society
Journey Home, Australia, 2025. [Madman]
My Brother's Band, France, 2024.
Dead of Winter, USA/Germany, 2025.

Beechworth Film Society
Flow, Lativa, 2024. [Madman]
El 47, Spain, 2024.

Brackenbury East Film Society
Miss Potter, UK/USA+, 2006.
The Commitments, Ireland/UK/USA, 1991.
Iris and the Men, France, 2023.
Wild, USA, 2014.

Bright Film Society
The Last Daughter, Australia, 2022.
Small Things Like These, UK+, 2024.
The Velvet Queen, Tibet, 2021.

Buninyong Film Festival
To be held 19-20 June, 2026.
Wolfram, Australia, 2025.
It was Just an Accident, Iran+, 2025.
Sirât, Spain/France, 2025.
Twiggy, UK, 2024.
Homebound, India, 2025.
The Secret Agent, Brazil+, 2025.
One to One: John & Yoko, UK, 2024

Camberwell Film Society
Fallen Leaves, Finland/Germany, 2023. [Palace]
I'm Still Here, Brazil/France, 2024. [Amalgamated]
Living, UK+, 2022. [Roadshow]

Chewton Film Society
The Teacher Who Promised the Sea, Spain, 2023. [Roadshow]
The Movie Teller, France/Spain+, 2023.
The New Boy, Australia, 2023.

Corangamite Film Society
Porco Rosso, Japan, 1992.
The Quiet Girl, Ireland, 2022.

Croydon Film Society
No Other Land, Palestine, 2024.
I'm Still Here, Brazil/France, 2024.
Sing Sing, USA, 2023.
Under Streetlights, Australia, 2024.

Deniliquin Film Society
The Man Who Knew Too Much, USA, 1956.
The Carnival, Australia, 2023.
Doctor Zhivago, Italy/UK/USA, 1965.

Dookie Film Group
Kangaroo, Australia, 2025.
Lee, UK/USA+, 2023.
The Marching Band, France, 2024.
The Teacher Who Promised the Sea, Spain, 2024.

F Project Cinema
The Gleaners and I, France, 2000.
Flow, Lativa, 2024.
RockKabul, Australia/UK, 2018.
Live and Become, France, 2005.
Latcho Drom, France, 1993.
The Apartment, USA, 1960.

Ferntree Gully Film Society
One Life, UK+, 2023.
Mr Burton, UK+, 2025.
The Thread (An Ordinary Case), France, 2024.
Lee, UK+, 2023.
Irena's Vow, Canada/Poland, 2023.

Films At The Bundy Inc.
All We Imagine as Light, France/India+, 2024. [Roadshow]
Darla in Space, USA, 2024. [Freestyle Digital Media USA]

Forrest Film Society 3461
What We Did on our Holiday, USA, 2014.
River, Australia, 2021.
Flathead, Australia, 2024 (Q&A with director)

Forrest Flicks Film Society
A Complete Unknown, USA, 2024.
Children of the Revolution, Australia, 1996.

Geelong Classic Cinema
Walk Don't Run, USA, 1966.
The Maltese Falcon, USA, 1941.
The Seven Year Itch, USA, 1955.

Goulburn Valley Film Club
The Great Escaper, UK, 2023. [Roadshow]
Tina, New Zealand, 2024. [Amalgamated]
Midas Man, UK, 2024.

Grampians Film Society
The Dressmaker, Australia, 2015.
Sully, USA, 2016.
The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel, UK, 2011.
Gallipoli, Australia, 1981.
Cinema Paradiso, Italy/France, 1988.

Healesville Mini Film Festival
(Held 29th March 2026)

Horsham Film Society
My Brother's Band, France, 2024.
Sentimental Value, Norway+, 2025.

Kingston Moviehouse
All the Young Men, USA, 1960.
The Prisoner of Zenda, USA, 1937.
Rebecca, USA, 1940.
Xanadu, USA, 1980.
9 to 5, USA, 1980.
To Kill a Mockingbird, USA, 1962.
The Philadelphia Story, USA, 1940.
War of the Worlds, USA, 1953.
Airplane!, USA, 1980.
Lust for Gold, USA, 1949.

Little Film Society
As It Is in Heaven, Sweden, 2004.
Howard's End, UK/Japan/USA, 1992.

Macedon Ranges Film Society
The Ladykillers, UK, 1955.
The Teacher Who Promised the Sea, Spain, 2023.
A Man Called Otto, USA+, 2022.

Maldon Golden Movies
Electric Dreams, USA, 1984.
The Great Escaper, UK, 2023.
The Battleship Potemkin, Russia, 1925.

more ↓

WHAT'S BEING SCREENED con't . . .

Marysville Film Society

Quartet, UK/Germany, 2012.
A Beautiful Mind, USA, 2001.
To Catch a Thief, USA, 1955.

Melbourne Horror Film Society

Intruder, USA, 1989.
April's Fool Day, USA, 1986.

Mildura Film Society

If I Had Legs I'd Kick You, USA, 2025.
No Other Choice, South Korea/France, 2025.
The Secret Agent, Brazil+, 2025.
It Was Just An Accident, Iran+, 2025.

Mirboo North Arts Film Society

Casablanca, USA, 1942.
The Rocky Horror Picture Show, USA, 1975.
The Grapes of Wrath, USA, 1940

Movies at Numurkah Film Society

Roofman, USA, 2025.
Song Sung Blue, USA, 2025.

Myrtleford Film Society.

The Banshees of Inisherin, Ireland+, 2022.
[Roadshow]
Sunshine on Leith, UK, 2013. [Roadshow]
Zone of Interest, UK+, 2023. [Amalgamated]
The World's Fastest Indian, NZ, 2005.
[Roadshow]

North Bellarine Film Festival

(to be held 13-14 November 2026)
Program available early September.

Ocean Grove Film Society

The Father, UK+, 2020.
My Favourite Cake, Iran, 2024. [Roadshow]
Emu Runner, Australia, 2018.

Port Lincoln Film Society (SA)

John Farnham: Finding the Voice, Australia, 2023.
White Nights, USA, 1985.
Belfast, UK, 2021.

Portarlington Film Society

Widow Clicquot, USA, 2023.
Charlie's Country, Australia, 2013.

Prom Coast Film Society

Fallen Leaves, Finland/Germany, 2023.
[Palace]
Anora, USA, 2024.
Satellite Boy, Australia, 2012.

Red Rock Film Society

Pig, USA/UK, 2021.
Minari, USA, 2020.

Reels Film Society (SA)

Riviera Revenge, France, 2024. [Potential]
All We Imagine as Light, France/India, 2024.
There's Still Tomorrow, Italy, 2023.

Sale Film Society

Beneath Clouds, Australia, 2002.
The Thread, France, 2024.
The Great Escaper, UK, 2023.

Southern Fleurieu Film Society (SA)

Persona, Sweden, 1966.
It's A Wonderful Life, USA, 1946.
Io Capitano, Italy, 2023.

St Andrews Film Society

One Life, UK+, 2023.
I'm Still Here, Brazil/France, 2024.

St Leonards Film Society

Rosalie Blum, France, 2015.
Conclave, UK/USA, 2024. [Roadshow]
Mr. Burton, UK, 2025. [Roadshow]
The Widow Clicquot, UK, 2023.

Tarwin Lower Film Society

Godland, Denmark/Iceland, 2022.
Being There, USA, 1979.
Crazy Days at the Old Brumby Moon, Australia, 2016.

Tatura Film Society

The Ballad of Wallis Island, UK, 2025. [Roadshow]
The Biggest Little Farm, USA, 2018. [Madman]
Jiro Dreams of Sushi, USA, 2011. [Madman]
The Old Oak, UK+, 2023. [Roadshow]

Trentham Film Society

Where the Crawdads Sing, USA, 2022.
Touching the Void, UK, 2003.
Runt, Australia, 2024.

Violet Town Film Society

Conclave, UK/USA, 2024. [Roadshow]
Radical, USA/Mexico 2023. [Madman]
I Am Woman, Australia, 2019.
Runt, Australia, 2024.

Warburton Film Festival

(To be held 12 -14 June 2026)

Warrandyte Film Society

Living, UK+, 2022.
Belfast, UK, 2021.

Whitehorse Film Society

My Favourite Cake, Iran, 2024. [Roadshow]
The Salt Path, UK, 2024. [Roadshow]
The Last Journey, Sweden, 2024. [Roadshow]
A Beautiful Mind, USA/Spain, 2001.
[Roadshow]
Radical, USA/Mexico, 2023. [Amalgamated]

Williamstown Film Society

Jojo Rabbit, New Zealand+, 2019.
42nd Street, USA, 1933.
Signorinella, Australia, 2025.

Winchelsea Movie Club.

Roofman, USA, 2025.
Gifted Hands: the Ben Carson Story, USA, 2009.
[Amalgamated]
Rachel's Farm, Australia, 2023.

Yarra Ranges Film Society - Warburton

One to One: John & Yoko, UK/USA, 2024.
The Blue Caftan, Morocco, 2022.
High Ground, Australia, 2020.

Yarra Ranges Film Society - Healesville



*What's being screened
is compiled by Susan Davidson*

StarBox Survey results

Our decision to reformat the StarBox scores was based on the feedback from our recent mini-survey on StarBox scores.

The feedback, in summary was:

Almost everyone uses the StarBox scores we report in ReelNews and on the website.

The quarterly report in ReelNews is acceptable in pdf because that is how ReelNews is delivered, and the preference is that it be in StarBox score order.

There was a strong preference that the annual compiled list available on the FVFS website as Info Sheets should be in MS word (.doc format) in a table that can be downloaded and sorted by stars, society or film title as required.

There was little support for a 5-yearly compilation because it would have been over 30 pages long and include some films 5 years old which would be of little interest to many. Anyone wanting to combine more than one annual report could easily do it themselves.

Ian Davidson.

StarBox gazing . . .

I'm a great fan of the the Starbox and look forward to seeing the results for a host of films with each publication. I do notice though that I think there is a significant variation in the severity of judging the films. In particular it seems to me that some regional Film Societies tend to be more lenient in their judgement and operate mostly in the 4 to 5 region, whereas others are more critical. I'm not complaining, just a comment and something to take in mind.

Recent scores -
'Phantom Thread' - Warburton 3.9 Healesville 3.3

Healesville Mini Film Festival -
Lies We Tell: 4.0 The Old Oak: 4.8 And Mrs: 3.8

Keith Wade, Yarra Ranges Film Society

Info Sheet Updates

Over the past few months the FVFS has reviewed and updated all our Information Sheets and these are now available on our website. www.fvfs.org.au/ideas

Three of the most recent Information Sheets of interest are:

Info 28 - "Programming Guidelines" (pdf)

Info 31 - "Finding DVD Rights - a Presentation" (pdf)

Info 33 - "Point-of-Sale systems for Film Societies" (pdf)

In addition, we have revamped all our annual compilations of StarBox scores in the Info 17.xx series. They now include all StarBox scores submitted to the FVFS since 2017 (One year per Info Sheet) and are presented in Word .doc format (in a table) so you can download them and sort them as you like.

Ian Davidson.



An idea for a movie scene?

This is a recording of a real radio conversation released by the Navy in 1995.

Speaker 1: "Please divert your course 15 degrees to the North to avoid a collision".

Speaker 2: "Recommend you divert YOUR course 15 degrees to the South to avoid a collision."

Speaker 1: "This is the Captain of a US Navy ship. I say again, divert your course."

Speaker 2: "No, I say again, you must divert YOUR course."

Speaker 1: THIS IS THE AIRCRAFT CARRIER ENTERPRISE. WE ARE LARGE WARSHIP OF THE US NAVY. DIVERT YOUR COURSE NOW."

Speaker 2: " This is a lighthouse. Your call."

Nothing more was said!

Movie Mysteries Quiz

Strain your brain and guess the movie title . . .

Answers - next issue of reelNews



★ ★ ★ ★ ★



Movie 1 - Hint: Colin Firth



★ ★ ★ ★ ★



Movie 2 - Hint: Ken Loach



★ ★ ★ ★ ★



Movie 3 - Hint: Steve Coogan



★ ★ ★ ★ ★



Movie 4 - Hint: Russell Crowe

Find your film rights!



Click the link above to go to the Australian Government Classification web site.

Search for the film you're interested in and scroll down the page to find the listed 'Applicant' for classification; they will most likely be the rights holder for Australia.



Click the link above to go to the ACOFS page listing all distributor/rights holders.

ACOFS is the Australian Council of Film Societies, and is the custodian of the film rights fees agreement between the rights holders and Australian film societies.

StarBox Update

Check out past StarBox scores in our Information Sheets which collate all films annually in alphabetical order. Download them from the FVFS website [from this link - All StarBox scores](#) click through to the required Information Sheet 17-21 xxx or scan this QR code . . . StarBox scores are now given in Doc format from Sheet 17 - 22



Our Patron Jake Wilson



Our Patron Jake Wilson reviews films and writes about all things cinema in The Age and on his website - movingtargets@substack.com Check out his reviews for ideas for films to show.



Tell the world you're a member of the FVFS . . .



Your Image is Our Focus

As an affiliated member of the FVFS, your society enjoys several important benefits; not the least of which is the special discount rate for screening rights from distributors.

Please help to confirm this by displaying the FVFS logo (as shown here) on your website, and any other material, digital or printed, that you present to members and the wider community.

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.

Please use this link
www.fvfs.org.au/members/
or scan this QRcode **to check your society's contact details**



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 and arranging for it to forward all incoming emails to the address of your current secretary. But please do not quote the same email address for all your contacts

Contact the membership officer on admin@fvfs.org.au if you need to update anything, or use the on-line form at www.fvfs.org.au/join/#update-details or scan this QRcode . . .



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The FVFS does not necessarily endorse the statements or views contained in any personal articles, letters to the editor, films etc., mentioned in this newsletter.
Editor: Henry Screen Email: reelnews@fvfs.org.au Phone: 0411 418 468
Visit our web site - fvfs.org.au



Tell your story.

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

Please send your submissions for articles to 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 and programs to secretary@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, and also note the correct spelling of 'ReelNews' when including it in your article.

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