

AUSTRALIAN COUNCIL OF FILM SOCIETIES

ACOFS BULLETIN

OCTOBER 2006 (Amended)

Number 11

The 2007 AGM will be held in Sydney from April 13th to 15th. Make a date in your diary now to be there (venue to be advised later) if you can be in Sydney for that weekend. Contact David Bruce-Steer, (02) 9419 7017 or email dobs@ozemail.com.au for details.

REPORT ON EXECUTIVE TELECONFERENCE 16TH AUGUST 2006
ACOFS WILL COVER ALL MEMBER SOCIETIES FOR DAMAGE TO FILMS WHILST BEING PROJECTED. COVER WILL BE UP TO \$1000.00 FOR ANY ONE CLAIM.

This clause was removed by our insurers when we renewed the policy and it was decided by the executive that ACOFS will cover any such claims at no extra cost to societies. Your society must be a paid up member of the state federation to be eligible for this cover.

The projectionist manual which Michael Lines-Kelly has so expertly and painstakingly assembled is now available on CD for \$10. Parts of it can also be accessed on the ACOFS website.

AS AN ADDITIONAL FEATURE TO THIS SERVICE COULD EACH FEDERATION PLEASE INFORM RICHARD PURDY OF ANY CENTRES OF PROJECTIONIST TRAINING OR PROJECTION EXPERTISE IN THEIR STATE, SO THAT THE INFORMATION CAN BE CIRCULATED.

The projectionist Manual has been examined by the experts at the National Film and Sound Archive and it passes all of their criteria for excellence which is a feather in the cap for ACOFS and a source of great satisfaction to Michael.

The ACOFS HANDBOOK is now partly on the web site and is also in MS WORD Format but it was not decided to reprint.

Richard Purdy is working on the DVD Screenings Database which is almost complete and is working on a questionnaire which will be sent to societies requesting details of their projection facilities and equipment.

Also towards the end of the year society information will be requested so that the ACOFS database can be updated.

The NFVLS will publish a list of Australian Film Societies with a contact number for each, in the next copy of their Bulletin due at the end of the year. This could result in an increase in membership for some societies as the Bulletin is widely circulated.

Leaflets have been distributed at venues for the Sydney and Melbourne Travelling Film Festivals. This could result in new societies appearing in places visited by these Festivals. In

return societies already in existence are publicizing the Travelling Festivals when their community is a venue for a Festival.

It was also re-emphasized that Film Societies will not screen DVDs which have no local distributor or charge at the door for single screenings when using DVDs which are covered by the non-theatrical **screening rights payment of \$55 for a single screening**. This policy statement can be obtained in full from the secretary.

NEWS FROM NFVLS.

The latest issue of the NFVLS Borrower Bulletin was published in September. There have now been three Bulletins issued this year and they contain many new titles on 16mm and DVD. Also there are older titles on 16mm which were previously not available to film societies but which have had their screening rights amended in our favour. If you are not getting your copies of this invaluable aid either by email or in printed format, contact Elizabeth Jamieson, Manager Collection Access at elizabeth.jamieson@nfsa.afc.gov.au.

In the next month the NFSA will publish a Journal which will be devoted to different topics in each issue. The first edition will deal with film preservation and the second due early next year will deal solely with digital media and will be of great interest to film societies as we all come to terms with DVD and the next steps. Copies of this Journal (free) will be sent to the delegates at this year's ACOFS AGM, and so there will be at least two copies in each state. Make sure you see one and if you find it valuable register with the NFSA to receive future editions.

A new initiative from the NFSA is the **NATIONAL REGISTRY OF AUDIOVISUAL COLLECTIONS**. We are being asked to nominate any collections belonging to ACOFS members or asking anyone known to us to nominate their own collection. This could be a defined collection of a specific genre or merely a few unconnected items, even a single item. The items can be of local, national or international significance. For example collections already nominated include the Australian War Memorial to the Capricorn Coast Historical Society. So get searching and get the collectors to contact avregistry@nfsa.afc.gov.au Phone (02) 6248 2012.

I have copies of the documentation required or you can get it sent from the address above.

John Turner
October 2006

PS: Notification just received from assistant to Sue Maslin, producer of the Australian movie *Hunt Angels* to be released next month. The film portrays the untold story of two film industry outlaws who against all odds, set out to make the great Australian picture at a time when almost no Australian movies got made. Details at www.huntangels.com.au ACOFS has requested an early release of the DVD for use by Film Societies to pay \$55 for non-theatrical screening rights for a single screening. Application for tickets to commercial screenings of the film via the web address can get party rates and maybe even a couple of two for one passes. The film will be released in November by Palace.