

# ACOFS Bulletin

## Australian Council of Film Societies

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NUMBER 41

MAY 2015

*This Bulletin has been compiled and edited by Ian Davidson, (ACOFS President) [president@acofs.org.au](mailto:president@acofs.org.au)*

**This Issue contains information important to your president, secretary, treasurer and programmers, so please pass it on to all your committee people - including those not on email.**

**And please ensure it does not get caught up in spam filters!**

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In this issue:

1. From the President – NFSA News and Streaming.
2. ACOFS AGM 2015 in Nunawading
3. The ACOFS DVD Rights Agreement
4. News From the DVD Distributors
5. New DVDs from the SLC at the NFSA



### 1. From the President, Ian Davidson – NFSA Announcement Pending?

On 8<sup>th</sup> April 2015, Michael Loebenstein (CEO NFSA) announced the release of the much anticipated NFSA Strategic Plan for 2015-2018. It is now available for anyone to download and read from <http://www.nfsa.gov.au/plan/> In his words, "It is a roadmap and clearly articulates what our focus and priorities will be for the next three years".

But don't get too enthusiastic just yet because it is a top level plan and does not get into specifics of what will happen to the NTLC collections!

You will have to come to the ACOFS AGM for that! Representatives from the NFSA will attend the forthcoming ACOFS AGM in Nunawading (Vic) and hopefully will provide more details as to the future of these important NTLC collections.

- Will the 16mm collection continue to be available to film societies?
- Will the existing DVD collection continue to be available to film societies and will it grow?
- Will the rights for existing DVDs in the collection be renewed when they expire?
- Will there be a change in direction for the NTLC acquisitions?
- Will there be any changes to the charges for using the collections?
- Will there be any changes to the booking mechanisms?

ACOFS has been asking these questions of the NFSA for some time, following their announcements that the services may be curtailed, so we are waiting anxiously for some more details.

As the Strategic Plan is now released, we are hoping that their agreement to send someone to the ACOFS AGM means there are some announcements pending. We can but hope!

## - and... will Streaming Impact Film Societies?

On another issue, I imagine you will all have heard of the new internet video download streaming services (VOD or Video on Demand) such as Stan and Netflix that allow subscribers to catch up on missed TV episodes and documentaries as well as new release movies, but what will the impact be on film societies?

Recent press articles have focussed on the expected impact on broadcast and cable TV but, not surprisingly, they have not mentioned the impact on cinema and film societies.

It is anticipated that the streaming and subscriber services that provide "view-on-demand" services will have a great impact on TV watching. Imagine how attractive it will be to watch what you want, when you want to, rather than when it is broadcast. While the PVR allows the time-shifting of broadcast TV, the general feeling is that streamed TV over the internet will be far more popular.

But what about the impact on film societies?

When DVDs first hit the marketplace the pessimists said the ability to watch your movies in good quality at home would be the finish of film societies, but in reality it gave them a new lease on life. It became easier to obtain sought-after titles and once rights were cleared, it became easier to screen to members. Because a film society is a social gathering of members and much more than just watching a movie, film societies prospered. There are now more film societies operating in Australia than at any time in the history of the film society movement.

And so I believe it will be with the new streaming services. Anyone who wants to watch at home on their TV or even their big screen will benefit from streaming, but for the film societies it is just another way to obtain the movie legally, prior to seeking the screening rights, and should make little or no difference to the programming style, the ambience or the popularity of film societies.

So look forward to even more film societies starting up in the coming years.

(Ian Davidson, President ACOFS)

## 2. ACOFS AGM 2015

The 2015 ACOFS AGM is scheduled to take place on May 16<sup>th</sup> 2015.

**Where:** The Willis Room, Whitehorse Civic Centre, 279 Whitehorse Rd, Nunawading, 3131.

**When:** Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> May, 9:00am for a 9:15am start, through to about 5:00pm.



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

In addition to the usual wide range of topics covered by the AGM agenda, we are expecting representatives of the NFSA to attend the conference to enlarge on the NFSA plans for their 16mm and DVD collections, and the impact on non-theatrical borrowers.

There should be something of interest and importance to all film societies, so come along and participate in this important meeting.

The draft agenda is as follows:

## **DRAFT AGENDA** (Estimated times only)

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

Matters arising from those minutes.

Correspondence

ACOFS Executive meeting report.

President's report

Treasurer's report

Reports from the State Federations – Vic, NSW, Qld, Tas, WA and Fismotron.

12:00 LUNCH

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

International Federation of Film Societies report

Film and DVD Insurance. Do we continue to cover 35mm films and projection?

The ACOFS website

ACOFS Bulletin

Film Society History

Elections

Q&A

5:00pm Finish

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

**Please let Ian Davidson (ACOFS President) know by 9<sup>th</sup> May if you plan to attend and also if you will require lunch or have any queries.** [president@acofs.org.au](mailto:president@acofs.org.au)

## **OTHER ACTIVITIES**

Delegates and guests are invited to gather for a meal (at your expense) at Bucatini's on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May at 6:30pm. 454 Whitehorse Rd Mitcham Vic 3132 (0.5 Km East of the Willis Room). **But please book in with the president by 9<sup>th</sup> May if you wish to be included.**

Delegates and guests are also invited to meet for a meal (at own expense) after the AGM on Saturday, at the Mitcham Pub from about 6:00pm. We will confirm numbers at the meeting.

The Willis Room will be the venue on Saturday night at 7:45pm, for a screening by the Whitehorse Film Society of TRACKS, and all AGM participants are welcome to attend – but please let the president of ACOFS know before-hand if you plan to attend.

## **3. The ACOFS DVD Rights Agreement**

The DVD rights agreement Fact Sheet 3B is constantly being updated as new distributors come to our notice or existing ones change their contact details. Download one today to keep up to date. [www.acofs.org.au/resources/](http://www.acofs.org.au/resources/). There have been some changes to the contacts. The latest version was uploaded on 21<sup>st</sup> Feb 2015.

The ACOFS agreement applies only to fully paid up societies that screen DVDs non-theatrically (ie to members only) and only where the society sources their own copy of the DVD. The agreement does not cover supply of the DVD from the distributor, although the society may make their own arrangements in this regard. **So ARE YOU FULLY PAID UP FOR 2015?**

The ACOFS agreement does not apply to 16mm, 35mm or 2K digital screenings.

## 4. News From the DVD Distributors

These DVD distributors are party to the ACOFS DVD rights agreement, under which member film societies pay special affordable prices for their DVD screening rights. As ACOFS' part of the agreement, we promote the distributor's catalogues and especially information on any new acquisitions. Information is listed below where provided by the distributor.

For contact details and websites see ACOFS Fact Sheet 3B on [www.acofs.org.au](http://www.acofs.org.au) (Updated regularly).

### Roadshow

*(Chrystal Remington)*

Before I Go To Sleep

Boyhood

Dark Horse, The

Drop, The

Exodus: Gods & Men

Get On Up

God Help the Girl

Gone Girl

Hobbit, The: Battle of the Five Armies

Hundred Foot Journey

In Bloom

Interstellar

Judge, The

Jupiter Ascending

Keep On Keeping On

Kill the Messenger

Life Itself

Living Is Easy (With Eyes Closed)

Maps to the Stars

Men Women & Children

My Old Lady

Pride

San Andreas

Serena

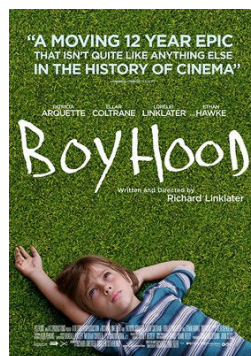
Son Of A Gun

St. Vincent

This Is Where I Leave You

Walk Among the Tombstones, A

Water Diviner, The



### Upcoming Releases:

American Sniper (Coming In May)

Big Eyes (Coming In July)

Birdman (Coming In June)

Blackhat (Coming In May)

Captive, The (Coming In May)

Folies Bergere (Coming In May)

Foxcatcher (Coming In June)

Goof Lie, the (Coming In June)

Imitation Game (Coming In May)

Inherent Vice (Coming In July)

Into The Woods (Coming In May)

Most Violent Year, A (Coming In June)

Mr. Turner (Coming In May)  
One I Love, The (Coming In May)  
Paper Planes (Coming In June)  
Rosewater (Coming In June)  
Still Alice (Coming In June)  
Theory of Everything (Coming In June)  
Unbroken (Coming In May)  
What We Did On Our Holiday (Coming In June)



Roadshow charge for their DVD rights on the basis of average audience, so if you have not registered your membership size with your State Federation you may be charged DVD rights at the highest rate!

Check ACOFS Info Sheet 3A for details.

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### **Madman**

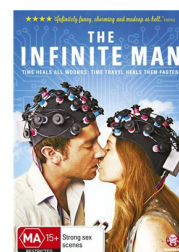
(Susan Davidson ACOFS) [dvdrights@acofs.org.au](mailto:dvdrights@acofs.org.au)

Since 2011 ACOFS has been handling the member film society bookings for Madman DVD screening rights on their behalf, and Susan Davidson is the contact at ACOFS.

But please remember Susan does have a life outside the film society movement and would appreciate sufficient notice to be able to confirm your booking in plenty of time.

*Recent Acquisitions at Madman since the last Bulletin include:*

Cathedrals of Culture  
Infinite Man, The  
Life of Crime  
Nas: Time is Illmatic  
What We Do in the Shadows  
When Animals Dream



Note that Madman does not hold non-theatrical screening rights for all titles listed on their website. Some titles might only have commercial or home entertainment rights while other titles might be listed by Madman on behalf of other smaller distributors. So always check apparent Madman titles with [dvdrights@acofs.org.au](mailto:dvdrights@acofs.org.au) and give plenty of notice!

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### **Accent Film Entertainment**

(George Papadopoulos)

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### **All Interactive Distribution**

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### **Amalgamated Movies**

(Steven Snell) Can also ship if a copy if required.

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### **Anchor Bay Entertainment**

(Simone Murray)

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### **Antidote Films**

(Originally known as Gil Scrine Films.)

(Ruari Elkington)

Antidote will also accept \$35 for screening rights for DVD docs and lesser known independent movies downloaded by beamafilm from their catalogue.

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### **Aztec International Entertainment**

(Nicki Jackson)

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**Bansai films**

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**Beyond Home Entertainment**

(Jason Behan)

**Chapel Distribution**

(Mark Spratt)

**Closer Productions** (See Vendetta Films - Ivan Vukusic)

52 Tuesdays

Sam Klemke's Time Machine

Shut up Little Man (distributed through Madman)

Several Award-winning short films and docos.

**Curious Films**

(Stephen Fitzgibbon)

**Entertainment One** (Was Hopscotch)

(Emily Batts)

**Gil Scrine Films**

See Antidote Films.

**Gryphon Entertainment****Hanabee Entertainment****Hi Gloss Entertainment**

(Simon Killen)

About Elly

Gardening With Soul

Italy: Love It or Leave It

Journal De France

Lygon Street – Si Parla Italiano

Maison De La Radio, La

Minister, The

Mystery of Picasso, The

Skylab

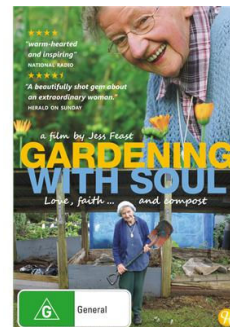
*Coming Soon:*

Human Capital (June)

2 Autumns, 3 Winters (June)

Going Away (Un Beau Dimanche) (September)

Great Museum, The (September)

**Imagine Films International**

(Megan George)

**Jump Street Films**

(Jamie Bialkower)

**Leapfrog Films**

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**Magna Pacific**  
(Jason Behan)

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**Novofilm**  
(Gerald Lawson)

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**Palace Films**  
(Tony Zrna)

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**Pinnacle Films**  
(Donnah Kosman)  
Autobahn (In October)  
Clouds of Sils Maria  
Nightingale, The (In June)  
X + Y

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**Potential Films**  
(Mark Spratt)

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**Regency Film Distribution**  
(Lee Hunter)

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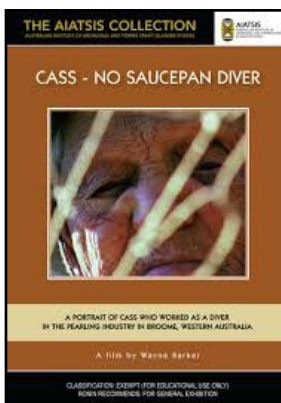
**Rialto Distribution**  
*(Hayley Weston) Or book the rights through Roadshow.*  
It Follows

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**Ronin Films**  
(Andrew Pike)

*Buy the DVD (With rights included) for the Community Association rate of \$75 or pay for the rights for \$50 and borrow the DVD from them for free. Most are shorter length documentaries.*

CASS – No Saucepan Diver  
Forgotten District, The  
Beneath Black Skies  
For the Lagoon  
Fierce Green Fire, A  
For Love of Money  
Friends and Enemies  
Green Chain, The  
Land Between, The  
Love Market, The  
My Long Neck  
My Work, My Sorrow  
Prison Songs  
Ringbalin  
Rocking the Foundations  
Songs for Kate  
Tender  
Western Desert Woomera – fashioned with stone tools



For member purchase prices refer to the “private purchase” price, but remember you then have to pay the appropriate screening rights fee. Ronin will accept the standard \$55 for DVD screening rights.

.See [www.roninfilms.com.au](http://www.roninfilms.com.au) for details and purchase prices.

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## Sharmill Films

(Katherine Thornton)

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### Shock

(Naomi Kume)

Defiant Ones, The  
Hatchet for the Honeymoon  
Killers, The  
Musicares Tribute to Paul McCartney, A  
Pretty Poison  
Scum  
Thousand Times Goodnight, A  
Thunderbolt and Lightfoot  
Uninvited, The  
Witchfinder General



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### Titan View

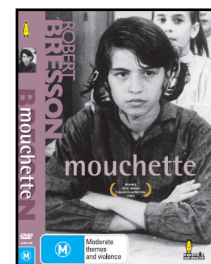
(James Hicks)

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### Umbrella Entertainment

(Achala Datar)

Au Hasard Balthazar  
Children of Paradise  
Dolce Vita  
Empire of Passions  
Eugenie  
Fantastic Planet  
Hiroshima Mon Amour  
Immoral Tales  
In the Realm of the Senses  
King of New York  
Mouchette (Award at Cannes Film Festival 1967)  
Mussolini and I  
Night and Fog  
Quo Vadis  
River Runs Through it, A  
Samson and Delilah  
Tin Drum, The (Academy Award for Best Foreign Film and Palm d'Or)  
Walking the Camino  
Watership Down



*Coming in June on DVD*

Miss Julie

New Girlfriend, The

Over 1200 more titles are available for Public performance screenings. Go to

<http://www.umbrellaent.com.au/public-performance/>

Keep an eye on the Umbrella website [www.umbrellaent.com.au](http://www.umbrellaent.com.au) because they regularly have **DVD sales** of titles that may be of interest to film societies and film buffs on sale for as little as \$5 each. They have included Classics, Australian, Children, French Collection, Anzacs, Box sets, etc.

Subscribe to the Umbrella newsletter on their website for all the latest bargains.



## 5. New Titles from the SLC at the NFSA

The SLC (Screen Lending Collection) is part of the NFSA (National Film and Sound Archive) in Canberra. There are over 1,024 DVD and BluRay feature films available for loan to film societies at \$22 (as at May 2015 - including rights and delivery to you). See their catalogue at [loans.nfsa.gov.au](http://loans.nfsa.gov.au)

These titles have been added in the last 90 days and are available for screening by film societies.

Age of Cannibals

Deadlock

Film Ab! – You will now watch the following

My Name is not Ali

November Days

Roland Kick – The Heart is a Hungry Hunter

Something Necessary

Sputnik

Supermarkt

Sweet Poison – Aid as Business

West

White Star

Also don't forget that the SLC has many older titles, with rights, that are not available for screening otherwise as the Australian distributor no longer hold current rights for them.

But hurry. The NFSA may not be able to supply any of their titles after 2015 if they decide to cut back their services. (see items 1 and 2)

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This bulletin is the official newsletter of

**ACOFS - Australian Council of Film Societies**

Incorporated in Victoria: A0057904W ABN: 69 667 887 179

**Secretary**, Email: [secretary@acofs.org.au](mailto:secretary@acofs.org.au)

If you want to have the ACOFS Bulletin emailed to you directly, please email me at [president@acofs.org.au](mailto:president@acofs.org.au)

Our website is [www.acofs.org.au](http://www.acofs.org.au)

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2. *Please ensure your spam filter is NOT set to capture our emails which include relevant material from ACOFS, such as this Bulletin.*
3. *ACOFS and the State federations do not necessarily endorse the statements or view contained in any personal statements in articles, letters to the editor or in the films mentioned in this Bulletin.*