

ACOFS Bulletin

Australian Council of Film Societies

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This Bulletin has been compiled and edited by Ian Davidson, (ACOFS President) 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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1. From the President, Ian Davidson – Time to program for 2016?

Well that almost it for another year, and most film societies have started selecting their 2016 programs. Does your film society program a year at a time or are films only booked a few months in advance? A recent survey suggests that at least 50% book the whole year ahead so they can produce an “Annual Calendar” for better promotion. A society that books only six months ahead, or even less, would find promotion more difficult as they are asking members to join up for as yet, unspecified films. Societies that program only 6 months ahead, or even less, generally find they have a greater demand for six-month memberships and also find their promotion effort has to occur every six months or even continuously month by month! What does your society prefer?

For societies looking for something a bit different (ie lesser known titles) don't forget that ACOFS has a number of titles available from The Phillipines, Malaysia and Thailand with no rights fee payable. These are being handled on our behalf by the Victorian Federation as part of their “Indi-film library”. See www.fvfs.org.au/indie-films. The FVFS has also made their collection of indie films available to all ACOFS member societies in other state federations.

- Technology advances

The rate at which technology changes is increasing every year. The telephone is reported to have taken 75 years to reach a threshold of 50 million users. Radio took 38 years, television 13 and the internet just 4. The *Angry Birds* app reached 50 million users in just 35 days (not that this is new technology)!

Most film societies now rely on DVDs (including BluRay) as the source of their movies. DVDs have been with us for just on 16 years, but how much longer will they be available, and what will replace them? Will it be the USB memory stick, internet streaming, or some other as yet unannounced technology?

How soon will all film societies have to adapt to new technology for their screenings and once again go through a new learning curve?

2. NFSA News

- From ASIO surveillance to rock 'n' roll

From ASIO surveillance films to early rock 'n' roll clips and historical ABC and SBS footage, the people of Australia now have easier access to the nation's heritage captured in Commonwealth film and sound records.

The National Archives of Australia on 26 August 2015 – at its Sydney repository – unveiled its new audio-visual archives management system (AVAMS) which enables easier public access to its collection of audio-visual records.

Films shared at the launch included a 1981 clip of Cambridge Footlights Revue young stars Emma Thompson, Stephen Fry and Hugh Laurie for the SBS Scoop program (perhaps never aired). Also on view were an early ABC (colourised) Aunty Jack clip; film of the Maralinga atomic bomb blasts in South Australia; Australian Federal Police footage in the wake of Prime Minister Harold Holt's disappearance and the demolition of the Sydney GPO tower during World War II (showing a distinct lack of OH&S concerns).

'We have nearly 800,000 analogue and digital Commonwealth records in our audio-visual collection and we're delighted that we have found a way to ensure the public has easier access to them,' said Director-General David Fricker.

'With our extensive range of visual and audio footage, the collection helps us better understand the events that have shaped our nation in moving images and sound bites. Almost every aspect of Australian life is reflected in our collection.

'We hold a diverse range of material such as talks by prime ministers, speeches given in evidence by everyday people who have witnessed life-changing or nation changing events; film footage withheld from the public as part of the censorship programs and surveillance footage of those people deemed "persons of interest" by our national security agencies. Historic audio-visual material from the ABC and SBS collections also shines a light into our past.'

To manage its vast audio-visual collection, the National Archives of Australia has used a product Mediaflex which enables staff to enrich metadata about the complex records – and allows public searching by lists of credits and synopses, as well as titles. This has resulted in an immediate increase in the use of audio-visual material.

The new system provides 700 terabytes of digital storage. This increased capability and the capacity to import born-digital audio-visual records has placed the National Archives

on a strong footing to accept the transfer of digital records from Commonwealth government agencies. As a result more audio-visual materials will be preserved and available for access.

- NFSA Update – October 2015. By John Turner

“At the ACOFS AGM and Conference in May I was requested to follow up with Jane Cruickshank on several points regarding the Screen Lending Collection. In communications with Jane since then the following points have been followed up regarding the Collection.

The first request was to ascertain the possibility of the SLC allowing ACOFS to distribute titles from the Film Australia Collection. The reply to this is that State Federations could purchase titles from the NFSA and loan these out to member societies for members-only screenings. The purchase price for each title would be \$249 for a 71 to 120 min feature film on DVD. The arrangement gives the purchaser rights in perpetuity.

If there proved to be sufficient interest then I suggest that ACOFS could purchase one title, on a trial basis. This expenditure would have to be agreed by the executive and also whether ACOFS would charge a lending fee to cover costs. Each Federation could take bookings over a specific period. I would suggest John Heyer's THE BACK OF BEYOND, or Bob Connolly's RATS IN THE RANK as being appropriate titles for a test run, or PLEASE SUGGEST OTHER TITLES.

The second query was the possibility of the Screening Loans Collection obtaining licensed DVDs of archived 16mm prints. This is still a matter for discussion within the NFSA because of the complexity and therefore the cost of such an undertaking. I would suggest that if ACOFS could suggest any particularly required titles there would probably be a response from the NFSA. So once again PLEASE SUGGEST TITLES.

Finally the general request for new titles to be added to the Screening Loans Collection is already being addressed by a recent request for suggestions for titles with the proviso that they:

- Are not available through commercial distributors:
- Are NFSA or other archive-owned titles:
- Can be licenced directly from producers.

Any Federation or Society can suggest titles direct with NFSA but it would probably carry more weight were ACOFS to come up with a few suggestions, especially if we could guarantee a number of bookings. SO PLEASE SUGGEST TITLES INCLUDING COUNTRY OF ORIGIN, DATE OF PRODUCTION AND DIRECTOR.

Please send suggested titles in all cases to JOHNTURNER10@bigpond.com and I will then liaise further with Jane.”

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/. There have been some changes to the contacts. The latest version was uploaded on 4th October 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.

Don't forget that if you screen a DVD or film twice then you should pay the screening rights fee twice.

If you screen a DVD as a fund-raiser, or admit general public (whether charged or free) it is considered a "theatrical screening" and you will need to approach the distributor yourself for a quote for the screening rights as they are likely to be more expensive than the ACOFS agreed non-theatrical rights.

4. News From the DVD Distributors

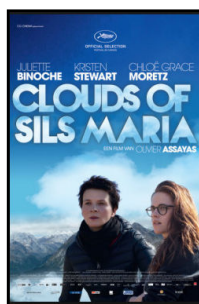
These are all the DVD distributors who are party to the ACOFS DVD rights agreement, under which member film societies pay special affordable prices for their DVD screening rights. As ACOFS' part of the agreement, we promote the distributor's catalogues and especially information on any new acquisitions.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

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

Roadshow

(Chrystal Remington)

400 Days
Age of Adaline
Aloha
Amy
Avengers: Age of Ultron
Barely Lethal
Book of Life
Child 44
Clouds of Sils Maria
Danny Collins
Descendants
Eden
Entourage
Every Secret Thing
Ex Machina
Far from the Madding Crowd
Fear of Darkness, The
Ghosthunters on Icy Trails
Gift, The
Growing Up and Other Lies
Hot Pursuit
Hot Tub Time Machine 2
Infinitely Polar Bear
June
Jurassic World
Just Before I Go
Kill Me Three Times



Kumiko: The Treasure Hunter
Love & Mercy
Mad Max: Fury Road
Madame Bovary
Mafia Only Kills in Summer, The
Magic Mike XXL
Mr Holmes
Nightingale, The
Nightmare, The
Oddball
Poltergeist (2015)
Return to Sender
Re-Write, The
Royan Night Out, A
San Andreas
Shaun The Sheep Movie
Southpaw
Spy
Suite Francaise
Terminator Genisys
Tiger House
Tomorrowland
Tracers
Unfriended
Vatican Tapes, The
Visions
Woman in Gold

Roadshow charge for their DVD rights on the basis of average audience size, 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.

Madman

(Susan Davidson at ACOFS) dvdrights@acofs.org.au

Advanced Style

Asterix: The Mansions of the Gods

Homesman, The

Locke

Salt of the Earth, The

That Sugar Film

What We Do in the Shadows



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.

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 and give plenty of notice!

Accent Film Entertainment

(George Papadopoulos)

All Interactive Distribution

Amalgamated Movies

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

Now available:

That Sugar Film

Whiplash

Short Term 12

Beautiful Losers

Wild Tales



Coming Soon:

Ricky And The Flash

Pixals

Paul Blart Mall Cop 2

Classic Re-issues Available for Booking:

(Please Note Available Formats)

Genghis Khan - 16mm (Scope) / DVD

The Cheap Detective - 16mm / DVD

I Aim For The Stars (But Sometimes Hit London) - 16mm Print only.

Lock Up Your Daughters - 16mm only.

Take A GIRL LIKE YOU – 16mm only (Hayley Mills)

Antidote Films

(Originally known as Gil Scrine Films.)

(Ruari Elkington)

Enemy Within, The (Still \$55 + GST)

Antidote will now charge just \$35+ GST for screening rights for all other titles.

Aztec International Entertainment

(Nicki Jackson)

They have a new address see the Info Sheet.

Bansai films

Beyond Home Entertainment

(Jason Behan)

Chapel Distribution

(Mark Spratt)

Cinema Plus

(Claire Phillips)

Boy Castaways, The

Closed Circuit

Force of Destiny

Paper Planes

Spear

Underground: The Julian Assange Story



Closer Productions

(Ivan Vukusic)

Curious Films

(Stephen Fitzgibbon)

Defiant Screen Entertainment (Was Anchor Bay)

(Simone Murray)

Entertainment One (Was Hopscotch)

(Emily Batts)

Gryphon Entertainment

Hanabee Entertainment

Heritage Films

Hi Gloss Entertainment

(Simon Killen)

1992, (10 episodes)

2 Autumns, 3 Winters

About Elly

Best Of Enemies (Jan 2016)

Family Affair, A (Dec 2015)

Gardening With Soul

Great Museum, The (Dec 2015)

Heavy Water War, The (6 episodes)

Human Capital

Italy: Love It Or Leave It

Journal De France

Lygon Street – Si Parla Italiano

Minister, The

Skylab

Village Francais, Un (12 episodes)



Imagine Films International

(Megan George)

Jump Street Films
(Jamie Bialkower)

Leapfrog Films

Magna Pacific
(Jason Behan)

Novofilm
(Gerald Lawson)

Palace Films
(Tony Zrna)

Peacock Films
(Lyn Shannon)

Pinnacle Films
(Donnah Kosman)
Nightingale, The



Potential Films
(Mark Spratt)
Noble Family, The
Mystery of Happiness

Regency Film Distribution
(Lee Hunter)

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

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.

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 \$50 plus GST for DVD screening rights.

Algorithms (96 mins)
Putuparri and the Rainmakers (PG 97 mins)
Lionel (87mins)
Spear in the Stone (34 min)

See www.roninfilms.com.au for details and purchase prices.



Sharmill Films
(Bec Brown)

Mommy
Force Majeure
Winter Sleep
My Sweet Pepper Land



Shock

(Naomi Kume)

Backstreet Boys: Show 'em What You're Made of.

Gemma Bovary

Honeymoon Killers, The (Cinema Cult)

I Dream of Jeannie – 50th Anniversary Box Set

Incident, The (Cinema Cult)

Last man on earth, The (Cinema Cult)

Masque of Death, The (Cinema Cult)

Rudderless

Soaked in Bleach

Soap – The Complete Collection Box Set

Starsky & Hutch – 40th Anniversary Box Set

Vincent Price Collection, The



Titan View

(James Hicks)

Umbrella Entertainment

Umbrella have a new address – see ACOFS Fact Sheet 3B.

(Achala Datar)

Ark, The

Breaking The Waves

Dragonpearl

Homicide

Horseman, The

Hungry Hearts

Jazz On A Summers Day

Killing Of Angel Street, The

Kitty And The Bagman

Lonely Passion Of Judith Hearne

Long Good Friday

Lullaby

Miss Julie

Missionary

Mona Lisa

Mussolini And I

Ned Kelly

Perfectionist,

The

Private Function

Privates On

Parade

Quo Vadis

Samson And

Delilah

Selkie

Shadows Of The Heart

Swastika

Tail Of A Tiger

The New Girlfriend

Time Bandits

Walking the Camino

Water

Withnail And I



Over 1200 more titles 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 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 \$3 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.

Ask Achala for their “calendar” of DVD titles.

Vendetta Films

(Cameo England)

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 October 2015 - including rights and delivery to you). See their catalogue at loans.nfsa.gov.au

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

And Your Love Too & Sunday Drivers (2 films), 1962

Battleship Potemkin & October (2 films), 1925

Broken Glass Park, 2011

Finsterworld, 2013

Heavy Girls, 2011

Liberty Train – Next Stop Freedom, 2014

Measuring the World, 2012

My German Friend, 2012

Nation is Built, A, 1938

Westfront 1918, 1930

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.

6. Flickerfest 2016 – 25th Short Film Festival

8-17th January, 2016 Bondi Beach. Touring nationally Jan-May

Flickerfest Australia's most respected short film festival kicks off the summer cinema season under the stars at our Iconic Bondi Beach this January, screening the best short films from Australia and abroad in the chilled and iconic location of Bondi Pavilion.

In 2015 Flickerfest will watch over 2,400 entries from all around the world and hand pick 100 of the very best, most innovative, provocative and hugely entertaining shorts for our big screen experience all guaranteed to make you laugh, cry and gasp with delight!

Flickerfest is Australia's largest short film competition and the only one with Academy® accreditation and BAFTA recognition ensuring all of our films are entertaining, inspiring, highly creative pieces of work.

After the festival in Sydney, Flickerfest will share the short films at over 50 venues across Australia between January and May.

Come and join us this summer for the most fabulous not to be missed cinema the world has to offer.

For further information please get in touch with the organisers or go to their website:

<http://www.flickerfest.com.au>

7. Movie Jokes to Make you Groan!

You know it was a bad movie if...

- Even if you sneaked into the movie, you still demand your money back afterwards.
- You start to wince in the movie, not from the situation but because of the bad acting.

- There are kids playing up in the audience and they are more interesting than the movie.
 - You don't actually mind when someone starts talking on their mobile phone.
 - The ads become more interesting than the movie.
 - You forget all about the movie immediately after leaving the theatre.
 - You wince when the movie starts and you realize it is the one that was so bad you have already forgotten watching it before.
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ACOFS - Australian Council of Film Societies

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If you want to have the ACOFS Bulletin emailed to you directly, please email me at president@acofs.org.au Our website is 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.*