

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 office bearers and film society programmers. Please also pass it on to all your committee and other interested 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, WHAT WILL YOUR SOCIETY BE LIKE IN TEN YEARS?

Look at how the film society environment has changed in the last 10 years. In 2006 PVRs (personal digital video recorders) first appeared replacing the ubiquitous VCR (video cassette recorder), broadcast TV was converting to digital technology and streaming was being introduced over the internet. By 2016 the humble TV had become “smart” and able to record programs digitally and even download them from the internet if you missed them when they were broadcast.

What is next? How long will it be before movies are not produced on DVDs but available by download only (either as a file or by streaming), or will a new technology take over, such as microchip or USB memory chip to deliver each purchased movie? Netflix, Stan, Foxtel, Quickflix, BigPond Movies, Amazon, and Dendy Direct are just some of the companies offering movie streaming. For a comparison of offerings just Google “Choice streaming services”.

Larger TV screens are becoming cheaper but still more expensive than digital projectors – although the latter have dropped in price by about 50% in just the last 10 years. Digital projectors have also increased in brightness, contrast, picture quality, lifetime and ease of use over the same period.

Is your film society growing in size? If not, why not? Are you promoting the film society to the right people and in the right way? To ensure film society longevity you need to attract younger people who will start off as audience and eventually take on committee roles and take the film society into another decade.

Be aware of what your competition is doing. By that I mean what are the cinemas doing? Many are offering the chance to see the latest movies in ultra-comfort – but with an ever-increasing price-tag, and still in the company of others munching on popcorn and distracted by their mobiles.

Streaming is also offering a wide range of choice, initially downloading to computers, but later to “smart TVs”, and it is becoming easier to present the streamed movie on very large TVs or projectors in home theatres.

The key to your film society’s success is to remember what you can offer that a cinema, streaming or home theatre cannot. A film society is more than just watching a great movie screened on good equipment. It creates a social environment, offering companionship and the chance to discuss a movie of choice with friends over a glass of wine or supper. Above all, the film society night out should be an enjoyable and memorable event.

When a film society is running strongly it creates the opportunity to expand into a film festival. Your film festival can draw on the film society members as the natural audience, as well as attracting audiences from around the district and even across the state! The film festival can be developed into a significant tourist attraction.

Will you still be in the film society in 10 years’ time, or have you taken steps to train replacement committee to take on the existing roles? Have you a good succession plan?

There are more active film societies across Australia than at any time in history, so the future of the film society movement looks bright. How healthy is your film society?

Write in to us with your thoughts to president@acofs.org.au

Ian Davidson, President ACOFS

2. ACOFS DVD 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. See www.acofs.org.au/resources/ .The latest version was uploaded to the website on 31st January 2017.

The ACOFS agreement applies only to member film societies that screen DVDs non-theatrically (ie to their members only) and where the society sources their own copy of the DVD. The agreement does not presume supply of the DVD from the distributor, although the society may make their own arrangements in this regard. In this case the DVD supply charge would be in addition to the normal screening rights charge.

Arrange the rights well ahead of the screening to avoid the risk of still not having permission by the screening date, thus requiring a programme change at the last minute. Don't risk having to screen without permission. How would you feel if you screened a film prior to arranging the rights, but only later discovering that "Yes, you can have the screening rights – for \$350!"

If you are having trouble locating the rights holder in Australia, and no other film society appears to have screened the DVD, check out the Censor's database – www.classification.gov.au . If not listed, try another spelling of the title, or try searching under the director's name.

3. More on DVD Rights Charges

Most distributors still charge just \$55 for the non-theatrical screening rights, although some have chosen to charge more if the DVD is being screened by a larger film society.

If you plan to screen a DVD more than once, you must get permission to do so, and will be charged for each screening. Some distributors will charge less for additional screenings – but you will need to check with the distributor.

Remember, the amount charged for DVD screening rights is set by the rights owners themselves. ACOFS has proposed a "recommended" rights fee of \$55, but the final price is set by the rights owner (ie. distributor).

4. SAFFS - SA Federation of South Australia

ACOFS wishes the SAFFS all the best. For further information contact their President, Bill Biscoe, wbiscoe@bigpond.net.au or on 08 8564 3290

5. News From the DVD Distributors

Owing to space constraints this issue contains only the distributors who have new acquisitions or have some changes in their contact details.

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

Amalgamated Movies

(Steven Snell)

Angry Birds
Ghostbusters (2016)
Going Attractions
Lady in the Van
Maggie's Plan
Meddler, The
Mermaid, The



Miles Ahead
Miracles from Heaven
Money Monster
My Name is Doris
Sausage Party (V Crude)
Shallows, The
Son of Saul

Antidote Films

(Emma)

Death of a Gentleman (Voted UK best sporting doco 2016)
Monsieur Mayonnaise (Winner of the JIFF audience award)
The Coming War on China (John Pilger – His 60th film)



The Irish Pub is \$5 or free with every purchase (While stocks last)

In Search of Beethoven
In Search of Hayden
Hope

Then the Wind Changed
Tabloid
The Most Dangerous Man in America

And more DVDs for \$5
Four of a Kind
Genius Within (Glenn Gould)
Girl O'Clock
Last Train Home
The Matilda Candidate
Morris – A Life with Bells On

Position among the stars
Prosecutor
Rip!
Wagner and Me
Yes Madam, Sir



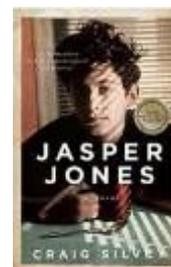
Antidote charge just \$35+ GST for screening rights for most of their DVD titles.
Web address www.antidotefilms.com.au.

Madman

ACOFS is no longer taking bookings on behalf of Madman. To arrange screening rights for any Madman DVD contact Kyle at Madman kyle@madman.com.au. 03 9261 9200. For those few Madman bookings already confirmed through ACOFS, the bookings are still confirmed, and you will be invoiced by ACOFS. For all future bookings go to Madman.

Additional Titles:

Brand New Testament, The
Heaven on Earth
Jasper Jones
My Scientology Movie
Where to Invade Next



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 them before committing to a screening, and give plenty of notice!

Potential Films

(Coreen Haddad)

Potential can also supply a screening copy if unable to buy a DVD commercially.

Nahid: Iran, 2015
Wednesday, May 9: Iran, 2015
Heat Wave: France 2015
In The Shadow of Women: France 2015
English National Opera.



Regency

(Jessica Hutton)

Angelby – Season 1

Roadshow

(Chrystal Remington)

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.

New Roadshow titles:

Arrival
Dunkirk
Infiltrator, The
La La Land



Live By Night
 Masterminds
 Moonlight
 Passengers
 Rogue One: A Star Wars Story
 Sully

Ronin Films

(Andrew Pike)

Another Country, (G) 75 min
 Balanda and the Bark Canoes, The, PG, 52 mins.
 Dogs of Democracy (Exempt) 58 min.
 Ella, (G) 86 min.
 Ever The Land, (Exempt), 2015, NZ, 93 min.
 Life of its Own, A, PG, 81 mins
 Maratus, M 30 mins
 On Richard's Side, (Exempt), 90 Min.
 Our Botanical Biosphere, G, 240 mins.
 Past Imperfect, PG, 13 mins



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 recommended \$50 plus GST for DVD screening rights. www.roninfilms.com.au for details and purchase prices.

Sharmill Films

(Bec Brown)

See their new website: <http://www.sharmillfilms.com.au/film-in-the-catalogue>

Coming in 2017

Frantz
 Heal the Living
 Lady Macbeth

Ornithologist, The
 Slack Boy



Shock

(Naomi Kume)

All Things Valentine
 Angelby – Season 1
 Autumn Dreams
 Black As
 Cinema Cult – Serial Mom
 Cinema Cult – SSSSSS
 Dater's Handbook
 Francis the Talking Mule



Ma and Pa Kettle at the Fair
 Monk – The complete series
 Real Detective – Series One
 The Egg and I
 The Kettles in the Ozarks
 The Kettles on Old Macdonald's Farm
 The Three Stooges Vol 7: 1952 - 1954
 The Three Stooges Vol 8: 1955 - 1959

Umbrella Entertainment

(Achala Datar)

New DVDs:

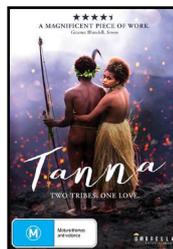
150 MLG's
 Autopsy of Jane Doe
 Bag of Marbles, A
 Body Melt
 Dark Diamond
 Life in a Walk
 Long Weekend,
 Looking for Infinity: El Camino
 Man From Hong Kong, The (Remastered)



Rough Stuff
Southside With You

Tanna - First ever Australian film to be nominated for best foreign language Oscar - 2017
The Ninth Life of Louis Drax, The
Trespass Against Us
Zach's Ceremony

Also Available,
Tin Drum
Skippy
Flickering Truth



There are many more titles available for non-theatrical screenings - go to their website <http://www.umbrellaentfilms.com.au/public-performance/> and keep an eye on their website for their regular sales of DVDs that may be of interest to film societies and film buffs for as little as \$3 each. Many titles can be manufactured "on demand". They also have Westerns and classics.

Contact theatrical@umbrellaent.com.au for bookings or call on 03 9020 5134.

6. DVD Titles in the FVFS Indie-Library

Recent additions to the Indie library are:

Who Am I? Bhutan, 2014, 112, Drama, not rated. FVFS scored it 3 (out of 5 stars.)

It is the story of a boy, Drukda, abandoned at birth, who is brought up by the caretaker of a monastery in rural Bhutan. The film follows his life at the monastery, his growing friendship with Mendrel – a girl from the village – and we see him perform well socially and academically. A tender story from a little known country. Your only opportunity see a film from Bhutan.



Wide Open Sky, Australia, 2015, 87 mins, Doco, G. FVFS scored it 4 out of 5.

The heart-warming story of an outback childrens' choir from audition to end-year concert.

The titles available for loan from the FVFS Indie-Library, are listed on www.fvfs.org.au/indie-library/. These DVDs are available for loan to authenticated film societies in all ACOFS-registered State Federations. ACOFS has negotiated minimal rights charges on most and collects any charges on behalf of the rights owners.

All titles are written up on the FVFS website, with reviews from the FVFS viewing panel.

7. 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 1,603 DVD and BluRay titles, of which 870 are feature films available for loan to film societies at \$22 (as at January 2016 - including rights and delivery to you). See their catalogue at loans.nfsa.gov.au

The following licenced DVD titles are listed as having been added in the last 90 days.

The Tower – (Der Stern), 2012
Weekend of Shadows, 1978

Also don't forget that the SLC may have some older titles which you will not be able to get elsewhere. Even where the original Australian distributor no longer holds current rights, the SLC may have purchased the screening rights themselves.

8. News from the NFSA

In their November newsletter, the NFSA clarified their charges for non-theatrical screenings, which are summarised as follows:

NFSA Non-theatrical Screening Fees

DVD, Blu-Ray and VHS	\$22
16mm feature film prints	\$60
16mm short film prints	\$40

(Feature films are 60 minutes or more, short films are 59 minutes or less)

NFSA Fees for Additional Services

Research and Service	\$60 per hour
Additional screenings	+ 50% of loan fee
Film print assessment – spot check	\$50 for 35mm, \$25 for 16mm.
Film print assessment – full report	\$100 for 35mm, \$50 for 16mm.
Urgent job	\$100 for 35mm, \$50 for 16mm.
Cancellation fee	\$100 or 50% of loan fee.
Surcharge – failure to acknowledge NFSA	\$100 or 25% of loan fee
Freight in both directions (16mm only)	\$28
Priority booking service (DVD only)	\$15
Priority booking (16mm)	\$25 per feature, \$10 per short.

Screening loans fees include outward freight. Borrowers pay return freight.
16mm films must be sent using a trackable/registered service.

9. New in TYSPOM

- Over 70 more thought-provoking films – mainly documentaries -- have been added to the TYSPOM film library this last 3 months. Below, is a small sample.
- Available to ACOFS-registered Film Societies.
- DVD (on loan) + postage (both ways) + screening rights = \$17 (or less)
- Enquiries and bookings: Prodos: info@tyspom.org Website: <http://TYSPOM.org>

TYSPOM Film Library @ TYSPOM.org				
Name of film	Country	Year	Length	Type
American Ballet Theatre: A History	USA	2015	120 min	Doco
Circus: Some are born to it. Some run to it.	USA	2010	6 X 60 min (continuous episodes)	Doco series
Driving Miss Daisy (filmed stage play)	USA/Australia	2015	90 min	Filmed play
Flea Market Documentary, A	USA	2001	60 min	Doco
Harp Dreams	USA	2010	90 min	Doco
History Detectives	USA	2011 & 2012	21 X 60 min (self-contained episodes)	Doco series

Hog Trail Murders	Canada/USA	2007	45 min	Doco
House Hermit	Canada/USA	2007	45 min	Doco
Johnny Carson: King of Late Night	USA	2012	120 min	Doco
Making Stuff: Cleaner, Colder, Faster, Safer, Smaller, Smarter, Stronger, Wilder	USA	2011, 2012, 2013	8 X 60 min (self-contained episodes)	Doco series
Monkey Trial (doco)	USA	2002	90 min	Doco
Navy SEALs: Their Untold Story, The	USA	2014	120 min	Doco
Red Victories of the KGB	USA	1999	460 min	Doco
Secret Soviet Moon Mission	USA	1999	60 min	Doco
Soviet Propaganda Machine	USA	1999	60 min	Doco
Soviet Sports Wars	USA	1999	60 min	Doco
Taste of Passover, A	USA	1999	60 min	Doco
Profilers (Forensic Factor)	USA	2007	45 min	Doco
Weapons (Forensic Factor)	USA	2007	45 min	Doco
West Point: The First 200 years	USA	2005	120 min	Doco

10. Dress Circle Magazine

Dress Circle is now in its 18th year, and the February issue of this great magazine is "A World of Nostalgia". It is highly recommended for all film buffs, film collectors and organisers of film societies. It includes a separate but related publication "Dress Circle Trader", which is valuable for anyone wishing to buy, sell or trade films or film equipment. Contact the editor on lawsonco@tpg.com.au. 02 6353 1897

11. Best Known Movie Quote

This is probably one of the best known quotes from the movies.
Frankly, my dear, I don't give a damn. (Gone With the Wind, 1939)

Are there any other contenders for most well known quote?

ACOFS - Australian Council of Film Societies

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Secretary, Email: secretary@acofs.org.au

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

NOTES:

1. If clicking on a highlighted link in this newsletter does not take you to your Internet browser, try copying it and pasting it into your browser search bar.
2. Please ensure your spam filter is NOT set to capture our emails which include relevant material from ACOFS, such as this Bulletin.

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.