

ACOFS Bulletin

Australian Council of Film Societies

NUMBER 51

JULY 2017

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 who are not on email.

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

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1. From the President

As long as all film society delegates believe that their State Federation exists simply to serve them, then very little progress will be made and the Film Society movement will stagnate.

Every committee member of every society should consider what they can do for the Federations, and through them, ACOFS. The Federations should be a place where societies support each other, where ideas are generated and communicated, where societies just starting out or struggling, can be supported by other more successful societies.

The State Federations should be the conduit between societies. They are the people who should be providing the means by which societies can communicate and get together. Federation newsletters, conventions, workshops and social days are just a few of the mechanisms that have proven worthwhile. It is in the best interests of the Federations and the societies to take part in these opportunities to get together with others, not just for their own benefit but for the benefit of all societies involved.

It is therefore in the best interests of the member societies that the Federations do everything they can to help the societies get together and communicate, be it publication of newsletters, organised conventions, travel subsidies etc.

So let's see some new ideas, let's make the film society movement move!

Email me with your ideas and comments at : president@acofs.org.au
Ian Davidson, President ACOFS

2. Reader Comments after Last Issue

"Hi Ian

In the last edition of the ACOFS Bulletin (No. 50), you asked two questions:

I. Choosing movies – the LVFS Committee of seven try to watch as many suitable movies as possible. We avoid films that have shown for any reasonable length of time at the local Village Cinema complex (e.g. over about two weeks). It is difficult for us to see many films because the nearest decent cinemas are in Melbourne. We will often drive to the Nova in Carlton, the Kino in the City or the Waverley Cinemas in Mount Waverley and watch up to 3 movies in a sitting. Ideas come from those cinemas' programming, as well as from blogs such as Filmink and Urban Cinefile (now finished). We will not program a film unless at least 2 Committee members have seen it and approved it. When a film that sounds OK has been released on DVD, we will buy it and distribute it around the Committee for pre-screening and rating. Early on in our existence, we programmed films based on critic's reviews and were occasionally very disappointed (e.g. Beasts of the Southern Wild). Our policy of at least two members having seen a programmed movie means that this can't happen again – or, if it does, we've got someone close by to blame!

II. The LV Film Society is financially very healthy and our biggest challenge is working out how to spend the excess of funds that we build up during the year. Our current annual membership is only \$40 (for 15 movies, so less than \$3/movie) and we don't want to reduce the membership cost any further, even though we could probably still survive on a \$25 annual membership. We've resolved this to some extent by holding an annual end-of-year outdoor screening, usually with music and acrobatic performance. We also provide a supper at every screening. Our membership is currently 161 and on target to again reach 190 by year's end, all without any advertising. Our last screening of 'Rosalie Blum' attracted 122 members, who gave it an average score of 4.3 stars. We're very happy with our processes, which we see as professional and accountable.

I hope that is something like what you were looking for.

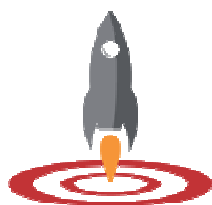
Cheers,

Wayne Gilmour

Secretary, LV Film Society"

[Thanks Wayne. That is great feedback. I think it is worth passing it on to all our readers. Editor]

3. News From SAFFS



SOUTH AUSTRALIAN FEDERATION OF
FILM SOCIETIES

ADVENTURES IN MOTION

Report by Secretary, Bill Biscoe.

The South Australian Federation of Film Societies has now been in existence for just on a year. Much of the original work, such as organising the first meeting, a Constitution, elections and so on, was initiated by Prodros Marinakis, who has been a driving force behind much of the Film Society movement throughout Australia.

[It was through the efforts of Prodos and his contacts that State Federations have recently been formed in SA and Queensland - Editor]

The Societies who have agreed to join the Federation include Adelaide Cinematheque, Adelaide Film Study Group, Adelaide University Film Society, Barossa Film Club, Second Friday Film Club and Port Lincoln Film Society – Take 2. It is interesting that some Clubs were hesitant to leave the Victorian Federation because they may not receive “ReelNews”, which is a great source of information about what is happening in the world of film, but the Victorian Federation kindly agreed to allow us to forward the newsletter to all our members.

Unfortunately, for various reasons, we have lost both our Treasurer and Secretary, so that all these roles are now being filled by President Bill Biscoe. Our first Annual General Meeting has been called for July 9th and it is hoped that we will have a full executive Committee elected then.

The South Australian Film Club scene is vibrant and thriving and our Federation will continue to foster the art form and represent the interests of all Clubs.

4. Press Release From the SA Film Corporation



The South Australian Film Corporation and Umbrella Entertainment have announced a partnership to give iconic South Australian film and television productions from the 1970s, 80s and 90s, a new life for audiences worldwide.

SUNDAY TOO FAR AWAY (1975), BREAKER MORANT (1979), THE CLUB (1980), STORM BOY (1976), MONEY MOVERS (1978) and THE SHIRALEE (1986) are among 25 SAFC-produced titles to be re-launched into the marketplace across multiple platforms by Umbrella Entertainment, in some cases with special features. The announcement was made from the Cannes Film Festival by SAFC CEO Annabelle Sheehan who said these key heritage titles, representing South Australia’s unique cinematic voice, would sit perfectly within Umbrella Entertainment’s slate.

5. The ACOFS DVD Agreement

See www.acofs.org.au/resources/. The latest version was uploaded to the website on 5th May 2017.

Things to remember:

1. The ACOFS agreement applies only to member film societies that screen DVDs non-theatrically (ie to their members only).
2. The society needs to provide 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 for an extra charge.
3. 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.
4. If you screen the DVD twice then you need to advise the distributor.

5. If you are having trouble locating the rights holder in Australia, 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. Eg, "The Noble Family" is not listed but "Nosotros Los Nobles" is there, and so is the director "Alazraki". www.imdb.com can usually help with alternative titles and the director's name.

6. 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).

Antidote Films

Black Hole
Budrus (PG) Winner of several Awards
Good Ol' Freda
Irish Pub, The
Monsieur Mayonnaise. (M)

More than Honey
Most Dangerous Man in America, The
Partly Fiction
Tabloid

Antidote charge just \$35+ GST for screening rights for most of their DVD titles.

Web address www.antidotefilms.com.au.

Hi Gloss

Inspector Montalbano
Kedi
Salesman, The



Roadshow Films

(Chrystal Remington)

Edge of Seventeen
Fences
Founder, The
Gimme Danger (music documentary)
Gold
Jackie
Janis: Little Girl Blue (music documentary)
La La Land
Lion
Live By Night
Loving

Manchester by the Sea
Miss Sloane
Moonlight (Oscar for Best Motion Picture)
Notes on Blindness (documentary)
Pawno (2015) Aust
Perfect Strangers (French)
Red Dog: True Blue
Rosalie Blum (French)
Silence
United Kingdom, A
Up For Love (French)



Upcoming:

Alone in Berlin
Berlin Syndrome
Colossal
David Stratton: A Cinematic Life
Denial
Get Out

Going in Style
Land of Mine
Man Called Ove, A (Swedish)
Sense of an Ending, The
Their Finest
Zookeeper's Wife, The

Ronin Films

(Andrew Pike)

BAULKHAM HILLS AFRICAN LADIES TROUPE, THE (81 mins):

CHINA'S THREE DREAMS (84 mins)

DOGS OF DEMOCRACY (58 mins)

ON RICHARD'S SIDE (90 mins)

ON THE BANKS OF THE TIGRIS (79 mins)

PANTHER WITHIN, THE

TIME TO DRAW THE LINE

UNFORGOTTEN ISLANDS



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.

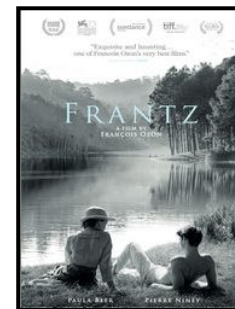
Sharmill Films

(Bec Brown)

Frantz

Lady Macbeth

See their website: <http://www.sharmillfilms.com.au/film>



Shock

(Naomi Kume)

Along Came Polly

Amazon Woman on the Moon

Bowfinger

Brief Encounters

Bulletproof

King Ralph

Nutty Professor,

The

Resistance

Slaughterhouse Five

Umbrella Entertainment

(Mel Acker) Please contact Mel Acker at theatrical@umbrellaent.com.au for screening enquiries or call 03 9020 5134.

NEW TO DVD at Umbrella:

BABETTE'S FEAST- A delightful tale of temptation and discovery and winner of the Academy Award for BEST Foreign Film in 1988.

DATING THE ENEMY- 1996. The stage is set for a hilarious Aussie romantic comedy that takes the battle of the sexes to a brand new frontline. Featuring Guy Pearce and Claudia Karvan

SERVANT OR SLAVE- An observation of the strength and determination of the courageous women pursuing justice for the crimes committed against them when stolen from their families and trained to be domestic servants.

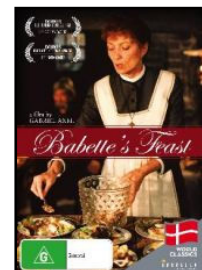
150 MG- Popular title at this year's Alliance French Film Festival. In a hospital in Brest, a lung specialist establishes a direct link between suspicious deaths and the consumption of a drug that has been on the market for 30 years.

BAG OF MARBLES- Based on Joseph Joffo's memoir this is an moving story of brotherly love, tenacity and youthful resilience during the despair of World War II.

ZACH'S CEREMONY- Shot over the course of 5 years, this coming-of-age film brings to light the issues of identity and belonging felt by many Indigenous adolescents today.

TRESPASS AGAINST US- (NOW STREAMING): Featuring Michael Fassbender, comes a tale set across three generations of the Cutler family who live as outlaws in their own anarchic corner of Britain's richest countryside.

ROUGH STUFF- They call them "Rovers"- aimless wanderers and drifters living on the fringes of society in the vast Australian Outback, looking to escape their pasts and start anew.



LIFE IN A WALK- Follows Yogi Roth and his father, Will, on their trek along the famous pilgrimage through Portugal and Spain.

POPULAR TITLES from Umbrella

MALCOLM – Charming Aussie comedy that struck a national chord with the public as a genuine expression of offbeat Aussie humor. Featuring Colin Friels as the slow-witted Malcolm, a young man with a genius for mechanical devices.

CINEMA PARADISO

THE BABADOOK

TANNA

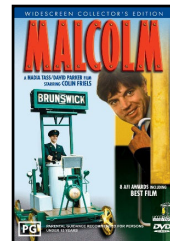
400 BLOWS

TWO HANDS

LA DOLCE VITA

MANON DES SOURCES

JEAN DE FLORETTE



More titles are available for Public performance screenings - go to <http://www.umbrellaentfilms.com.au/public-performance/>

Also 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”, or streaming, including many with John Clarke: Death in Brunswick, The Games. They also have Westerns and classics.

Want something special on DVD that you cannot get anywhere else? Create a list of what you want on DVD and send your list with the subject: “What We Want on DVD and Blu-Ray” to Umbrella at: customerservice@umbrellaent.com.au .

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

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 Last Five Days, 1982, Germany

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

“As a supporter of the NFSA, we already know you share our love for Australian film, so we wanted to say 'thank you' again for your help, and tell you about our most recent work with *NFSA Restores*.

We just had Ben Mendelsohn at the Sydney Film Festival premiere of *The Year My Voice Broke*, and we also launched our first digitally restored feature documentaries: *Rocking the Foundations* and *My Survival as an Aboriginal*.

We work hard to preserve our national film history for future generations. *NFSA Restores* breathes new life into Australia's cinema icons like *Storm Boy*, *Proof* and *Starstruck*. But there are thousands of 16mm and 35mm prints facing deterioration if we don't act soon.

Digital restoration is highly specialised work, with a single film costing anywhere from \$50,000 to \$150,000. This is where you can make a difference.

We are writing to ask you to consider making a donation to help us continue the work of collecting, preserving and sharing the beautiful NFSA collection.”

9. New in TYSPOM

Updated: Sunday, 2 July 2017

- Over 200 more thought-provoking films – mainly documentaries -- have been added to the **TYSPOM Film Library** over the last 3 months. Below, is a sample.
- Available only to ACOFS-registered Film Societies.
- DVD (on loan) + postage (both ways) + screening rights = \$25 (or less)
- Enquiries & bookings: Prodos: info@tyspom.org
Website: <http://TYSPOM.org>

TYSPOM Film Library				
Name of film	Country	Year	Length	Type
102 Minutes that Changed America (Sept 11 Collection)	USA	2008	102 min	doco
Ben Franklin's Technology	USA	2006	45 min	doco
Betty Boop: The Queen of Cartoons	USA	1995	50 min	doco
Building a Skyscraper	USA	2004	4 X 50 min	doco series
Captured Light: The Invention of Still Photography	USA	2008	50 min	doco
Chairman Mao Declassified	USA	2011	47 min	doco
David The Giant Slayer	USA	2009	45 min	doco
First Barbarian War, The	USA	2009	45 min	doco
Gates of Hell	USA	2011	90 min	doco
History of Soft Drinks, The	USA	2008	50 min	doco
History of the Assembly Line	USA	2008	50 min	doco
Hollywood: An Empire of their Own	USA	2005	100 min	doco
One Shot - One Kill	USA	2002	45 min	doco
Rise and Fall of the Berlin Wall	USA	2009	94 min	doco
School, Inc (3 parts)	USA	2017	3 X 60 min	doco series
Seven Wonders of the Solar System	USA	2010	45 min	doco
Sir Isaac Newton: The Gravity of Genius	USA	2004	50 min	doco
Sputnik Mania (The Fever of '57)	USA	2013	90 min	doco
Story of Paul the Apostle, The	USA	2003	85 min	doco
When Cowboys Were King	USA	2003	100 min	doco

10. Dress Circle Magazine

Dress Circle is a very worthwhile low-budget magazine produced in Lithgow by Ross Adams. 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. Cost is a moderate \$35 per year for 4 issues.

Contact the editor on lawsonco@tpg.com.au. 02 6353 1897 for a free sample.

11. Trivia

Did you know that the Internet Movie Database (IMDb) has a section called "Trivia" for most films listed. Even a great movie like "Gone with the Wind" is not exempt!

Here are the first of 386 trivia items for "Gone with the Wind":

- The fact that Hattie McDaniel would be unable to attend the premiere in racially segregated Atlanta annoyed Clark Gable so much that he threatened to boycott the premiere unless she could attend. He later relented when she convinced him to go.
- Hattie McDaniel became the first African-American to be nominated for, and win, an Academy Award.
- First colour film to win the Best Picture Oscar.
- At nearly four hours long, this is the longest running of all movies to win the Best Picture Academy Award.
- At 2 hours, 23 minutes and 32 seconds, Vivien Leigh's performance in this movie is the longest to ever win an Academy Award.
- If box-office receipts were adjusted for inflation, it would be the top-grossing movie of all time; Star Wars: Episode IV - A New Hope (1977) would only be the second most successful movie of all time. According to the Guinness World Records homepage, the total gross in 2012 figures for "GWTW" would be \$4,401,358,554.94 .
- When Gary Cooper turned down the role of Rhett Butler, he was passionately against it. He is quoted saying "Gone with the Wind is going to be the biggest flop in Hollywood history" and "I'm just glad it'll be Clark Gable who's falling on his face and not Gary Cooper."



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

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.