

ACOFS Bulletin

Australian Council of Film Societies

NUMBER 54

MAY 2018

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

I am constantly reminded that in dealing with film society committees, we are dealing with enthusiastic amateurs! There may be a few experts among them, but in the main they are amateurs, and thankfully, mostly enthusiastic!

Organisationally, the committees may be amateurs also. Most committees meet regularly although that might be only once or twice a year! The FVFS annual membership application form for example, asks many questions, many of which can reveal a limited understanding of the society committees. For example, one question revealed that one committee member thought their "parent organisation" was the FVFS. Another suggested Consumer Affairs!

ACOFS and the State Federations have focussed on providing information to support DVD rights, taxation, incorporation, technology and getting insurance, etc. But I have spoken to society committee members who have no idea they have to obtain screening rights, who don't care about the image ratio or size, screen their DVDs from a laptop, and who are

happy with mono sound from a crappy old speaker. This is another area where I feel they need a little "education".

So what should ACOFS and the Federations be doing to help committees run their film societies? Apart from the obvious, like making sure that a wide range of films and DVDs are available at reasonable cost, I think it comes down to education - communication AND education.

To this end, I believe the most important things that ACOFS and the Federations should be doing include up-to-date websites, regular newsletters, regular information days, and supporting communication between film societies. The annual re-affiliation of societies with the Federations should be more than just collecting money and giving a receipt. It is an opportunity to ask leading questions which can reveal how well the society is performing and whether additional "education" is needed.

Turning now to a recent development in the world of social media which perhaps carries a message for us all. You have probably read that Facebook is in strife over leaking personal data from many millions of users. How safe is the membership data you hold? While you are obliged to retain some membership data, it is your duty to ensure that data is not stolen or publicly available to be used for other purposes. How many societies (or Federations) have even considered this? And how secure is it against accidental loss?

So in summary, the main purpose of ACOFS and the State Federations is to ensure we are set up to provide information and support to and between our member societies. How do we rate?

And if you represent a film society, your main purpose is to bring to your members their choice of quality films in a comfortable cinematic environment, regardless of the medium, that ensures the screenings are social events and promote interaction between the members and with the local community. How do you rate?

If you are interested in us developing any of these ideas further, please email me with your ideas and comments at : president@acofs.org.au

Ian Davidson, President ACOFS

2. To the President

The following correspondence was received after the last ACOFS Bulletin was distributed:

- The Vision Splendid Outback Film Festival (VSOFF), the "World's largest Australian film festival" will be held at Winton from June 29 to July 7. For more information and to purchase tickets go to <http://www.visionsplendidfilmfest.com/>
- Offer from "Showfilmfirst" of a number of free double pass tickets in every State, to pre-season screenings of CHAPPAQUIDDICK, compliments Transmission Films. Tickets to be awarded on a first in basis at each venue. (See next item).

3. Competition Winners

During April, ACOFS conducted a competition for a number of free double passes at a number of venues in every State, to pre-season screenings of the about-to-be released CHAPPAQUIDDICK. Tickets were allocated to the first members to log in to "Shorfilmfirst".

CHAPPAQUIDDICK is a piercing re-examination of the true events surrounding the most difficult seven days of Senator Ted Kennedy's career when he drove off a bridge, ending the life of his passenger Mary Jo Kopechne, a promising political strategist who had worked on his brother Bobby Kennedy's presidential campaign the year prior.

It starts on the eve of the moon landing, July 18, 1969, at a party in a rented house on Chappaquiddick Island, celebrating a reunion of many Bobby Kennedy campaign workers. With his brother John's presidential legacy looming large as his promise to land a man on the moon is coming true, Kennedy leaves the party early giving Kopechne a fateful ride to the ferry. He approaches a narrow bridge at angle with the dirt road and in an instant the car flips over into the murky waters below. Kennedy escapes but the 28-year-old campaign worker remains trapped inside. In the aftermath, Kennedy fails to report the accident for nine hours. The Senator struggles to follow his own moral compass and simultaneously protect his family's legacy, all while simply trying to keep his own political ambitions alive.

Directed by John Curran (Tracks, The Painted Veil) from a screenplay by Taylor Allen and Andrew Logan, CHAPPAQUIDDICK features a strong ensemble cast, including Jason Clarke (Ted Kennedy), Kate Mara (Mary Jo Kopechne), Ed Helms, Jim Gaffigan, Clancy Brown, and Taylor Nichols with Olivia Thirlby and Bruce Dern.



Competition tickets were provided compliments of Transmission Films and organised by "Showfilmfirst".

4. The ACOFS DVD Agreement

See www.acofs.org.au/resources/ .The latest version of the DVD Rights Fact Sheet 3B was ready for uploading to the website on 1 May 2018.

The Fact Sheet (Number 3B) lists the phone and email contacts of the DVD distributors who are able to approve the screening rights for your screenings. It is constantly being updated as new information is supplied.

Fact Sheet 3A offers many hints and suggestions for finding the appropriate DVD distributor and rights holders for DVDs in Australia.

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)

Also handles Madman rights bookings.

Brigsby Bear

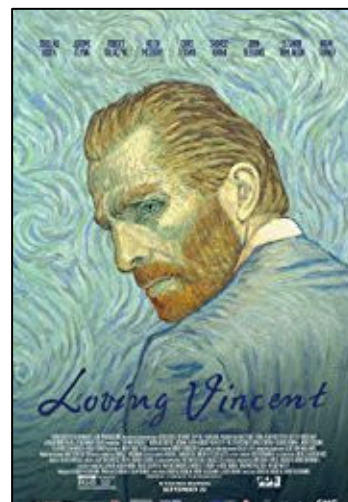
Call me by Your Name

Crash Pad

Eric Clapton – Life in 12 Bars

I am not Your Negro

Jumanji – Welcome to the Jungle
Keep Watching
Killing of a Sacred Deer, A
Lovers, The
Loving Vincent
My Life as a Zucchini
November Criminals
Professor Marston and the Wonder Women
Roman J. Israel, Esq.
School Life, 2017, Doco, M
Star, The
This Beautiful Fantastic Life Blooms in Enchanting Ways



Antidote Films

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

www.antidotefilms.com.au

gil@antidotefilms.com

Black Hole
Make Hummus Not War
Monsieur Mayonnaise
More Than Honey
School Life
Tabloid
United States of Amnesia, The

Curious Films

Please note our contact addresses:

PO Box 7632 Bondi Beach NSW 2016

steve@curiousfilm.com Stephen Fitzgibbon

www.curiousfilm.com +64 9360 7880 (NZ)

Hi Gloss.

Dan O'Malley. dan@higlossentertainment.com.au

Good Time

Kedi

Like Crazy

Salesman, The



Pinnacle Films

Ann.fenchuck@pinnaclefilms.com.au (07) 5556 1872

Sherard.kingston@pinnaclefilms.com.au

Roadshow Films

(Contact amelia_ulrick@roadshow.com.au) (Note the underscore in the address)

Manager paul_mackenzie@roadshow.com.au

12 Strong

Game Night

Ronin Films

(Andrew Pike)

For member 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.

Big Bad Love, 26 min, M

Child's Eye, The, 2018, 147 mins, (12 films by children)
 China's 3 Dreams, 84 mins, PG
 Common purpose, 2011, Doco, 75 mins, PG
 Creating a Monster, 2017, 20 Mins, PG
 Fair Game, 56 mins.
 Green Bush, 2005, 26 mins
 Hope Road, 103 min, PG
 Making a Mark, 56 min, G
 Night Parrot Stories, 89 mins, G
 Occupation: Native, 2017, 52 min, PG.
 Old Man and the Inland Sea, The, 2005, 20 mins
 On Richard's Side, 90 mins, PG
 Rosalie's Journey, 2003, 22 mins
 Tnorla-Baby Falling, 2007, 22 mins
 We Don't Need a Map, 85 min, M
 Willaberta Jack, 2007, 26 mins.

Sharmill Films

(Bec Brown)

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

Lady Macbeth

Square, The, 2017, 150 mins

Shock

(Naomi Kume)

American President – BLU

Being Julia

Bird on a Wire – BLU

Charlie Wilson's War

Deadly Blessing

Death Becomes Her - BLU

Devil in a Blue Dress

Funhouse, The

Hanover Street

Holiday

It Happened to Jane

Lover Come Back

Nine

Only Angels Have Wings

Rent

Spanglish

Talk of the Town, The

Vertical Limit



StudioCanal

Andrew Rolfe, 02 9003 3985 andrew.rolfe@studiocanal.com

Umbrella Entertainment

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

Anne of Green Gables

Au Hazard Balthazar

Babette's Feast

Chant of Jimmy Blacksmith, The

Cosi

Diary of a Chambermaid

Dolce Vita, La
England is Mine
In This Corner of the World
Jungle
Lazybones
Lucky
Mister Ed
Money Movie
Postman, The
River Runs Through It, A
Shine
Tracker, The

Umbrella are constantly offering special deals on their range of titles and regularly add to the list of titles available for streaming.

More titles are available for Public performance screenings - go to

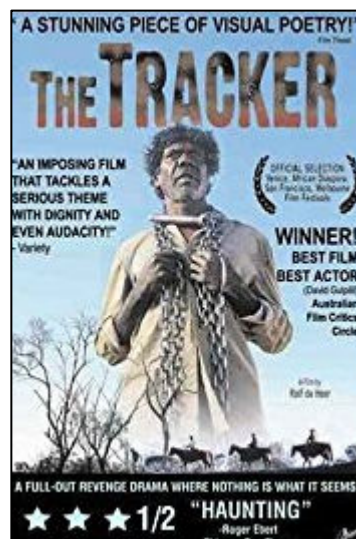
<http://www.umbrellaentfilms.com.au/public-performance/>

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.



Vendetta Films

Use these addresses rather than the ones in the Fact Sheet!

lynette@vendettafilms.co.nz

or info@vendettafilms.co.nz

Borg vs McEnroe

Change Over, The

Happy Prince, The

Pecking Order

Waru

6. New Titles from the NTLC at the NFSA

The NTLC (Non-Theatrical Lending Collection) is part of the NFSA (National Film and Sound Archive) in Canberra. There are 1,682 DVD and BluRay titles, of which 851 are feature films available for loan to film societies at \$22 (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:

Herbert, 2015

Karla, 2065 (BluRay)

Also don't forget that the NTLC 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 NTLC may have purchased the screening rights themselves.

A new arrangement at the NTLC is that they may be able to licence a viewing of your own copy of a DVD where they hold the screening rights to that title in their collection. This means that if a title held by the NTLC is already booked out when you want it, you can use your own copy after paying the NTLC the normal \$22 fee for the screening rights for that title.

7. Films From the Norwegian Embassy

Don't forget the Norwegian features and shorts available from the Embassy at no charge, as written up in recent Bulletins and on the ACOFS website.

Your contact at the embassy in Canberra is Merete Aarhaug, 02 6270 5715, Merete.Aarhaug@mfa.no

The latest films reviewed and written up by a panel from the FVFS are as follows:

- Siblings are Forever - The Grand Journey, 2015, 75 mins, Doco. 3.3 stars (from 5)
- Pathfinder – 1987, 88 mins, Action/Drama. 3.6 stars (from 5)
- In Order of Disappearance, 2015, 115 mins, Comedy/Crime. 3.3 stars (from 5)
- Brothers, 2015, 110 mins, Doco/Drama, 3.6 stars (from 5)

Detailed information on each film and a booking form is on the ACOFS website under www.acofs.org.au/resources/

Please let ACOFS know if you use any of them so we can track what is useful to Film Societies and continue to be relevant.

8. ACOFS AGM

The 2018 ACOFS AGM and discussion day was on Saturday 21st April, at The Willis Room, Whitehorse Civic Centre, Nunawading. Several delegates who arrived early, joined us for a meal on Friday, and several stayed on afterwards for a dinner and movie on Saturday night.

Important issues covered include:

- Reports were presented from all State Federations. Most are healthy with numbers of member film societies on the increase.
- Privacy and security of members' data is very important, brought to a head by lapses in Facebook security. We have a legal obligation to keep all customer data secure.
- There are a great number of on-line and computer-based packages available to small clubs, many of which can be useful to film societies. These include Wix (Website creation and hosting), mailchimp (email assistant) Member Ties (Membership database), TryBooking (on-line ticket sales), Stripe (On-line payments). See your Federation secretary for more information.
- The distribution of film societies across Australia are as per the table:

State	Number	%
Victoria	83	58%
NSW	18	13%
Tasmania	17	12%
Qld	13	9%
WA	8	6%
SA	5	3%
ACT	0	0
NT	0	0

- Report from the NFSA (See separate report in this Bulletin).

- Details regarding production and distribution of THE HISTORY OF AUSTRALIAN FILM SOCIETIES. See the following article.
- How we might update the ACOFS website to score better on web search engines.
- The DVD rights agreement is worth up to \$70,000 per year to the distributors, and covers the rights for over 1,100 DVD screenings Australia-wide.
- Executive appointments. All nominations were successful, namely: Ian Davidson (President), Leth Maitland (V President), John Arkins (Secretary), John Turner (Treasurer) and Jim Mansbridge (Committee). Two more positions are available to nominees from Queensland and South Australia.

9. History of Australian Film Societies

NOW AVAILABLE

Hot off the press

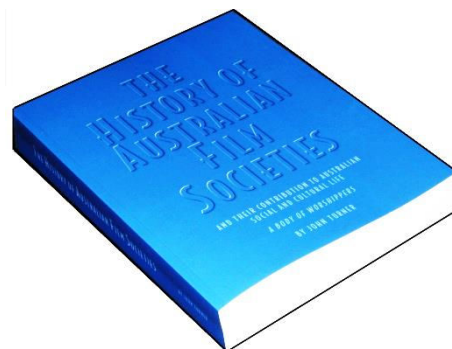
BUY THIS AMAZING BOOK NOW

“THE HISTORY OF AUSTRALIAN FILM SOCIETIES”

A 554 page tribute to the 70-year history of film societies in Australia and the stories of the people and organisations involved.

“A reel revelation!”

To buy a copy, just type the order information into an email to the secretary, or easier still, use the “Contact us” form on the ACOFS website to order a book, giving your address and whether you want it posted to you..



Or ask the secretary of your film society for information.

Just \$75 plus \$15 P&P (if posted)

or \$50 if ordered through a member film society plus \$15 P&P.(if posted)

Then please send a cheque payable to Australian Council of Film Societies to: John Turner, 20 Craithie Avenue, Park Orchards, Vic 3114, or pay by EFT to Australian Council of Film Societies, NAB Melbourne, BSB: 083 004, A/c 5617 98446, and quote your surname, and email the treasurer with your postal address.

A full brochure and order form is attached as a separate file.

10. StarBox Scores

Did you know that most of the Victorian film societies have StarBoxes for determining the members' reaction to the films screened? These scores are collated centrally by the FVFS, reported quarterly in their newsletter, ReelNews, and then compiled into annual summaries for the benefit of all member film societies. These reports are available for anyone to read and download on www.fvfs.org.au/resources, Information Sheets 17.1 to 17.14 (The latest being for the year up to May 2018).



11. Drop me a Line

Please send all comments to president@acofs.org.au
Many thanks. Ian Davidson, editor.

12. Trivia

Did you know that the Internet Movie Database (IMDb) has a section on the biographies of most film actors as per the following extract:

Cissy Spacek. As a kid, Sissy Spacek climbed trees, rode horses, swam, and played in the woods. She was born Mary Elizabeth Spacek on December 25, 1949, in Quitman, Texas, to Virginia Frances (Spilman) and Edwin Arnold Spacek, Sr., a county agricultural agent. Her father's family was of Czech and German origin. (Bio continues...)

She is married to Jack Fisk, and has two children.

She has appeared in 48 films plus several TV movies and TV series. (I believe her best was *Coal Miner's Daughter* in 1980)



ACOFS - Australian Council of Film Societies

Incorporated in Victoria: A0057904W ABN: 69 667 887 179

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.