

ACOFS Bulletin

Australian Council of Film Societies

NUMBER 57

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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 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

We have stated in the past, that streaming services such as Netflix have had little impact on the viewing habits of our film society members. But the very large list of films in their catalogue is starting to have an unexpected effect. Where a film has not been taken up by a local distributor, but has been included in the Netflix catalogue, it is Netflix who have sought censorship clearance (In future Netflix will be able to apply a censorship rating for their own material), and they hold the screening rights in Australia. It is not clear whether that includes the non-theatrical screening rights also, as we have not had a response from Netflix to our queries. Has anyone else had any luck approaching Netflix? Let us know.

The streaming service Beamafilm has been much more forthcoming. It is operated by Gil Scrine of Antidote Films, and he is fully supportive of film societies using downloaded films from his catalogue – after permission and the usual rights clearance of course!



On another front, I notice that several societies have now used Park Circus in Glasgow to gain rights clearance for some DVDs, for which no-one holds rights in Australia. It seems that this company fills that gap of missing titles in Australia – although not completely! More details are in the Distributors chapter, under Park Circus.

And another thing. I am still often asked how to find rights for selected DVDs, and the answer is always the same. Follow the guidelines described in ACOFS Fact Sheets 3A, 3B and 3C, all available for download from www.acofs.org.au/resources/. ACOFS has put a lot of effort into developing these documents for you, and negotiating the agreements behind them. Try the recommended approaches BEFORE reporting that it is hard to find certain DVD rights.

If you are interested in ACOFS developing any new ideas to help film societies, please email me with your suggestions and comments at president@acofs.org.au

Ian Davidson, President ACOFS

2. Who or What is ACOFS?

ACOFS (The Australian Council of Film Societies) is the peak national body of the Australian film society movement. Each State in Australia has its own independent ACOFS-affiliated Federation of Film Societies - run by individuals based in that state – dedicated to looking after the interests of member film societies in that state.

As at January 2019, over 160 Australian film societies, film clubs, community cinemas and film festivals are members of these state federations.

The current state federations, who have affiliated with ACOFS are:

FVFS - The Federation of Victorian Film Societies

NSWFFS - The NSW Federation of Film Societies

FQFS - The Federation of Queensland Film Societies

WAFFS - WA Federation of Film Societies

SAFFS - SA Federation of Film Societies

TFoFS - Tasmanian Federation of Film Societies.

Associate member – Screen and Studies Institute (SASI)

AFOFS was founded in 1949, and has operated across all states since then.

ACOFS represents Australian film society interests in IFFS (The International Federation of Film Societies),

ACOFS developed and operates a “Film loss and damage” insurance policy free of charge to all member film societies.

In 2002 ACOFS, together with the FVFS, negotiated the so-called “ACOFS Agreement” with the major DVD distributors in Australia which allowed film societies to screen their own copies of DVDs non-theatrically, for an agreed screening rights fee. ACOFS has maintained their part in this agreement since then by distributing DVD new acquisition information from the distributors, and maintains a contact list for member societies of all DVD distributors in Australia. This list is not kept confidential, but is available to anyone through the ACOFS website.

ACOFS maintains a website of over 100 pages of original material, full of important, information to assist starting and running a film society in Australia – focussing now on DVD technology – and covering all matters from legal to copyright, technical to

presentation. In addition, there is a large section containing copies of all available 16mm film projector operational manuals, free to download.

The ACOFS Bulletin continues to be produced quarterly, containing all the latest news on film and DVD acquisitions, and items of interest to member film societies.

ACOFS continues to be the main interface between member film societies and organisations such as the NFSA, Federal Government, film and DVD libraries and distributors.

3. The ACOFS DVD Agreement

Contact persons and addresses of DVD distributors are constantly changing, and we do our best to keep the DVD Rights Fact Sheet 3B up to date. The latest was uploaded to the ACOFS website on 3 August 2018. See www.acofs.org.au/resources/

Rather than duplicate the contact person on every distributor in this Bulletin, I will now only include updates, new contacts or addresses, prior to them being updated in the Info Sheet.

4. News From the DVD Distributors

Owing to space constraints this issue contains only the distributors who have titles to list 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). The contact is included below, only where it has changed recently and may not yet be included in the website version of Fact Sheet 3B.

Adventure Film Tours

Christine Bertolatti at christine@adventurefilmtours.com

See item 6 below.

Amalgamated Movies (Available now or soon to be released).

Also handles Madman rights bookings.

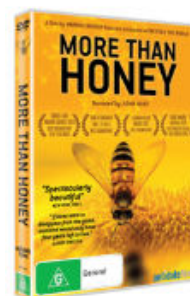
Breaker Upperers, The
C'est la Vie
Dark Crimes
Equalizer 2
Generation Wealth
Ghosthunter
Kiwi Christmas
Ladies in Black, PG
Leave No Trace
McQueen



Antidote Films

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

Amnesia Day
Art & Copy
Bhutto
Careless Love
Good Man, A
More Than Honey
Strange Birds in Paradise
Visit West Papua
Whale, The



Curious Films

Please note our contact addresses:

PO Box 7632 Bondi Beach NSW 2016

steve@curiousfilm.com Stephen Fitzgibbon

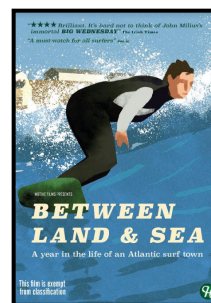
www.curiousfilm.com +64 9360 7880 (NZ)

Hi Gloss

Between Land and Sea, Ireland. 87 min.

Ryuichi Sakamoto Coda, Doco, PG, 102 min

Il Cacciatore (The Hunter), 12 episodes on four discs.



Park Circus (Glasgow)

Examples of DVD titles that some of our societies have organised through this company.

(Costs of \$75 to \$120):

African Queen

Fried Green Tomatoes

Isle of Dogs

Reach for the Sky

Wuthering Heights

[If anyone has had other successes with Park Circus please let me know so I can be better informed.]



Potential Films

Becoming Traviata

Charulata

Heatwave

In the Shadow of Women

Jour de Fete

Marina Abramovic in Brazil: The Space in Between

Mon Oncle

Monsieur Hulot's Holiday

Mystery of Happiness, The

Nahid

Noble Family, The

Parade

Playtime

Song Keepers, The

To Kill a King

Trafic

Wajib – The Wedding Invitation

Wednesday May 9



Roadshow Films

(Virginia_oconnor@roadshow.com.au)

Mule, The

Sun is Also a Star, The

Ronin Films

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.

Baxter and Me, 85 mins, PG

Blackbird, 13 mins

Etched in Bone, Australia, 2018, 73 min.

Life is a Very Strange Thing, 80 mins.

Searching for Ingmar Bergman, 98 mins, M

Teach a Man to Fish, 80 mins.

Sharmill Films

(Chris@sharmillfilms.com.au)

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

Foxtrot

Frantz

Lady Macbeth

Square, The

Shock

All the Pretty Horses

Certain Women

Did You Hear About the Morgans?

Fright Night

Here Come the Co-Eds

Hideaway

It Ain't Hay

Keep 'em Flying

Lost in Alaska

Maid in Manhattan

Mary Reilly

Medallion, The

Mona Lisa Smile

Peggy Sue Got Married

U-Turn

Wistful Widow of Wagon Gap, The



Umbrella Entertainment

Titles in the Running for 2019 Australian Critics Awards.

Backtrack Boys

Cargo

Merger, The

West of Sunshine

You Were Never Really Here

Other New Films at Umbrella

Dr Knock

In a Relationship

One Less God

Princess and the Dragon, The

Quest for the Neverbook, The

Wheely

Classic films at Umbrella

An Angel at My Table

Ballad of Narayama

Cry Freedom

Centrespread

Frog Dreaming

Howling iii: The Marsupials

Isabelle Eberhardt

Lord of the Flies

Shootist, The

Storm Boy



Tale of Ruby Rose
Theorem
Walkabout
Watership Down

Umbrella also have lots of Aussie titles available for streaming.
More titles are available for public performance screenings - go to
<http://www.umbrellaentfilms.com.au/public-performance/>

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: james@umbrellaent.com.au

Contact James for bookings or call on 03 9020 5136.

For Australian titles in the Umbrella catalogue, Umbrella may be able to assist you to invite the director to attend your screening for a Q&A. Ring James Brennan.

Vendetta Films

(Can approve rights for DVD screening even if they don't have the DVD)

Girl	e-Cinema Only
Before We Vanish	e-Cinema Only
Interlude in Prague	e-Cinema and DVD
Pin Cushion	DVD
Good Manners	DVD
Rabbit	DVD
Butterfly Tree, The	DVD



5. 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

John Klyza is no longer the contact. Use nontheatric@nfsa.gov.au.

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

Majub's Journey 2013

The NFSA renewed 58 film titles in 2018. Selected from the most popular licences throughout the past five years, the films will remain accessible through to 30th June 2023. Contact the NFSA for a full list of recently renewed titles.

Are you in a hurry? NFSA can now express post your DVD loan to you for a standard cost of \$10. Contact nontheatric@nfsa.com.au for details.

Their most borrowed titles in 2018 were:

Cosi
Strictly Ballroom
The Castle
A Star is Born
Top Hat.



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.

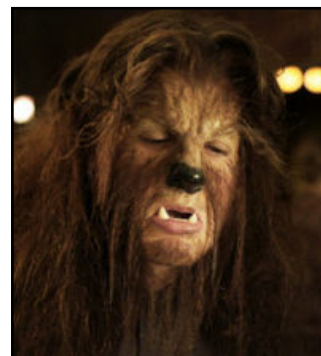
A new arrangement at the NTLC is that they may be able to licence a viewing of your own copy of a DVD where they hold the screening rights to that title in their collection. This means that if a title held by the NTLC is already booked out when you want it, you can use your own copy after paying the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

6. Girt By Fear – For Horror Addicts.

The following short article is copied from “The Age – Green Pages” on Feb 7, 2019.

“girtbyfear.com.au

This free collection of six bite-sized horror-comedy films by a small coterie of young Australian filmmakers is a hoot. From the immigrant-experience body horror of *It Came From Outer Suburbia* to the vampiric social critique of *Only Wankers Left Alive*, there are chuckles around every corner. *I Was a Teenage Chogmog* features Tony Martin in what might well be his scariest role since *Blue Murder*.



7. Adventure Film Tours

Late in 2018 I was approached by Christine Bertolatti of Adventure Film Tours offering access to their DVD collection for screening at film societies.

They are an Australian owned distributor of films with a broad range of appeal to all ages. They hope our members will enjoy watching inspiring stories about real people doing amazing feats. The *Dawn Wall* in particular, is an award winning film that draws the viewer in with all its drama and spectacular cinematography.

Here are four recommended DVDs, with links to their trailers.

The Dawn Wall. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=edfw9ip9sCQ>

European Outdoor Film Tour. <https://youtu.be/mtzqPxescAI>

Women's Adventure Film Tour. https://youtu.be/bjNoW_AKtys

International Ocean Film Tour. <https://youtu.be/CESUXaPNpK8>

The DVDs are available for purchase from them at \$30.

Non-theatrical screening rights would depend on the size of the audience, from \$55 for the smaller society to \$150 for an audience of over 100. For DCP screenings, or commercial screenings to 200 plus people, the rights fee would be \$400.

They can also supply Bluray and MP4 formats.

For details contact Christine Bertolatti at christine@adventurefilmtours.com

8. Drop me a Line

Please send all comments to president@acofs.org.au

Many thanks. Ian Davidson, editor.

9. Letter From Rob Murphy – Film-maker.

(Received on Jan 23rd)

It's hard for a projectionist to convey – it's hard for me to convey – the feelings of continuity felt when running a film print. The way it feels in my hands. The way it smells. The way my heart skips a beat when I open the dowser to the light and all those dancing little pictures combine to create a perfect illusion of reality. An illusion that I am controlling and am now connected to. It's magic and I'm the gatekeeper.

Splice Here: A Projected Odyssey is a love letter to film - told through the eyes of documentarian and projectionist, Rob Murphy who begins a childhood quest to find out what ever happened to cinema's legendary (now long extinct) wide screen film process, Cinerama. Starting in Australia then expanding geographically and thematically, Rob infiltrates a projectionists' underground, meeting the great champions of projected film and lesser known characters behind the scenes. We discover how the digital revolution has not just changed the way we now see movies but is becoming a very real threat to how we will remember them.

After seven years of shooting, the film is now seeking crowd funding to complete an all-important American leg of photography.

What's crowd funding?

Pozible is an Australian owned and operated company who've raised more than \$62 million AUD for 15,000 individual arts projects. Pozible provides the platform for project creators to present their ideas to a connected audience, worldwide. If people love what you're creating, they can support it by pledging money. In return, project creators offer rewards matched to the level of funding commitment.

If you'd like to help with a pledge or would just like to know more about the production, visit www.splicehere.website

10. Letter from Robin Dobson – Maleny

Dated November 2018.

"Hi,

I note that at the end of each Bulletin there is a list of DVDs which can be hired at a special reduced rate by members of ACOFS. I am wondering if you have anywhere ONE list, which is constantly updated, to which would be borrowers could refer?"

Robin Dobson, Maleny Film Society"

As this is a common question, I thought I should publish Robin's letter and my reply.

"Robin,

Those lists are not of DVDs available for loan. They are new DVD rights that are available from those distributors because they now distribute those DVDs (to retailers, and in some case private buyers), but not necessarily on loan. Some may be available for loan, but you must check with the distributor.

The list of DVD rights acquired is provided as ACOFS' contribution to the ACOFS DVD rights agreement, described in Fact Sheet 3A and 3B.

It is not feasible to publish a list of all DVD rights available, as it would be very extensive (and cover every DVD available in Australia) and is changing all the time as new rights are obtained and old rights expire. Instead, ACOFS has educated film society programmers how to find the rights themselves using available resources!

Regards, Ian Davidson, President ACOFS"

11. Two Publications

Senses of Cinema is a regular emailed newsletter produced by the School of Media and Communication, RMIT University. Founded in 1999, Senses of Cinema is one of the first online film journals of its kind and has set the standard for professional, high quality film-related content on the Internet. Issue 89 has just landed.

It contains items titled "The Senses of Feminism - Then and Now", "Audience and Performance in Kid Auto Races in Venice", "Over-Identification in The Castle", "Four Years of the Nitrate Picture Show", "Latin American cinema today" and many more.

www.sensesofcinema.com Check it out.

Dress Circle is a regular printed newsletter (of approx. 60 pages) edited by Ross Adams. It is a non-profit publication produced by a collector, for collectors and enthusiasts. It usually contains several feature articles as well as reports of the activities of many film groups around Australia.

In the most recent issue (Vol 20, Number 3) Ross quotes a fascinating article by Dr Ari Matte who is the University of Notre Dame's media and film expert. He states that streaming services will not mark the end of cinema because cinema is resilient, and gives people what they want – a night out, in company, with a big screen. Ross goes on to comment that this is even more true of the film society, which recognises the importance of membership and social inclusion.

For many years, ACOFS and the State Federations have pushed the line that a film society is a place you go to share a cinematic experience with your friends, and watch films of value that have something to say, and may not be widely seen elsewhere.

12. ACOFS AGM

The next AGM will be in a Melbourne eastern suburb (location to be decided) on Saturday 13th April 2019. All delegates are urged to attend. There will be a travel allowance for those travelling interstate. If you are unable to attend would you please at least send a report covering status, achievements and concerns. A detailed invitation will be sent out shortly.

If you want to come to the AGM but would like to be billeted, or if you can offer billeting in Melbourne, please let me know.

13. Australian National Anthem – For Sale

A special offer in Dress Circle is the offer of an Australian National Anthem DVD for use by film societies. It was produced by Mike Trickett through his CINEPLEX (Geelong) for the Lithgow Valley Film Society. It is a stunning DVD which shows Parliament House, Ayres Rock, the Opera House, Sydney Harbour Bridge, The Blue Mountains, the Australian Flag and Coat of Arms.

It is available to all film societies in Australia for \$23 including packing and posting. It also includes optional sequences – "Welcome to the film society" and a reminder to "switch off mobile phones".

Enquiries and orders to Dress Circle Magazine, PO Box 478 Lithgow NSW 2790, Phone 02 6353 1897, or email lawsonco@tpg.com.au . Contact them for EFT details.

No copyright is involved, so once purchased, it may be screened as often as you like.

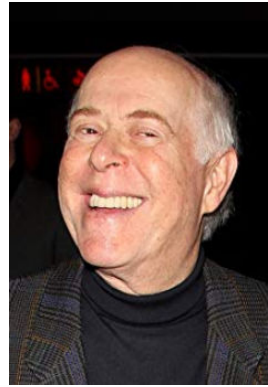
14. Trivia

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

"Mini Bio: Clive Swift was born on February 9, 1936 in Liverpool, England as Clive Walter Swift. He was an actor, known for Excalibur (1981), Frenzy (1972) and Keeping Up

Appearances (1990). He was married to Margaret Drabble. He died on February 1, 2019 in London, England.”

Clive Swift was best known as the hen-pecked husband of Hyacinth Bucket (Patricia Routledge) – who insists her surname is pronounced ‘Bouquet’ (although her husband Richard has said, "It was always 'Bucket' until I met you!"). Hyacinth is an over-bearing, social-climbing snob, originally from an underclass background, whose main mission in life is to impress others with her lifestyle.



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.