

# ACOFS Bulletin

## Australian Council of Film Societies

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NUMBER 65

February 2021

*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 Editor – Ian Davidson [editor@acofs.org.au](mailto:editor@acofs.org.au)

Most film societies and film festivals have been in limbo for the last 6 - 8 months, but it appears that although the restrictions on indoor gatherings is yet to be lifted, some societies are able to work within those limitations and will commence screenings in February. Some societies however, are unable to recommence screenings because they operate in smaller venues or were near capacity – even without restrictions.

Now the interesting question is, “How will societies catch up with all those planned, but unscreened films that have been purchased on DVD but are still to be screened? Will they simply reprogram them later, or abandon any thoughts of screening them? Will the DVDs end up in their libraries even if not screened by the society?”

Write in to the editor and let us know your thoughts.

### 2. Reports From State Federations

#### FVFS - Victoria

The COVID virus is still with us! We may think we have beaten it, but it keeps re-emerging. As a result, the Government and local councils still insist on social separation at many venues used by film societies, thus limiting the venue capacity to around 50% of normal levels. While some film societies have been able to operate within these restrictions, those that usually have “near full houses” have not been able to resume. The latest issue of ReelNews reports that up to 30% are still suspended while the majority are operating under some level of “COVID

restrictions". We may not see normal operations again until the majority of the general population has been vaccinated!

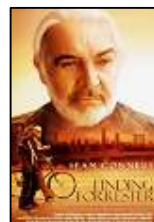
### 3. News From the DVD Distributors

*These titles have been provided by the respective distributors as being either new acquisitions or titles of interest to film societies. Only distributors who have provided information are included here, but all distributor contacts are still listed in ACOFS Information Sheet 3B. These lists are an indication of who holds the screening rights for the films/DVDs, but these distributors can not necessarily supply the DVDs. ACOFS Fact Sheet 3B, which is updated regularly, can be downloaded from [www.acofs.org.au/resources](http://www.acofs.org.au/resources) The contact details are included here only where they have changed recently.*

#### **Amalgamated Movies**

Burnt Orange Heresy, The  
Finding Forrester  
Greed  
Inheritance  
Shirley  
This Town

Also, see their website:- [www.amalgamatedmovies.com](http://www.amalgamatedmovies.com)



#### **Antidote Films**

*Antidote charge just \$35+ GST for screening rights for most of their DVD titles. Love Opera, Australia, 2020, 94 mins, Doco.*

#### **Film Art Media**

Brazen Hussies - Doco. [March]  
Show Must Go On, The - Doco. [March]

#### **Limelight Distribution**

Beats  
Brimstone and Glory  
Camino Skies  
Days of the Bagnold Summer  
Diana's Wedding  
Florianopolis Dream  
Fool, The  
God of the Piano  
Happy New Year Colin Burstead  
Helmut Newton: The Bad and the Beautiful  
Jonsson Gang, The  
Little Woods  
Lost in Paris  
Man in the Hat, The  
Older than Ireland  
Olive Tree, The  
Passion of Augustine, The  
Rosie  
Skies of Lebanon  
Stray  
Woman at War  
Yuli  
Zama



#### **Madman**

*(Booked through Amalgamated)*  
Baby Done

Made in Italy  
Portrait of a Lady on Fire  
Ophelia

### Potential

Mark Spratt offers us the following recent releases, which are all available on DVD and well reviewed for film societies:-

Ash Mayfair's THE THIRD WIFE (Vietnam)  
Michal Aviad's WORKING WOMAN (Israel)  
Elia Sulieman's IT MUST BE HEAVEN (Palestine)



### Roadshow

According to Domenic Malsom, all up-coming film availabilities are listed on the Collections section of the Roadshow website at:

<https://ppl.roadshow.com.au/collections>.

### 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](http://www.roninfilms.com.au) for details and purchase prices. Many of their titles are now available from KANOPY STREAMING.

Exile and the Kingdom, Australia, 1993, 110 mins.

The Habits of NEW NORCIA, Australia, 53 mins, Doco.

### Umbrella Entertainment

Awoken  
Bad Boy Bubby  
Dingo  
Dustwalker  
Honey Boy  
Lino  
Psycho Goreman  
Sator  
Stone 1974  
Sunday Too Far Away  
Synchronic  
The Adventures of Barry Mckenzie  
The Furnace  
The Last Stand  
Walkabout to Hollywood  
Zappa



For a full list of all Umbrella Entertainment Public Performance Rights List, contact [sales@umbrellaent.com.au](mailto:sales@umbrellaent.com.au)

Robert Slaviero, 0419 249 676, [Robert.slaviero@ambienceentertainment.com](mailto:Robert.slaviero@ambienceentertainment.com)

Call on 03 9020 5136 or [sales@umbrellaent.com.au](mailto:sales@umbrellaent.com.au)

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 and A.

### Vendetta Films

These DVDs have been offered by Alice Davies of Vendetta:-

A Bump Along the Way  
Amber Light (File Delivery only)  
Calm With Horses  
Cut Throat City  
Into the Labyrinth  
Look Back in Angus (File delivery only)

Lucky Grandma  
Master Cheng (File Delivery only)  
Miss Virginia  
Only  
Out of Blue  
The Ideal Palace  
They Call me Dr Miami (File delivery only)  
Two of Us (file delivery only)  
Vai  
Vintage (File delivery only)



*Vendetta may be able to approve rights for a DVD screening even if they don't have the DVD. For a full list of what's available go to [www.vendettafilms.co.nz](http://www.vendettafilms.co.nz)*

#### 4. 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 almost 1,000 DVD and BluRay titles available for loan to film societies at \$22 (including rights and delivery to you). See their catalogue at [loans.nfsa.gov.au](http://loans.nfsa.gov.au)*

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

Berlin Alexanderplatz, 1981

Berlin Um Die Ecke, 1957 (BR)

Die Stadt von Morgen – Experimentierfeld Asien, 2015 (BR)

*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.*

*The NTLC 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.*

#### 5. Corrick Collection at the NFSA

Restored films from *The Corrick Collection* are now online

The NFSA has digitally restored *The Corrick Collection*, containing 135 of the world's earliest films, which formed part of the Corrick Family Entertainers' variety act over 100 years ago. A selection of these priceless films will have a world premiere at



Tasmania's *Ten Days on the Island* between 5-21 March 2021. Tickets can be booked online, at <https://www.tendays.org.au/program/the-marvellous-corricks/>

Further national and international screenings will be announced in coming months. In the meantime, five films from *The Corrick Collection* are now available to audiences worldwide on the NFSA's YouTube channel,

[https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLYjU0Xph-Gj7KfsCckjFmZ\\_FbSIA6FG8-](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLYjU0Xph-Gj7KfsCckjFmZ_FbSIA6FG8-)

You can read more about the Corrick Family Entertainers at *On the Road With the Corricks*, or learn about the process of restoring the films at Restoring the Corrick Collection on this YouTube channel.

#### 6. TYSPOM Film Library

The Screen & Study Institute's "TYSPOM Film Library" recently announced that it will be suspending its DVD lending library of nearly 3,500 films while it shifts its focus to developing new streaming and digital film material.

"2021 will be a year of experimentation for us," says TYSPOM founder, Prodos Marinakis. "That's what the Film Society Movement was built on. Testing new, democratising technologies and finding new ways of using it to spark the imagination and inspire independent thinking."

TYSPOM Film Library specialised in arranging low-cost screening rights for films made with no government funding for ACOFS affiliated film societies.

## 7. Catering and Refreshments at Film Societies

*David Harcombe [Secretary: ACOFS and TFOFS]*

As most film society committee members will know, membership fees are film societies' main revenue source, and providing well-made, interesting films in a pleasant venue, at a reasonably-priced membership fee, will keep most members re-joining annually - sometimes continuously for even 10 years, or more.

But what other ways are there of increasing our members' enjoyment of their film nights? Offering some form of catering and/or refreshments, though probably not generating much cash, can certainly help increase our members' enjoyment of their screenings.



From studying recent correspondence on this subject with several Tasmanian film societies, and/or their websites and annual reports, it's clear that some form of film night catering and/or refreshments are popular with our Tasmanian members. Indeed, some will say it's essential - and that the process of enjoying a film night out actually requires refreshments as well.

Currently there are 18 full TFOFS (Tasmanian Federation Of Film Societies) members, plus one about to start up in February. I have sufficient survey information on 14 of these - and out of these, 10 of them offer some form of refreshments.

Supper or cake is provided at five of them - some are free, some require a donation identified specifically as being for the supper, and some are purchasable from outside caterers. Drinks including coffee, wines, and fruit juice are available at three Tasmanian film society screenings (and beer at one place) with some offering cheese and biscuits, and others supplying chocolates etc. The remaining two are cinema venues - one with its own licensed café, and the other with a pop-corn and soft drinks counter.

How are these refreshments and food paid for? They are either given to members for free, but paid for from general revenue (ie from membership fees), or by a request for donations which specifically states that these are to pay for the food and drinks etc. The venue owner may need to know you are doing this, especially if liquor (even if only a small amount) is served.

Councils may charge hirers for the right to serve liquor, so they need to understand that your refreshments and food are simply part of the club atmosphere, not a commercial operation - and that you are not charging for them. Although if you use outside caterers, who are licensed by the council, they may already pay for this. Council rules vary from council to council, and also State to State.

Do your insurers also need to know? Some people say 'Yes', others say 'No'. When I discussed this matter in about 2015 with DanceSurance, specialist insurers in Victoria, they said our Christmas party was a very small risk, and made no extra charge. But they were interested to know. So personally, I favour telling them.

There are probably a great variety of types of refreshment and catering that local film societies are providing. Why not tell us about yours in an upcoming edition of our ACOFS Bulletin?

[Notes from the editor:-

The Victorian Federation goes further, saying that we should not forget that a Film Society is a social club, where friends meet regularly to enjoy each other's company as well as viewing and discussing quality films. A Film Society is a focal point for the community, particularly in the country, and offering refreshments such as drinks, before, or supper after the screening is very important. A Film Society needs to distinguish itself from a normal cinema by offering something extra.

Most of what has been stated in this article re-iterates what has been said before in places such as the ACOFS Film Society Handbook, which is available for download from <https://acofs.org.au/resources/> . How many of you have read this 117 page manual?

The FVFS has its own version of this handbook in a series of 28 Information Sheets, available for anyone to download from <https://fvfs.org.au/ideas/> ]

## 8. Drop me a Line

Thank you to all the readers who have emailed me. If you want to have your say, please send all comments, suggestions and articles to [ian24davidson@gmail.com](mailto:ian24davidson@gmail.com)

This newsletter is intended to reflect information and news from all societies, so please let us know about anything of interest at your society.

Many thanks for all contributions. Ian Davidson, editor.

## 9. Letters

None this quarter. Perhaps because societies have been hibernating!

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If you want to have the ACOFS Bulletin emailed to you directly, please email me at [editor@acofs.org.au](mailto:editor@acofs.org.au) Our website is [www.acofs.org.au](http://www.acofs.org.au)

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#### 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.*