

# ACOFS Bulletin

## Australian Council of Film Societies

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NUMBER 70

May 2022

*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)

Members of many societies have asked “What will replace DVDs, and is our existing equipment going to be obsolete soon?”

Has anyone got a crystal ball?

For some time now BluRay discs have been offered as superior technology to DVDs, but in my opinion, the advantage has not been great – especially when a DVD can be played on equipment that “upscales” the resolution to near BluRay quality. It is not 100%, but pretty good for most applications.

Some popular movies are now available on 4K discs (Ultra high definition – UHD) and this is probably the next obvious upgrade path for most film societies – as long as the cost is not prohibitive and the sought-after movies are available in 4K.

Streaming services are growing rapidly, but I don’t believe this will impact film societies in the long run. Most of the available streamed content seems to be especially made for streaming – mostly drama seasons rather than normal length movies. And film societies offer so much more social interaction than is possible with home-streamed movies.

So my prediction, for what it is worth, is that DVDs will continue to be available for some time to come, but if a film society wishes to upgrade their sound and vision quality they could benefit from investing in a 4K player and projector, with a 5 or 7 channel Dolby sound system. But no need to rush. 4K is relatively new, and there is not a lot of



equipment to choose from. 4K discs (Which will probably be marketed as 4K BluRay discs) are available, but not common. At this stage it is not clear to me whether Regional coding will apply to 4K discs and players – a factor which could impact any benefits of early adoption.

Ian Davidson. Editor, ACOFS Bulletin.

## 2. Member film societies

Most film societies are fully operational again after COVID restrictions have been lifted, and some are even back to their full pre-COVID strength. As film societies tended not to promote themselves over the last two years, they have suffered from two years of normal attrition, (about 20% per year) without any new members, so it is no surprise that most are reporting a 30-40% reduction in members compared with pre-COVID numbers.

State Federations have reported that only a few societies have not recovered from COVID and will not be renewing their activities. But that has been countered by some new societies that are ready to start up in 2022.

Don't hesitate to contact ACOFS or your State Federation if you have questions or want to discuss starting or registering your Film Society! [secretary@acofs.org.au](mailto:secretary@acofs.org.au) or go to the website [www.acofs.org.au](http://www.acofs.org.au). (There you can find the websites for all State Federations).

## 3. Reports From State Federations

### FVFS – Victoria

The FVFS AGM was held on 26<sup>th</sup> March, and was our first face-to-face meeting of any sort in two years. It was attended by 20 people, of whom 17 were delegates from 12 member groups (from our current 82 groups).

Not surprisingly, much time was spent discussing the impact of COVID, and how societies are recovering after the restrictions were eased. Most reported a loss of members over the two years of restrictions, when few screenings were held and no new members were sought. Almost all waived membership fees over these two years.

Highlights of the day were the screening of the films made by the two Deakin University students who won the FVFS "Film Society Award" of \$1,500 each, and the screening of the feature film "King of Peking" followed by a Q&A session with the director, Sam Voutas, and producer, Melanie Anslie. This film is in the FVFS "Indie Library".

## 4. 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.*

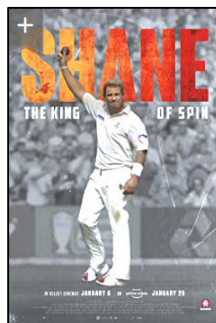
*ACOFS Fact Sheet 3B, which is updated regularly, can be downloaded from [www.acofs.org.au/resources](http://www.acofs.org.au/resources)*

*The contact details are included here only where they have changed recently.*

*The latest update of Fact Sheet 3B was on 18 Feb 2022, so if you don't have the latest, download it from [www.acofs.org.au/resources](http://www.acofs.org.au/resources).*

### Amalgamated Movies

Shane – The King of Spin  
Venom – Let there be Carnage  
The Worst Person in the World  
Limbo  
Gandhi  
The Mitchells vs the Machines  
Flag Day  
Silent Night



Pig  
Show Me The Father  
Nine Days  
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. For example:

Recipes For Revolution

### Limelight

(Rights Booked through Amalgamated)

Escape From Mogadishu

Diana's Wedding

A Mermaid in Paris

Artbeats: Tutankhamun: The Last Exhibition

The Jonsson Gang

Bright Star

The Gardener

Everything Went Fine

Come Back Anytime

The Good Boss

Artbeats / Munch: Love Phantoms and Lady Vampires

Brimstone and Glory

Lost in Paris

Number One



### Madman

(DVD rights booked through Amalgamated Movies)

Elizabeth – A Portrait in Parts

River

45 Years

Petite Maman

Memoria

Regenerating Australia

Limbo



### Pivot Pictures

Golden Voices

A Family

The Killing of Two Lovers

Love You Like That

Lion Spy

Preparations to be Together for an Unknown Period of Time

Miss Marx

### 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, but approach Ronin for

the DVD or digital file and screening rights at a film society. Craig McConnell on [orders@roninfilms.com.au](mailto:orders@roninfilms.com.au)

Eg: Skin of Others, The, 91 min.

Bedevil, 1993, 90 min.

Bliss, 1985, 111 min. (Remastered), MA

The Night the Prowler, 1978, 85 min.

All are available in high res screening files or DVD.

### **Umbrella Entertainment**

For a full list of all Umbrella Entertainment Public Performance Rights List, contact [sales@umbrellaent.com.au](mailto:sales@umbrellaent.com.au). Kristy is no longer at Umbrella, so your new contact there is [nikita@umbrellaent.com.au](mailto:nikita@umbrellaent.com.au). Or contact [theatrical@umbrellaent.com.au](mailto:theatrical@umbrellaent.com.au)

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

Umbrella have a new on-line booking form for ordering your screening rights. Check it out on their website.

Miami Connection (1987)

The Ladies Man (1961) BR

Tickle Me (1965) BR

Nobody Has to Know (2021)

Corrective Measures (2022) BR

The Invisible Man Returns + The Invisible Woman + The Invisible Agent (1940, 40 & 42)

Circus of Fear + Bloody Judge (1966 & 1970)

Abominable Dr Phibes + Dr Phibes Rises Again, (1971 & 1972)

The Devil's Candy (2015) BR

Thirst (1979) BR

The Survivor (1980) BR

Game of Death (1978)

Love Serenade (1996) BR

Bergman Island (2021)

Frances Ha (2012)

Money Pit & The Burbs (1986 & 1989) BR

Rumble Fish & Gardens of Stone (1983 & 1987)

The Way & The Unlikely Pilgrims (2010) BR

Child's Play (1988) BR

Two Hands (1999) BR

The Lighthorsemen (1987) BR

Long Weekend (1978) BR

Harlequin (1980) BR

The Way of the Dragon (1972) BR

Amour (2012) BR

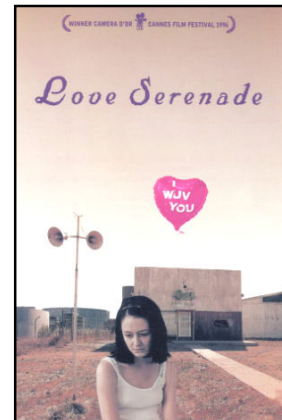
Blue is the Warmest Colour (2013) BR

Mr Nobody (2009) BR

Carbon: The Unauthorised Biography

In the Realm of the Senses (1976) BR

Jean de Florette & Manon de Sources (1986) BR



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.

(Contact Umbrella for a full list of non-theatrical titles or 4K restorations.)

Umbrella also invite you to inspect their new on-line store. [www.Umbrellaent.com.au](http://www.Umbrellaent.com.au)

### **Vendetta**

New contact: [henry@vendettafilms.co.nz](mailto:henry@vendettafilms.co.nz)

## 5. NAIDOC WEEK

Umbrella Entertainment invite us to celebrate NAIDOC Week (Celebrated annually in the first week of July) by screening some of their First Nations focused films. They include:

- Black and White, 2002, Drama, 101 min.
- Emu Runner, 2018, Drama/Family, 95 min.
- Jedda, 1955, Drama, 90 min.
- Manganinnie, 1980, Drama, 86 min.
- Namatjira Project, 2017, Doco. 86 min.
- Servant or Slave, 2016, Doco, 58 min.
- The Chant of Jimmy Blacksmith, 1978, Drama, 117 min.
- The Fringe Dwellers, 1986, Drama, 98 min.
- The Furnace, 2020, Drama, 116 min.
- Tudwali, 18987, Drama, 97 min.
- Undermined – Tales from the Kimberley, 2018, Drama, 92 min.
- Dark Age, 1987, Adventure/Horror, 91 mins.
- Mad Dog Morgan, 1976, Action/Crime, 102 min.
- Storm Boy, 1976, Drama/Family, 88 min.
- The Last Wave, 1977, Drama/Thriller, 106 min.
- The Tracker, 2002, Drama/History, 90 min.
- Walkabout, 1971, Adventure/Drama, 100 min.
- Walkabout to Hollywood, 1980, Doco/History, 49 min.



*For more information contact Umbrella Entertainment.*

## 6. NFSA New Additions

*The following are listed on the National Film & Sound Archive website as having been added in the last 90 days.*

- Berlin Um Die Ecke, 1957. BR
- Die Stadt von morgen – Experimentierfeld Asien. 2015. BR

## 7. 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.

## 8. Random Thoughts

- *If you suspect your remote control unit is not working you can check it by observing the LED in the remote through a mobile phone camera. The normally invisible ultra-violet light from the controller can be seen in the phone screen.*

## 9. Need help setting up a Web page?

Need someone to help set up and host your web page? Prodos Marinakis is willing to talk to you about this possibility – (depending on your needs). He has already done so for many film societies. Email him for information at [prodos@prodos.com](mailto:prodos@prodos.com)

## 10. Letters

Nothing in the last three months.

## 11. Future Deadlines

We aim to distribute The ACOFS Bulletin at the start of February, May, August and November and would be happy to receive articles for publication at any stage – but note our deadlines are the end of the month preceding publication.

Items we hope to receive include new acquisitions and special DVD announcements from distributors, and items of interest to our film society readers, especially from members of other film societies. Amusing anecdotes are always welcome.

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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.*