

# ACOFS Bulletin

## Australian Council of Film Societies

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NUMBER 63

**August 2020**

*This Bulletin has been compiled and edited by Ian Davidson, (ACOFS committee) [editor@acofs.org.au](mailto:editor@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 Editor – Ian Davidson

Little has changed since the last Bulletin. COVID -19 is still with us, and most societies have decided not to restart screenings until next year. As a result there has been little correspondence to or from societies, as all committees seems to be taking a break. Most DVD distributors have been quiet also – many operating from home or on skeleton staff, so the number of new releases has been minimal. The reports from the distributors (below) reflects this. But as we move into August, many society committees have their thinking caps on and are already thinking about next year's programs. Will you simply re-program all the films cancelled in 2020, or are there better alternatives around now? We wait with interest to see what you decide.



### 2. From the President - Mark Horner

In the last ACOFS Bulletin I advised that the ACOFS AGM for 2020 was held with delegates from all Federations participating. I am now pleased to advise that post AGM discussions and decisions made by the committee have resulted in all Federations now being represented on the ACOFS committee and I am very happy to welcome Neil Graham (WAFFS) to the ACOFS committee. My sincere thanks to the committee for this achievement.

We have all missed our regular visits to the cinema during recent months and our regular film society screenings too. While we still need to follow Federal and State directives to deal with Covid-19 and



hopefully find a way with when and how to resume the screening of film, some film societies have already commenced screening again and others are planning to do so soon. For some film societies, however, the way is not clear yet.

As always, stay connected with your film society and your Federation.

Brighter days will surely follow soon.

Mark Horner, ACOFS President.

***[If you are interested in ACOFS developing any new ideas to help film societies, please email Mark with your suggestions and comments at [president@acofs.org.au](mailto:president@acofs.org.au)].***

### 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**

*(Amalgamated also handles Lime Light Distribution titles)*

*See their new website:- [www.amalgamatedmovies.com](http://www.amalgamatedmovies.com)*

Judy and Punch  
Mapplethorpe  
Disturbing the Peace  
Portrait of A Lady  
Brothers in Arms  
Horrible Histories: The Movie  
Working Woman  
Finke: There And Back  
Biggest Little Farm, The  
Guilty  
Truth, The  
Guns Akimbo  
Non Fiction



Leunig Fragments, The  
Day Shall Come, The  
Dog Called Money, A  
Eulogy, The  
Beautiful Day In The Neighbourhood, A  
Bad Boys for Life  
Little Women (2019)  
Charlies Angels  
Black And Blue  
Bloodshot  
Grudge, The: The Untold Chapter  
Fantasy Island

#### **Antidote Films**

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

Reluctant Saviour

Boys Who Said No!, The



#### **Film Art Media**

Show Must Go On, The

Brazen Hussies

#### **Filminkpresents**

*Dov Komits 0411 559 519 [dov@filminkpresents.com](mailto:dov@filminkpresents.com)*

*Their website is still under construction – but watch this space.*

## Madman

Rights available through Amalgamated

Trip to Italy, The

Trip, The

Trip to Spain, The



## Park Circus

Chris Smith (In Australia), [Chris.smith@parkcircus.com](mailto:Chris.smith@parkcircus.com)

When all else fails and you cannot find a DVD distributor in Australia, try Park Circus in Glasgow. Here is an example of the titles for which they hold the rights:

Abdulla the Great

Adventurers, The

African Queen, The

After the Ball

Appointment in London

Beat the Devil

Bespoke Overcoat, The

Carrington VC

Chance of a Lifetime

Cosh Boy

Dry Rot

Galloping Major, The

Gift Horse, The

Good Die Young, The

Guinea Pig, The

I Am a Camera

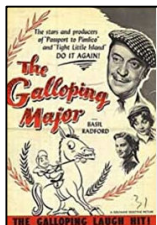
I'll Get You for This

Innocents in Paris

Interrupted Journey, The

Iron Petticoat, The

Kid for Two Farthings, A



Late Edwina Black, The

Mix Me a Person

Moulin Rouge

Revelation

Richard III

Room at the Top

Sailor Beware!

Shadow of the Eagle

Silent Enemy, The

Spaniard's Curse, The

Storm Over the Nile

They Can't Hang Me

Three Men in a Boat

Time Is My Enemy

Time Lock

To Dorothy a Son

Treasure Hunt

Vicious Circle, The

Women of Twilight

Wrong Arm of the Law

## Roadshow

New monthly DVD availabilities can be found in the Collections page of our website which is available at: <https://ppl.roadshow.com.au/collections>

Some highlights are:

Apparition

Badlands (2019)

Current War, The

Deep Blue Sea 3

Endeavour

Hunt, The (2020)

Jay & Silent Bob Reboot

Keanu

Mob Town

Moseley (2019)

Poldark

Postcard Killings, The

Rams (2015, Australia)

Resistance (2020)

Tell it to the Bees

Wentworth

## 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.

Homeland Story

Animating Aeroplane Jelly

Sohrab and Rustum

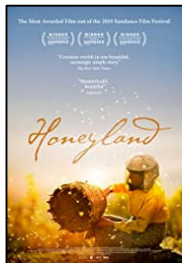
Bread and Dripping

Great Strike, 1917, The

## **Umbrella Entertainment**

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

After Midnight Aka Something Else  
Art of Self-Defence, The  
Aznavour By Charles  
Backlash  
Blood Vessel (2018)  
Buoyancy  
Clue  
Color Out Of Space  
Come to Daddy  
Creepshow  
Crosstalk  
Dogs Don't Wear Pants  
Emu Runner  
Farewell to the Night  
Fast Talking  
For Sama  
Harpoon  
Honeyland  
Hostage



I Trapped the Devil  
Last Wave, The  
Longest Yard, The  
Man from the Alamo, The  
Man From the Diner's Club, The  
Man Called Sledge, A  
Martha  
Me and the Colonel  
Once Were Brothers  
Promised (2018)  
Relaxer  
Standing Up, Falling Down  
They're a Weird Mob  
Tin Drum, The  
Uncommon Valor  
VFW  
Vhyes  
Vivarium  
Wild Goose Lake, The

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**

The following new titles are available from October:

Repeat Attenders (e-Cinema)  
Roxane (e-Cinema)  
Vai (DVD and e-Cinema)  
Master Cheng (e-Cinema)  
Amber Light (e-Cinema)

### **Catalogue**

Ailo's Journey  
Girl  
Girls of the Sun  
Happy Prince, The  
Ideal Palace, The  
Inna De Yard  
In the Zone  
No Dress Code Required



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 Um Die Ecke (1957) BR

Die Stadt von Morgen – Experimental Aslen (2015) BR

Contact [nontheatric@nfsa.com.au](mailto:nontheatric@nfsa.com.au) for details.

Your contact there is Phil Hore.

*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. Customer and Membership Care in Voluntary Film Societies**

As you well know, for local film societies - whether large or small - members are everything! Once a film club has been operating for several months, its existing members will now be its most important asset. As long as they are in sufficient numbers, they are usually the principal source of the society's revenue - & its ability to continue paying its bills.

Indeed, it's often said that the world of business is a "Country Ruled by Two Kings". And who are they? Customers & Cash! And that applies to local film societies too. Like all organisations, you have to pay your bills!

So once you have members, you want to keep them, don't you? Bearing in mind how hard it is to find new members, retaining existing ones is essential.

Your film society knows its current members. But you don't know who your future members will be, until they've joined your club. That's why keeping existing members happy and loyal is essential for your film society's financial survival.

So how do you keep your members loyal and long-lasting? Quite simple – it's by providing them with films they enjoy, in a venue they like, at a price they consider fair, and by giving them good customer service. How? By being served each time by committee people and helpers who they like, and who show they like them by always being welcoming to them.

In customer service terms, how should this be done? For example, by:

Getting to know your members personally, treating them as your local film club family, and encouraging them to feel you value them.

If possible treating members, and all volunteers and helpers, as personal friends, especially while your society is a small one. After all, you have similar interests (films and your film club), don't you?

Welcoming them back after lockdown, perhaps with one or more special celebratory 'return to normality' films.

Having a regular pre-film newsletter that is both informative about your next film(s), and whose wording should leave the readers very eager to know what's going to happen in the upcoming film - and the only way they'll find out is by actually coming to see it!

Keeping them informed whenever your film club takes a new direction, however small - via regular pre-film circulars about the society and its current film program. And

Only showing those films that you believe your members (and potential new members also) will really enjoy seeing. Naturally your film selection group should resist the temptation of choosing those films that they personally want to see (or even believe, e.g. perhaps for personal or ideological reasons, that your members ought to see), however tempting this may sometimes be.

Happy customers - i.e. your members - will spread the word to friends, family, and acquaintances, and often with genuine enthusiasm. This makes good customer service a very cost and energy-effective way of promoting your film society.

At its core, quality customer service in film societies is about making sure your members feel they are valued, treated fairly, and appreciated by your organization. Frankly if you offer exceptional service, why would your customers and members ever bother to go elsewhere?

David Harcombe  
[ACOFs and TFOFS: 26 July 2020]

## 6. Drop me a Line

Thank you to all the readers who have emailed me, following the last edition of "The Bulletin", showing their appreciation for the discussion and ideas re COVID-19 shut-down and eventual resumption. 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.

Do you make use of the list of recent acquisitions supplied by distributors in every issue? Are they useful? Drop me a brief email to let me know if we should continue with this feature.

Many thanks for all contributions. Ian Davidson, editor.

## 7. Running an AGM under COVID-19 restraints?

Judging from comments from several film societies it would appear most are still not back to conducting screenings, and may not be able to do so until later this year or even next year.

What does this mean if you are due to hold an AGM in this period? The normal requirement for incorporated organisations is that they hold the AGM within five months of the end of their financial year, and submit an annual report, including financials, to the ACNC as soon as possible thereafter.

However, any society not screening during this time will find it difficult to hold an AGM. I have therefore, on behalf of all incorporated film societies, approached the CAV (Consumer Affairs Victoria) for their advice. They have recognised the difficulty caused by COVID-19, and where a society cannot hold their AGM within the normal period, either face-to-face or by electronic means, they can request an extension of time. This option is always open to organisations, but because of COVID-19, the CAV will waive the normal charge for deferring it for up to three months. (Check your own state Consumer Affairs for their advice, if not in Victoria)

Verbal advice from CAV is that if the organisation wishes to waive the AGM altogether for the full year of suspended screenings, they should approach the CAV for permission to do so, and would be evaluated case-by-case.

The following advice is available on the CAV website.

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### [Incorporated associations \(clubs\)](#)

If your club or association is scheduled to hold a meeting, you must follow the restrictions on gatherings in place.

#### [Holding a meeting](#)

Under the Deputy Chief Health Officer's directions, up to 10 people can hold a public gathering such as a meeting in a public place. Up to five people can hold a private gathering, such as a meeting held at an association member's home. This limit does not include any people who ordinarily reside at the premises.



Where a meeting is held in a facility such as a community or a physical recreation facility, a range of other restrictions and requirements will also apply.

People at gatherings should keep 1.5 metres between themselves and others and practise good hygiene, with regular hand washing and hand sanitising. If you feel unwell, even if you have tested negative for coronavirus (COVID-19), you should stay at home. For more information, see [Social gatherings - Department of Health and Human Services](#).

If you're unable to satisfy these requirements and need to hold a meeting, you can:-

- use a teleconference, videoconference or other means of electronic communication. The *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012* (the Act) permits members to take part in general meetings by using technology that allows members to clearly and simultaneously communicate with each other, regardless of the incorporated association's rules about this. The Act also permits meetings of the committee of an incorporated association to be conducted by use of technology that allows members to clearly and simultaneously communicate with each other.
- use proxy voting. You must use a standard form to proxy vote if the rules of the incorporated association require you to do so. Members must be given a copy of the form with the notice of the AGM/Special General Meeting. A person acting as a proxy must act honestly and in good faith and exercise due care and diligence
- apply for an extension of time to hold the AGM. The Registrar is currently granting three-month extensions and waiving the usual fee. To seek an extension, complete our [Extension of time to hold an AGM or lodge financial statements form \(Word, 97 KB\)](#) and send it to [cav.registration@justice.vic.gov.au](mailto:cav.registration@justice.vic.gov.au).

## 8. Letters

From Old Scotch FS.

"Hi Ian,

Appreciated the film suggestions in the May edition of the ACOFS Bulletin.

We have introduced selecting films from SBS On Demand and inviting our members to email their impressions of each film and with their Star Box Rating each fortnight.

Pleased to say we are receiving a growing number of members participating.

Presenting the films in this way has the advantage of reading members' comments about each film and any additional anecdotes such as having been to that town or country or historical incidents.

Kind regards,

President Ian Macfarlane.

Old Scotch Film Society."

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### ACOFS - Australian Council of Film Societies

Incorporated in Victoria: A0057904W ABN: 69 667 887 179

**Secretary**, Email: [secretary@acofs.org.au](mailto:secretary@acofs.org.au)

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.