

WELCOME TO LINCOLN FILM SOCIETY'S AUTUMN NEWSLETTER.....

The Committee would like to welcome all members to its Autumn newsletter, where we try to keep you informed about what goes on behind the scenes.



We're coming to the end of our 60th anniversary year, so we thought it would interest members to see what's been achieved.

We had a number of aims:

- to thank our membership and audiences for supporting us;
- to forge links with other organisations;
- to raise the Society's profile and attract new audiences;
- to celebrate film;
- to widen access to film and show how much we could contribute to the city's cultural life.

The statistics tell us that since January, we have:

- organised around 70 film and film related events (including the Festival in June and all Society films since January);
- helped bring John Hurt and Jim Broadbent to the city;
- arranged social events;
- taken films into village communities;
- welcomed over 5,500 people through the doors;
- had our efforts recognised nationally by the British Federation of Film Societies.



We think the year has been a great success and the aims we set ourselves have been very largely achieved. We've noticed that more people seem aware of our existence; 20% of this season's membership is new, while 'walk-ins' – people coming as guests – is on a par with our second best year ever. We are still receiving enquiries about how to get involved with the Society and increasing numbers of people from other countries, who now live and work in the city, are at our screenings.

It looks and feels as though we are reaching new audiences, as we hoped. This must in large part be due to our policy of showing films from different parts of the world which have had no exposure locally, as we can offer people genuine choice and an opportunity to see something different.

We also wanted to celebrate the diversity that film, old and new, has to offer during the June Festival. It was a privilege to bring some of the great films of the past – Hitchcock classics, Lawrence of Arabia in a new print, a screening of Grease in the Cornhill (Lincoln's first outdoor screening) to the city. Several people – none with links to the Society by the way – said those events alone made the Festival worthwhile. It was also good to bring Una Noche and Black Bread for our Festival audiences to enjoy, as neither film has been released in the UK.

Links with other organisations apart from Bishop Grosseteste University were established. The Drill Hall, the LPAC, Lincoln College, Lincoln Co-Operative Society and Lincoln BIG all worked with us, as did some of the village communities near the city, and using their facilities, expertise, publicity and social media networks helped us widen access to film.

We now feel that the effort and momentum of the past year must not go to waste and are looking to enhance our activities further. There are 2 major events in the next 18 months - the centenary of the outbreak of the First World War and the 800th anniversary of Magna Carta - where the Committee feels collaboration with our partners can make a significant contribution to film in Lincoln and strengthen those links. We've begun discussing ideas with them. We also hope to stage a short summer season of films once the main programme comes to an end in May, so that we can truly live up to our claim to be "Doing more for film in Lincoln."



CLAPPERBOARD.....

Membership Update: it will be possible for existing members to renew their membership for the 2014 - 15 season during May 2014. The membership fee is yet to be decided.

Season 2014 - 15
The Screening
Committee meets in January to begin considering films for the 2014 - 15 season. We welcome suggestions of titles from members who would like certain films to be included. We give priority to films that have not been seen in Lincoln and have had only limited release.

Sunday screenings
While Fridays is and will remain the traditional Film Society screening day, we have been experimenting this season with a limited number of films on Sundays. These appear to be popular and the Committee is discussing whether to continue with this policy next season. We would welcome members' views on this matter.

Social events
Members will be well aware that, following decisions made by the University, the bar has become less welcoming as a main focal point for members to get together before and after films. The Committee regrets this and feels strongly that the social element of our activities must be retained.

This year, we have arranged different types of social events. Visits to The Broadway (Nottingham) and Bradford have been well supported and the first Quiz Night was successful. We think such events should continue in 2014, but would welcome ideas from members for other social activities.

Social media
The Committee uses a number of ways to keep

OTHER NEWS

Charity status: at our last AGM, the membership approved a Committee

recommendation that the Society should seek Charitable status. We see this decision as necessary to help improve the Society's ability to develop and have decided to apply to become a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). This will enable us to bid for public funds from the British Film Institute, for example, to help support future events. We hope it will also help us make more efficient use of membership fees through Gift Aid, which in turn will help us keep membership fees as affordable as possible.

We are now in the process of writing the application, which will be submitted in the New Year. We aim to have acquired Charitable status by the time of the next AGM in May 2014.

Agreement with BG: the Officers recently had a meeting with the management of The Venue to discuss the user agreement between Bishop Grosseteste, as owners of the theatre, and the Society.

We feel that the agreement has worked well in most operational respects and there are many positive outcomes for members for 2014. The most significant one to report is that there will be no increase in our rental costs for The Venue for next season. This means that membership fees will not have to increase to take account of increased hire charges. On the other hand, we have made no progress in improving the bar and have been told that the University is planning to redevelop that area during the coming 12 months. Clearly this is a concern, but our scope to improve things in this area looks to be very limited.

New films for 2013-14: Most members will know that 3 dates were left blank in the programme when it was released at the start of the season. The reason for this was to take advantage of the autumn releases and bring some of those films to the Society without the long wait that usually occurs. We have now selected the following films to fill those dates:

April 11th: Child's Pose (Romania, 2012. Cert 15) After her son is involved in a road accident, an affluent Romanian woman sets out on a campaign of emotional and social manipulation to keep him out of prison by navigating the waters of power, corruption and influence. The film continues to explore the post-Ceausescu period in Romanian society, as well as posing questions about the relationships parents have with their children as they grow into adulthood.

April 25th: The Patience Stone (Afghanistan/Germany/France, 2012. Cert 15) In a country torn apart by a war, a young woman (Golshifteh Farahani - *About Elly*) watches over her older husband who has been seriously injured. As she nurses him, she decides to tell him the truth about their relationship and her feelings towards him. Like *Wadjda* (the recent Saudi Arabian film), this brave and important work examines what life is like for women in a patriarchal society and has a superb central performance.

May 23rd: The Broken Circle Breakdown (Belgium 2012. Cert 15) Elise and Didier fall in love at first sight, in spite of their differences. He talks, she listens. He's a romantic atheist, she's a religious realist. When their daughter becomes seriously ill, their love is put on trial. An emotional roller-coaster of a story, this film has won critical acclaim and is enlivened by an evocative and distinctive soundtrack.

members in touch with the Society's activities. Email seems to work well but we also use Facebook (www.facebook.com/LincolnFilmSociety) and Twitter (@LincolnFilm).

A small number of members and guests use these forms of social media, providing excellent feedback on the quality of films and enabling us to share information and publicise the Society. We'd like more people to get involved in this way...so can you make a New Year's Resolution to start tweeting?

Committee

☑ The Committee has been re-organised since the start of the season. Below, we've listed who's who and their roles

Officers

Richard Hall (Chairman)
Jonathan Killin (Secretary)
John Rossington (Treasurer)

Programming

Maurice Bingham, Richard Hall, Carri Metcalfe, John Rossington, Peter Spaczynski, Philip Stonehouse, Val Sargent

Membership/Finance

Les Dicker, Richard Hall, Jonathan Killin, John Rossington, Rob Sargent

Publicity

Les Dicker, Carri Metcalfe, Adela Nicoara, Val Sargent, Peter Spaczynski,

THE SEASON SO FAR...FILMS, ATTENDANCES, AUDIENCE REACTIONS

In The House



Audience
193
Reaction
76%

A Royal Affair



Audience
163
Reaction
85%

Nostalgia for the Light



Audience
77
Reaction
80%

Amour



Audience
142
Reaction
82%

Chinatown



Audience
154
Reaction
84%

Le Petit Nicolas



Audience
118
Reaction
82%

Tabu



Audience
153
Reaction
52%

Compliance



Audience
139
Reaction
52%

The Snows of Kilimanjaro



Audience
162
Reaction
78%

The Hunt



Audience
137
Reaction
83%

The Angels' Share



Audience
121
Reaction
78%

Good Vibrations



Audience
78
Reaction
79%