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

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



Late May marked the end of the Society's 61st season. The Committee is now taking stock of things, to assess what has happened over the last 9 months and look to the future. We're considering things under 3 headings.

1 The season's outcomes.

Membership for 2013-14 was good with 350 joining the Society for the season, slightly down on 2012-13 (an exceptional year driven, we think, by the fact that it was our first fully digital season.) Total attendances were also slightly down compared with recent seasons: almost 3,500 people saw the 26 films with an average attendance per film of 134. These attendance figures are slightly disappointing and the Committee is considering what this might imply and how we might respond.

Guest attendances remained on a par with 2012-13, which is encouraging and we hope that a significant number of those people will take up full membership for the coming season.

2 Charitable Status

We reported at the 2013 AGM that we were looking to apply for charitable status. As many of you will no doubt know, that application was approved in time for this year's AGM. The Committee is now considering what this will mean for the Society and its future development.

We are certain that we need to continue to enable people to discover us and give them reasons to join. An obvious way to do this is by emphasising the value for money membership offers, and we remain committed to the principle that the membership fee should continue to fund our core activities without significant future increases.

However, we also want to develop our programming. One way may be to enhance a screening with background information (such as the visit of director Tony Britten to the city last year, to talk about his films *'In Love with Alma Cogan'* and *'Benjamin Britten: Peace and Conflict.'*) We have planned one such event as part of next season's programme (see **Clapperboard** for details.)

But we do need to keep an eye on the costs attached to our ideas for the Society's further development. We are currently looking at the possibility of using Gift Aid. If this option is open to us, it clearly has the potential to benefit the Society's finances: and if it is possible to boost our revenues through the scheme, it will improve our chances of developing what we offer without significantly adding to membership costs or raiding the reserves.

We have appointed a Board of Trustees to oversee the activities of the Committee. Pleasingly, 4 members of the Society have offered to sit on this board.

3 BFI Film Audience Network (FAN) initiative

Following the demise of the UK Film Council 4 years ago, the central responsibility for developing film in this country passed to the British Film Institute. Besides providing production funding, the BFI also has some money to develop film culture. The FAN is one result.

There are 9 hubs across the UK. Lincoln is covered by the Midlands/East hub, based at The Broadway in Nottingham. Each hub has an annual budget to 2016 which they can use to encourage organisations like the Society to meet the BFI's core objectives of *'engaging and developing audience appreciation of film'* through greater **Reach** (increase and broaden audiences for specialised and British independent film), **Breadth** (extend film choice for audiences across the UK) and **Depth** (enhance opportunities for audiences to engage with and learn about film.)

The Society is looking to take advantage of this initiative in each of the next 2 seasons. We are already working on a proposal for next season which meets the criteria and we are now waiting for a chance to discuss it in more detail.

In addition, we have been invited to be part of the Magna Carta celebrations in 2015 (thanks to Ken Hollamby, one of our members, who is on the organising committee of a major conference taking place in the city) and will be considering the best way to do this. At the moment, we are looking at a Festival of films (in June of next year) that explore Magna Carta and its legacy as a document that recognises the rights of the citizen. The Committee plans to meet in September to consider this idea further.

CLAPPERBOARD.....

Membership Update:

The membership window for the 2014-15 season will re-open between September 1st & 25th **for new members only**. Any member from last season who failed to renew their membership by May 31st will unfortunately not be able to rejoin then.

Season 2014 - 15

The new season begins on September 26th with 'Lilting'. This film stars Ben Whishaw and is not due for theatrical release until August 8th. We are extremely grateful to Curzon for allowing us to show the film only 7 weeks after it goes into cinemas, rather than wait the 16 weeks that is normally the case. The full programme for next season is now available, on line and in print

Sunday screenings

Sunday screenings seem to have proved popular so we have planned 2 for the new season. The first of these - on October 12th - is rather special. It's 'The Epic of Everest', a 1924 film of the expedition to the mountain in which George Mallory and Sandy Irvine disappeared while making an attempt on the summit. The film will be introduced by Robin Ashcroft, Director of the Kendal Mountain Festival, an experienced climber and an authority on Mallory and Irvine.

Social events

Watch out for a number of social events being organised by the Committee. The first of these is a Cheese and Wine evening at Washington Community Centre on September 20th. We apologise for the printing error which suggests that the event is NEXT year.

Lincoln Castle - outdoor films

Following our success with 'Grease' in the Cornhill



It's too soon to think about what might happen in 2016, and much will depend upon the proposal we have already submitted and what we learn from our involvement. However, the success of last summer's Festival, the fact that we ran a short summer season last month (notwithstanding the outcomes - see below), and our ideas for June next year, mean that perhaps a summer programme supported by the Film Audience Network might be a feature for 2016 and who knows? - maybe even a regular element of the Society's calendar and the city's film offering.

Summer Event - New British Cinema

This short season of 3 films did not attract as much interest as we had hoped, though both 'Lad: A Yorkshire Story' and 'Archipelago' were very much enjoyed by those that attended.

Unfortunately the screening of 'The Comedian' had to be abandoned for technical reasons. Those who came to see it were understandably disappointed and have asked if another screening can be arranged. The Committee is considering the practicalities of these requests but any such screening will have take place in the autumn, subject to organisation.

last June (Lincoln's first outdoor film), Lincoln Castle have organised their own outdoor films, on September 27th (Mamma Mia - Cert PG) and 28th (Top Gun - Cert PG). Tickets are £10 (£8 concessions) and can be obtained from the organisers at www.thelunacinema.com. Both films start at 7.30pm - gates open from 6.30pm. The Society was consulted on this project and is pleased to be associated with it.

THE SEASON...FILMS, ATTENDANCES, AUDIENCE REACTIONS

<p><u>In The House</u> Audience 193 Reaction 76%</p> 	<p><u>Tabu</u> Audience 153 Reaction 52%</p> 	<p><u>Before Midnight</u> Audience 166 Reaction 64%</p> 	<p><u>A Hijacking</u> Audience 154 Reaction 80%</p> 	<p><u>The Patience Stone</u> Audience 114 Reaction 79%</p> 
<p><u>A Royal Affair</u> Audience 163 Reaction 85%</p> 	<p><u>Compliance</u> Audience 139 Reaction 52%</p> 	<p><u>A Simple Life</u> Audience 182 Reaction 80%</p> 	<p><u>Barbara</u> Audience 91 Reaction 76%</p> 	<p><u>McCullin</u> Audience 64 Reaction 93%</p> 
<p><u>Nostalgia for the Light</u> Audience 77 Reaction 80%</p> 	<p><u>The Snows of Kilimanjaro</u> Audience 162 Reaction 78%</p> 	<p><u>Out In The Dark</u> Audience 101 Reaction 76%</p> 	<p><u>Me and You</u> Audience 148 Reaction 66%</p> 	<p><u>Your Sister's Sister</u> Audience 164 Reaction 63%</p> 
<p><u>Amour</u> Audience 142 Reaction 82%</p> 	<p><u>The Hunt</u> Audience 137 Reaction 83%</p> 	<p><u>Even The Rain</u> Audience 131 Reaction 88%</p> 	<p><u>Child's Pose</u> Audience 137 Reaction 57%</p> 	<p><u>The Broken Circle Breakdown</u> Audience 129 Reaction 83%</p> 
<p><u>Chinatown</u> Audience 154 Reaction 84%</p> 	<p><u>The Angels' Share</u> Audience 121 Reaction 78%</p> 	<p><u>Renoir</u> Audience 195 Reaction 60%</p> 	<p>2013-14 in other numbers</p> <p>Total attendance 3,487 Average audience 134 Total guest tickets 353 Average guest attendance 14</p>	
<p><u>Le Petit Nicolas</u> Audience 118 Reaction 82%</p> 	<p><u>Good Vibrations</u> Audience 78 Reaction 79%</p> 	<p><u>La Grande Illusion</u> Audience 72 Reaction 86%</p> 		