



Oxen Park Cinema Club

Secretary's Annual Report 2015 – 2016 (read at the 2016 AGM)

I have great pleasure in presenting the secretary's report for 2016.

I thought I would start by telling you that we have records of all the films and names of people attending since 2003. Also I read last year's report and I am amazed how far we have moved on in the last 12 months. We are now well and truly established in our own Carthouse Community Cinema

Over the past season we showed 22 main films, quite a few more than the previous year. The films with most attendance were *Gone Girl*, *Marvellous* and *Addicted To Sheep*, these were close to our maximum of 40. At the other end of the scale our lowest turnout was 6. This was for *My Accomplice* which was one of our new series of *Films On The Fringe*; this new venture worked well offering a greater variety of films which were appreciated by those who attended. The timing wasn't quite right and it did take its toll on volunteer time so adjustments have been made for this season.

We are always interested in what makes a film more popular than others but it is a complex mix and I'm not certain that we have learnt any lessons.

Total admissions went up to 523 from 500 and 432 before that. The overall average for 23 films did go down from 35 to 23 but we have remained sustainable as you will hear from our treasurer's report. This is due to the guidance of our treasurer Gill giving us good advice, our film sponsors and everyone who has helped us with our two big fund raising events – the Coro coffee morning and a cycling Lanequest Event.

The Lanequest was a great community effort. It was held in Oxen Park bringing in many village volunteers to help out, a field for parking and The Manor providing food and sustenance. The profits were shared with our Reading Room which felt like a good way to work together and move forwards.

Our children's film shows had a complete makeover. By joining Into Film, a BFI sponsored organisation for promoting film for 5-19 year olds, our licence fee is waived. So instead of showing only 2 films a term at a loss we started a weekly film club showing a total of 13 films with an average of 35 children which is around half the total school numbers. This enabled us to introduce a greater variety of films, from old black and white to real life drama as well as many different forms of animation. We also showed 2 children's films at the Carthouse which was a chance to show off our facility to a younger audience.

As part of Into Film we won an award to receive a free 6 week film making course for the year 3 pupils. With support from the head this took place in school time and involved all of the 23 year 5 & 6 pupils. The resulting creative animation was shown at the start of this AGM.

We also ran our annual filmmaking workshop to encourage entries into the Rusland Show film making class. We chose an animation theme to pick up on skills learnt earlier in the year.

All this also took up extra volunteer time so reducing the number of films and the workload this season has been appreciated.

The committee shares out many different roles enabling our cinema to be managed totally by volunteers. We 11 of us on the committee share in a film showing rota, design film posters, deliver posters and programmes as well as the enjoyable challenges of choosing films. Each year we lose and gain committee members bringing in new skills and ideas which are always appreciated. Gill, our treasurer, is retiring this year and we will miss her astute wisdom and attention to detail enabling us to remain sustainable. Gill has seen us through the tricky period of establishing the Carthouse, making sure we had resources to fall back on. Thank you so much Gill.

Valuable income is gained from our programme advertisers, sponsors and the monthly raffles – thank you to you all who have contributed especially to the increasing number of members who have offered to sponsor a film; it really does make a difference.

Finally -

Special thanks again to Sue McKinnon who remains our webmaster, for all her work in looking after the website, keeping it up to date and so user friendly.

As always: Do keep coming. Enjoy the films. Bring your friends.

Thank you.

Carol McNeill October 2016