



Oxen Park Cinema Club

Secretary's Annual Report 2012 – 2013 (read at the 2013 AGM)

I have great pleasure in presenting the secretary's report for 2013.

Last week I was looking through our signing in book which we have kept from the very first film shown in 2003. I was looking to see if I could find an address for Chris Dickinson who comes to our film shows from Preston on his motorbike; I wanted to invite him to an opening of the Carthouse. While flipping through the pages I was reminded of the people who have supported us from the very beginning and hundreds who have come over the years. I spotted some of our greatest shows including the 73 who came to a Wallace & Grommitt and 72 for the locally made film *Frozen* the two films with the largest attendance in 10 years. Another recent occasion brought back some history when Roger laid out 20 or so posters from the past for us to select our 10 favourite to be framed for the walls of The Carthouse. It wasn't just the brilliant films but the stunning posters. I feel really proud to be part of this team.

Over the past season we showed 15 films. 6 on Tuesdays, 4 Saturday Supper Specials and 5 children's films.

We are now on the verge of moving into The Carthouse Cinema. We have been selecting lights, tables, settees and cinema seats. We will soon have a lease and a premises licence. We have given a lot of attention to noise insulation and are confident that there will be minimal disturbance within the village. Links with the Manor House are in place and hope that the majority of film goers will meet for a drink and bring it over to the film show. We will have the opportunity to enjoy their famous pie and peas at our supper specials in Oxen Park. This will be a unique cinema – one of the smallest in the country and maybe the only one built as a community facility run totally by volunteers. We love the place we live in, the landscape, the rural sense of place with its quiet and tranquillity but we are also a vibrant community with a need to gather and share, come together and enjoy similar interests whether it's WI, Scottish dancing or watching films; the cinema will contribute to this need and enable more people to enjoy film as well as coming together for a social occasion.

We are regular visitors to Leven Valley Primary School where we show most of our children's films and run film making workshops. Roger and Carol continue to run the film unit. They organised the annual summer holiday workshop at the Primary School attracting 7 keen youngsters who made 5 films which were entered into the Rusland Show. The show competition included 3 other entries making a promising total of 8.

Our Backbarrow Blue Works film is just about finished with its premier planned for a Carthouse opening night. Watch out for the red carpet!

Our thanks, as always to all our film sponsors and programme advertisers – their support is so welcome and appreciated.

Your hardworking committee continue to meet monthly and work on creating a sustainable film society for its very rural community. Gill, our treasurer, spent a lot of time registering us as a charity and we have already seen the benefits of this in the large amount of funding we have received this year. The Hadfield Trust, The Rawden Smith Trust, The Freida Scot Trust, Neighbourhood Forum, Cumbria Community Foundation, Lake District National Park Community Fund and a most generous local business. The Carthouse Cinema wouldn't exist without their generosity.

We are sad to lose Mandy Lane from the committee this year; Mandy has had a huge input to the club committee. Mandy designed and ran the website for years and has an eye for detail and doing things the right way which we all pay tribute to. I'm pleased to say she will still be helping us with Supper Specials.

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

Thank you.

Carol McNeill September 2013