

Talking Pictures

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www.keswickfilmclub.org

Spring programme 2016

May I wish you all a merry Christmas and a very happy New Year! I hope you enjoy our Spring Programme.

We'd like to invite you as usual to have a drink with us at the beginning of our spring programme, so please do come along at **4.15 p.m. on 10th January** to toast the New Year before our opening film - *'La Famille Belier'*.

The **spring pass** will be on sale there at **£30** - a great bargain, with eleven films AND the festival this season!

Have you thought about your passes and tickets for the **17th Keswick Film Festival**? On sale now; You can ring the Theatre on 017687 74411 or book online via www.keswickfilmfestival.org

The weather conspired against us last season to keep the audiences smaller - I hope the programme can tempt you out this season, whatever the weather.

The Classic Tuesdays are continuing as they went down well last season, with all 3 films chosen by members this time (and some great choices too!)

The club programme is staying mainly in Europe this season, with only 1 trip to India for the gentle drama *'The Crow's Egg'*.

Apart from our opening film from France, we visit Spain and Italy (*'Marshland'* and *'Youth'*), Sweden and Russia (*'My Skinny Sister'* and *'Hard to be a*

God') plus a couple of trips to unusual countries - Estonia and Iceland - for *'Tangerines'* and *'Rams'*.

The remainder of the programme comes from the UK - with *'Hector'* and *'Sunset Song'* (both starring Peter Mullan) - and *'Room'* from Eire.

We hope there is something to please most of you, with two out and out comedy classics - *'A Night at the Opera'* and the film voted the best



comedy ever in 2000 - *'Some Like it Hot'*.

There are thrillers such as *'Marshland'* and *'Room'*, dramas like *'Sunset Song'*, *'Hector'* and *'Youth'*, and the almost indefinable *'Hard to Be a God'* which should have you thinking long and hard



afterwards...

Two films seemed to chose themselves, at least for me: *'Tangerines'*, an Oscar contender from 2013, and *'Youth'*, the latest offering from Paolo Sorrentino, his first in English, full of stars, which finishes our year.

An interview with... Elsbeth Payne, Membership Secretary/Festival Organiser



We have already talked to Ian, so we know how you came to the film club. Have you always liked films?

My earliest memory of attending a film screening was a great disappointment! Having been taken to the theatre previously by my parents I was very disappointed that *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs* were not real people. However a little later I was bowled over by *Mary Poppins* and *The Sound of Music*, treats paid for by my Great Aunt Rita, a fearsome lady.

Until my early twenties my interest in films was intermittent but even then my tastes were eclectic with highlights including *To Sir*

with Love (I so wanted my hair to be like Lulu's) and *Morgan A Suitable Case for Treatment*. When talking to Ian about memorable films, we were amused to discover we had both loved *Morgan* whilst most of our peers thought, to be polite, much less well of it. This is one of the joys of film club; what one person loves, another is less keen and a third person is ambivalent. Interestingly I have noticed that the most animated discussions occur after a film that is less popular with most of the audience.

I agree. That and arguments about the quality of the picture!

It has been interesting to see the change in the technology around screenings. I remember on more than one occasion at Rosehill when the projector jammed and the film dissolved in flames in front of our eyes. Nowadays a computer, a code and a digital projector are the order of the day.

I also think the soundtrack can make such a difference to a film. I

was deeply moved by *Broken Circle Breakdown* in the spring 2014 season. Ian managed to track down the original music on CD for my birthday, which is superb just on its own. We got the film from Love Film recently and it was just as good the second time.

So, when did you get involved with running the club?

It was happenstance that led to a more active relationship with the film club. We came along to see *Little Miss Sunshine* at the festival in 2007 only to find it was sold out. Rather than waste a journey to Keswick, we asked what else was on and were told *After the Wedding* was showing at the Alhambra. We were blown away by it and the rest, as they say, is history.

Rod Evans persuaded me to join the committee and to begin with I just helped at the box office from time to time. Then tasks for the festival needed volunteers.

Continued over...

Film Festival News - Ann Martin

Plans are well underway for the next Film Festival. As I write this at the beginning of December David Miller is just sorting out the last few titles. To celebrate the tenth and last time I act as director I have given him a challenge that I am not really sure he agrees with - celebrating the work of women film directors. He will, I'm sure, manage to smuggle in a few fellas - even if they pass the 'F' rating of having a woman protagonist or writer!

Ian Payne will be taking over after next year as Director. He has taken on more work year on year as a member of the committee and will be starring this year as the author of the book 'the 100 years of the Alhambra', which is to be launched soon. Ian will be appearing at 'Words by the Water' too - to showcase the book. Can you help with the Festival? We are keen to have some people who will commit to being here for the Festival weekend to take responsibility for two key roles - running the party, and sorting out the rota of volunteers and making sure everything runs smoothly during the event - to

run 'front of house' as we call it. Later we will be asking for volunteers to do some shifts over the weekend.

Back to the festival arrangements; soon we will know what guests will be able to come along. We are hoping to have animation workshops running on Saturday at Rheged and the children's film will be there this year. But for now there is still work to do!

So as my last Talking Pictures as director I would like to thank all the film club members who have encouraged and supported me over the last 10 years - I'm sure you will give Ian your equal support.

We are sure you will all join with us in thanking Ann in advance! The Festival would not have become the success it is without all her work over the last ten years. Come along to the festival and thank her yourself!

Can we also emphasise we do need help to run the festival. What Ian has done in the last few years has stood him in good stead to take over from Ann, but we now need to replace him! Please don't assume someone else will do it; have a word with Ann or Ian and they can talk you through what the jobs mean... as Elspeth says here, it is fun!

Tuesday Classics - good idea... or not? - Vaughan Ames

We have now had 3 'classic films' on Tuesday night and we have booked 3 more for the next season. Are they going down well? Should we continue with them?

The audiences for the 3 so far have been 80, 59 and 55, so not outstanding, but enough to 'break even' so we are not having to subsidise them.

They have, however, received high scores - 'On the Waterfront' scored 92%, 'The Third Man' 90% and 'Rebel without a Cause' 76%, putting them first, second and sixth in popularity.

The 'X' Factor for me is seeing them on a big screen - for me, at least, for the first time. The shadows and lighting in 'The Third Man' were, I thought, fantastic - actually the star of the show; and seeing Marlon Brando agonise right up close was wonderful.

What did you think? Have you seen any of them? Do you think you stayed away from a Sunday film because of a Tuesday classic? Do you want more?

Next season, ALL 3 have been chosen by members, which I would like to continue if we carry on with the classics.

So, it is up to you? Shall we carry on in September..? Let me know, please; just drop me an email.

KFC Autumn 2014

Film	score
On the Waterfront	91.86%
The Third Man	90.42%
Theeb	80.75%
Wild Tales	78.75%
Phoenix	78.65%
Rebel without a Cause	76.28%
Timbuktu	75.00%
45 Years	72.31%
Slow West	70.07%
Mommy	66.92%
A Royal Night Out	66.76%
Mia Madre	66.49%
White God	64.81%
Glassland	62.50%
Black Coal, Thin Ice	52.33%
The Lobster	44.49%
RHEGED: The Salt of the Earth	no vote
Home from Home	n/a
Sicario	n/a

Average audience size: 91

Films, sun and floods - Vaughan Ames

Can I take the opportunity to send the club's condolences to anyone affected by the floods and I hope you can get all the problems solved as quickly as possible; On a far less important level, has the weather affected the club too?

Autumn 2014 saw our average attendance up at 115; as I write this (with 2 films to go) it is under 92.

The season began with a few weeks of beautiful weather. Then we had rain and the landslide on the A66, and now floods. Is the weather the only reason why you haven't been as often? Do let us know if there is something else we are getting wrong...

An interview with Elspeth Payne (continued from over...)

Ian and I organised several of the opening night parties before moving on to front of house last year. Somewhere along the line I also found myself in the role of membership secretary and helping with the mailing out of the brochure. That's great fun, a social get together where you reminisce, put the world (well the film world!) to rights and stuff a few envelopes along the way. And it only happens twice a year. My advice to members is... Get more involved; it's fun!

Thanks, Elspeth. I hope you have persuaded some people to volunteer too; we need them to help you keep it all going!