

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR 2024-25

THE 44th SEASON

This year has seen the club build upon last year and we look positively towards the future.

We have had a healthy number of guests, which together with an increased number of members, have made the Treasurer smile and upon which he'll expand in his report.

I wish to thank everyone on the Committee for their work on behalf of the membership.

John Myall has once again undertaken the projectionist duties and we must record our thanks to Debbie Salmon who covered on the occasions when John was unable to attend.

I again express my considerable thank to both Stephen and Pauline Lock for their continued support of the club. Despite having moved to Wiltshire, Stephen has continued as our Membership Secretary and both he and Pauline continue to regularly attend to "meet and greet" you all. We appreciate how much a commitment you both are making when you travel to our screenings.

Also, sat at the "Welcome table" has been our Treasurer, Steve Wilson, with our improved "catering discs"! He has been assisted by both Ishret Mirza and Barbara Millington who passed the appropriate "cake" or "refreshment" disc to the payee.

Ishret is our Film Bookings officer and also manages the ever-increasing library of discs which are available to club members can buy or borrow.

Barbara and Jon Millington are another husband and wife team who have been a great support to myself and the other Committee members.

Michael Hipkins has again co-ordinated the Film Notes, which are an important element in making an evening with us "special".

I am grateful to Eugene Smith for standing in with the pre-film announcements on the evenings when I have been unable to attend.

Suzanne Lawrence and Debbie Salmon have dovetailed well in managing the drinks counter at our intervals, over coming some unexpected issues with the inhouse urn!

If anyone else wished to join the Committee you would be most welcome – we try and meet quarterly and happily discussions are convivial and progressive.

Aside from the Committee the club is most fortunate in having a number of members play an active but silent role at our screenings. We are fortunate that several members are prepared to arrive early and to set out the table and chairs before each screening.

Members will I am sure wish to record their thanks to Sheila Coles for co-ordinating the baking rota. The interval cakes remain a core element of our evenings.

I also wish to record my thanks to the Trustees of the hall. The local community is most fortunate in having such an attractive and well maintained building.

One aspect of the evening that I am responsible for is the selection of the short film, which I have tried to ensure will compliment the main feature. It has been pleasing to read one or two positive comments on this aspect.

Although work has again meant that I've missed more evenings than planned, I am fortunate in belonging to such a supportive club which works hard to give those who attend the best experience possible.

Finally on a personal note, I thank my wife Gill for her support.

Looking ahead to our provisional **45th season** the selection process was again harmonious and I thank the Committee for their assistance and contributions at the meetings. It was pleasing to be able to select a number of titles requested by members and around which we have, I believe, designed a strong season.

The season, which is subject to confirmation with the film distributors, is set to begin with four of the member requested titles;

Conclave (how timely!), Maria, Perfect Days and The Dressmaker.

Later, we are scheduled to have our first films from Thailand and Norway.

I hope that you find the list of 17 films for £65 irresistible!

Please do tell your friends, neighbours and colleagues about our new season.

Enjoy the summer and I look forward to seeing you on Thursday 11th September.

IAIN McGLASHAN