



Talking Pictures

www.keswickfilmclub.org

TWENTY YEARS - and this is just the start!

Welcome to our **twentieth** film club year!

We start at **4.15pm on Sunday 9th September** with our usual **start of season drink**.

Please renew your subscription by returning the enclosed slip - **£10** now gets you a whole **£1.50** off every film you see this season, And **£1** off festival films.

Paying online. Send our BACS details to your bank, but you do need to tell us too! Either return the form or send us an email at membership@keswickfilmclub.org or we won't know you exist.

And, if you are renewing your membership, have you thought of buying an autumn pass? you can see **all 15 films this autumn for only £50. Another great benefit for members only!**

An interview with... Tony Martin, Founder and Inspiration of KFC

There is one person responsible for the idea of having KFC: Tony Martin. We asked him how it all came about.

"Come back next year and you will be able to go to Keswick Film Festival" was my parting comment in the Keswick café to a couple on holiday from Lancashire.

Making that declaration public for the first time meant that's it! No way back now. Cavalier, cocksure? Not really. I had met Tom the manager of Keswick cinema the day before. Now I knew my dream to set up a film festival in my beloved Cumbria would become a reality. Everyone with a dream should meet a Tom. That has always been my way. First the idea, then the plan of how and then to tell someone; well then its a promise isn't it? I had

Keswick Film Club began in 1998 with an idea from Tony Martin (see the interview below). We can thank Tom Rennie for making it happen here not Cocker-mouth and the original committee for bringing it to fruition; our thanks to all of them!

There have been some huge successes - the festival has gone from strength to strength; 'Whale Rider' and 'Edie' both bringing in 241 people (in 2004 and 2018); 'Departures' scored nearly 97% in 2010. Meanwhile some

lar - last year's 'Captain with light' was what of the Clouds' only attracted 7 people at the festival whilst 'Stray our theme that year, Dogs' scored less than 19%. BUT this is the point; our success mean we can risk SOME experiments! Here's to the next twenty years, hopefully with many successes, but let's keep pushing the boundaries too.. Another early club stalwart, Rod Evans sent us his greetings:- 'One of my fond memories of the early days is of sitting with our first principal Festival guest, Jack Cardiff, in 2002 in the Alhambra. 'Painting

with light' was what eminent cinematographer Jack suggested for a terrible pink print of one of his masterpieces, 'The African Queen', with 16 festival-goers in the audience. Jack laughed it off and threw himself into ensuring an entertaining weekend for everyone. Onwards and upwards (almost always) since then: everyone involved deserves congratulations for the great progress of one of Cumbria's more highly valued arts organisations.'

set up a number of community cinemas before this one and it was while in Spain one winter I decided I had to make this dream in my pocket come true: To set up a film festival.

So, that explains the dream, how did it come to reality?

So when I came back home to York where I rented a room I gathered my bike, tennis racket and a tent and caught a train to Maryport and got off at Aspatria and cycled to a campsite south of Cocker-mouth where for a month I set about hatching my plot.

After a month I got a room in a house and became a real nuisance for the manger of the local arts centre as I tried to win support for a film society but had to give up. I admit I was a pain.

So, it could have been Cocker-mouth! Why Keswick then?

But then I met Tom...and later Ian [Picken], Paul [Buttle], Rod [Evans] and other committee members whose names I now forget and all was well. Together we pulled off my biggest project to date and they carried it forward for a glorious 20

more years. Of course during the process of creativity conflict is of necessity a part. Ask Paul Buttle.

Intriguing! Maybe we will...

The truth is that a combination of passion and determination are irresistible but then there is sweat and blood along the road to making things happen. For that you need a team. I could not believe my luck when we got such a brilliant one that created the film society and then the film festival and took it forward over its years of success.

I can still remember that first meeting in The Alhambra, me nervously talking to a group of film fans who had seen our posters and advert for volunteers to set up a film society. Ian [Picken], who went on to become the driving force on the committee and organiser of the film festival looking up at me with eyes that seemed to say 'are you sure about this?'

Well we are all so glad you were! Our thanks to you for your idea...and to Tom, Ian, Paul, Rod et al for helping you make it happen! My congratulations once again to all involved.

20th Year Autumn Programme

By Vaughan Ames

The committee debated long and hard whether we needed to do a special programme for our twentieth year; should we rerun films from each year, or maybe pick some of the favourites? We decided in the end that what makes our programme one of the best in the country is that we have new films that have not been seen here before, that bring that little extra to Keswick; so why change a good thing?! What we will be offering is a chance to be involved in choosing next season's films; once we have come up with a long list in October, we'll let you have your say on which films you want included. Choosing the long list is a process of sifting through websites and magazines; if you come across any you want, let us know!

Our Twentieth Year starts with another season of films from around the world, including Paraguay, Indonesia and even the Dominican Republic.

So to the programme: we have a couple of comedies to start and finish the season - the French 'C'est La Vie', the latest from the director of 'Untouchable', starts us off, while the Icelandic 'Under the Tree' finishes the season.

Between the two, we go to Germany for the dramatic 'In the Fade', Poland for the love story (of sorts) 'Cold War' and Spain for a beautiful tale of children 'Summer 1993'.

We visit very unusual lands with 'Cocote' from the Dominican Republic, 'Marlina' from



Indonesia and 'The Heiresses' from Paraguay. Slightly more normal (for us at least), 'Wajib' comes from Palestine and 'Shoplifters' from Japan, which leaves the rest of the season to the US and UK. Two of these films were chosen by you - 'Lean on Pete' and 'First Reformed' - and we thought the last film from Harry Dean Stanton - 'Lucky' - deserved a showing. A film that went down well at the ICO previews - 'American Animals' - finishes the programme. We hope you enjoy them all.



Film Club AGM - Vaughan Ames, Chair

This year's AGM will be held at **4.00pm on Sunday 16th September at the Alhambra**. We will circulate the agenda, last year's minutes and a proposal to become a 'Charitable Incorporated Organisation' by email (please see me if you need a hard copy). If you are interested in being on the committee, let us know by the AGM, but anyone wishing to become a trustee must be nominated in writing by 2nd September, so that we can circulate any names before the AGM. Please email us or send any nominations to the Secretary at 12 Lonsdale Place, Whitehaven, CA28 6DX.

Weekly Club Email

Hopefully you are now getting the details of the current week's film and any upcoming events through our new 'Mailchimp' emails. If it has stopped arriving, please check your 'junk' folder first or contact us via email at info@keswickfilmclub.org. If you have not yet signed up, please go to www.keswickfilmclub.org and follow the instructions there.

Club Costs

You will know already that we have been living beyond our means for the last few years - we have overspent by £9000 in six years and now only have about £13000 in the bank. Despite your efforts we still overspent by £1500 last year. We are trying really hard to

KFC Spring 2018

In Between	84.45%
Boy	80.63%
Loveless	78.62%
Thelma	77.94%
Call Me By Your Name	76.28%
My Pure Land	73.08%
Strangled	69.12%
Happy End	63.03%
Marjorie Prime	57.78%
Felicite	54.72%
Mimosas	35.16%

Average audience size: 93

'cut our cloth' to fit better, but we now have to act to keep us viable; First, the committee has decided to put film prices up - to £5 for members and £6.50 for non-members. This is still even cheaper than the Alhambra so we hope you will understand.

Second, we continue to check over all our expenses to see what we can save on. Hopefully this won't just mean fewer films...

Third, we are hoping to save some money by asking you to sign up for 'gift aid'; this will be on the membership form.

Lastly, we want to try to attract bigger audiences! Obviously we don't want to do this by losing our high quality of films, so this mean getting the word out more on what we have to offer.

WHAT YOU CAN DO. As we said last season, there are over 200 members in the club; if everyone could bring one extra person, for even just one film, that would bring in £1300 this season. If only twenty of us could recruit someone to the club, that would be £200 up front plus all the tickets they would buy over the year. **Do you know anyone who might be interested?** Bring them along; they might just be the ones to keep the club going...for the next twenty years!