



Oxen Park Cinema Club

Secretary's Annual Report 2016 – 2017 (read at the 2017 AGM)

I have great pleasure in presenting the secretary's report for 2017.

I thought I would start by telling you that I was the only person at the pub's Halloween quiz to know the year the Cinema Club started! Yes, it was 2002; we have been going 15 years. Now for a few of the annual statistics.

Over the past season we showed 20 main films. This was 2 less than last year but proved much better for our volunteer film - show work force. The films with most attendance were *I Daniel Blake*, *Brooklyn*, *Bridge of Spies* and *Rams* these were close to our maximum of 40. *I Daniel Blake* was shown to 52 over 2 shows – an experience we have to get used to. At the other end of the scale our lowest turnout was 13 for *BFG* and only 2 others had less than 20. This year we changed the Saturday films from first to the third Saturday of the month and this has worked much better for everyone. I think we are pretty good at selecting a good variety of films which attracts our eclectic audience.

Total admissions went up to 607 from 523 and 500 before that. The overall average for 20 films went up to 30 which is a good sustainable number. We have remained sustainable again this year as you will hear from our treasurer.

Our children's film shows went from strength to strength. Through Into Film, - a BFI sponsored organisation for promoting film for 5-19 year olds - we showed 12 weekly films, 6 in the Autumn and 6 in the Spring. These brought a regular audience of around 30 making a total of 388 young people, most of them enjoying films they wouldn't normally see. Thanks to Gay for joining the presentation team.

Hiring out The Carthouse is only £5 and 6 groups took advantage of this over the year. We also showed six presentations on behalf of the Oxen Park Reading Room. These were popular fund raising evenings and they made over £700 towards the much needed refurbishment. These are being repeated this winter with a mainly new set of speakers. These extra shows have brought in a new

audience many of whom have returned for more of our very comfortable and social space.

We had one outreach show at Allithwaite Primary School where 70- 80 children enjoyed the *BFG* – rather more than our disappointing 13. Children's shows just don't seem to work round here.

Our DVD library expands monthly and Rob Dove was asked to make a new set of shelves to enable us to display all the extra films. The DVD's are free to borrow.

The committee continues to share out its many different roles enabling our cinema to be managed totally by volunteers. Each year we lose and gain committee members bringing in new skills and ideas which are always appreciated. Tamsin took over from Gill McKinnon as treasurer and membership secretary bringing good order and ideas. Karen is our master show organiser and we all enjoy her well researched introductions. Our latest member, David Hamer has already given us the benefit of his IT skills and we are looking forward to his enabling us to show recordings of some Live Theatre shows. This is a really exciting development for us. All of us enjoy watching new films and making our annual selection.

The refurbished Manor can't go without mention. The initial vision of the cinema was partly to help to keep the pub sustainable and I believe we have always contributed to its remaining as a pub. Now with its completely new makeover it has made Oxen Park a 'destination' and the cinema is benefitting with full houses. What a community we have!

As always 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 and those of you 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 November 2017