

# Wimbledon Film Club 4<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting

7.00pm, 21<sup>st</sup> May, 2009

## Crooked Billet

### Apologies for absence

From Committee members Peter Cargin, Penny Amerena and Liz Woodroffe.

### Chair's Report

Chair Johnjoe McFadden gave the Chair's and Treasurer's reports below.

**Committee:** Johnjoe Mcfadden (Chair), Clare Collins (Sec), Peter Cargin (Treasurer), Liz Woodroffe, Penny Amerena, Mike Gould, Jonathan Warren, Merryl Catlow.

**Membership:** This year we have 180 members – 97 full, 60 concession, 3 student, 8 committee, 12 unknown.

This compares with 211 members by the time of the AGM last year and well down on our first season when we had 271 members.

**Attendance:** Generally good as high as 120 but very occasionally as low as 40.

### **Special Events**

- *Brick Lane* – producer and lead actor Q and A. Joint Bookfest event
- *Diaspora Diaries* – director Q and A
- *Transamerica* - LGBT History Month, Merton Council speaker
- *We Are Together* – charity event in aid of RISE Foundation. Director Q and A
- *Pig's Tale* - director Q and A
- Shorts Film Festival

### **Plans for next year:**

- Bookfest – *Slumdog Millionaire* with Simon Beaufoy who won the Oscar for best adapted screenplay
- SHORTS Film Festival 20 June. Also Open-air festival 15th August at Abbeyfest.
- Silent Film screening *The Lodger* with Wimbledon Society Wednesday 30th September at Christ Church Hall, Copse Hill, with live pianist.

## **2009/10 Programme:**

*Il Divo* not available on 25th June so will have *Gomorra* instead.

Autumn season expected to be

- *Slumdog Millionaire* (Bookfest)
- *I've loved you so long*
- *Sequins, Soca and Sweat* (Black History Month, Director Q and A)
- *Let the Right One In* (Halloween)
- *Man on Wire*
- *Waltz with Bashir*
- *Jules et Jim* (Christmas classic, Truffaut 25th anniversary)

## **Issues**

1. Finances. We have £4000 in our bank accounts - having paid the Polka for rest of season and some £200 in cash boxes. We have not paid for cost of Shorts Festival - hire of venue/guests/ prizes etc although paid for publicity. £250 of sponsorship from Marcus Beale Architects.
2. Membership/Ticket prices – may have to raise some prices.
3. Possible move from Polka - Curzon/HMV and Odeon both possibilities
4. Volunteers needed for promotional events (e.g. Village Fair)

## **Discussion**

Members expressed disappointment that *Il Divo* could not be screened in June owing to the release date being changed.

## **Promotion**

Members said that the existence of the Club was not widely known in Wimbledon, and that members should do more to help promote the Club. It was agreed that:

- an email should be sent round to members suggesting easy, relatively un-time consuming ways of promoting the Club
- the promotional poster for individual films should be emailed round members so that they can print it and display in local venues eg community noticeboards in cafes, bookshops,

libraries churches, schools. It was noted that it would be particularly helpful to publicise the Club more widely in areas other than Wimbledon and Southfields.

### **New membership and ticket prices**

Some members noted that the membership price for concessions was possibly too low at present, and that this should be looked at. However it would be sensible to have lower prices for students to encourage more to join.

### **Possibility of moving from Polka**

Mixed views were expressed about the Polka, with some feeling that it was an uncomfortable venue and that a move might be welcome. However it was also noted that it was important to be able to retain the sense of a club atmosphere if a new venue were to be used.

### **Volunteer rota**

The Chair had emphasised that the Club relied on a small number of volunteers on the Committee who were all busy people, and asked for members to sign up to a volunteer list which could be called upon as needed. 9 members signed up to this (NB anyone unable to attend the AGM and wishing to add their details to the list should email the membership secretary, or speak to a committee member on film night.)

### **Election of Committee members**

All Committee members were re-elected.