



BAA NOOS!

Only about half way through our exciting 10th season and thanks to thirsty members the bar's success has continued! We are now aiming to stock only great local beers and ciders, with quality lagers and wines from Europe – as we try to do our bit for the environment!

Over the next few films – watch out for the Bowl-Food at the Bar information via email for those busy people who make the Friday-film-night dash from work to Reel Peeps! For £5 per bowl, delicious food will be available before the film from 18.40-19.10 (ish). Karin will take your bookings and your money at each and any film night! Sorry to say – no booking ... no food!

Finally we can't run the bar without help from the membership. We need only 2 wonder-washer-uppers to help at the end of the evening and occasionally 1 extra person to serve before the film if committee members aren't available. Karin has a rota, so please offer your support and help the season leap happily along – thank you!

Karin

OUR NEXT PRESENTATION

7.45pm Friday 25 January 2008

Great American Director Robert Altman's last film



A PRAIRIE HOME COMPANION

Our second film for January is a collaboration between two American greats - Robert Altman whose films include MASH, Nashville & Gosford Park and the humorist Garrison Keillor famous for his Lake Wobegone Stories and his weekly US National Public Radio show on which the film is loosely based. The film centers on the last broadcast of a famous radio show in the Golden Age of Radio hosted by Garrison Keillor - it's full of great characters, humour, songs and pathos. There are some superb performances - people always wanted to act in Altman's films! Meryl Streep, Lily Tomlin, Woody Harelson and John C Reilly put in great turns. Bring along some cash as there will be Garrison Keillor Bookstall - the perfect opportunity to start or complete your collection.

FAMILY FILMS ARE BACK!

Film Show for Kilmersdon Primary School

Our thanks to Phil, Tony and Barry for staging the Christmas film show for the village school children. All the children were invited to attend a screening of 'Arthur and the Invisibles' in the morning of 20th December before their Christmas party. This is the fourth time we have put on a film for the school - the children (& staff) really loved it! The school is a great supporter of our short season of Sunday afternoon films for children and families. The first of these films for 2008 will be the new hit from Pixar Studios -



RATATOUILLE (tbc)

at 3pm on SUNDAY 24 FEBRUARY

Everyone is welcome to attend – as they say 'growing old is compulsory but growing up is voluntary!' Thank you to all those of you who take flyers to local schools and put one through your neighbour's door if you know they have children. If you would like to help again, flyers will be available at our screening of 'A Prairie Home Companion on 25 January.

We will continue to keep the entrance cost at £1 for all – we cover our costs and consider it a good investment in future generations love of the big screen.

Sarah

www.reelpeople.org.uk

You may have noticed that the website has been updated but still needs some work - can anyone out there help? If you can then please contact Chris Moorshead. Thanks!



FAIRTRADE

During the recent film festival, Café Direct generously donated Fair Trade tea and coffee to support the film screening of 'Black Gold' shown at the Hill Gallery on the Sunday.

We still have a plentiful supply of great Fairtrade ground coffee and tea to hopefully last us the season – so we do hope you will stay and enjoy a cup of tea or coffee after the film – free after the film, 50p before the film with second top cup free (if your bladder can take it!)

Sarah

VOTE FOR YOUR FAVOURITE REEL PEOPLE FILM!



As part of our Tenth Birthday celebrations we will be screening again your favourite film from the first nine seasons of Reel People. This special event will take place on Friday 14 March before our AGM.

Over the last nine season we have screened over 150 films and at the last two film events of 2007 we invited you to nominate one film from each of those seasons so that we could put together a short list of nine plus a space for the highest loser.

With this Newsreel each member will receive a special voting card with the results of the nomination stage and an invitation to vote for just one film from the list that they would like to see again on 14 March. The voting card includes a still from each of the nomi-

nated films plus a brief synopsis just in case you have forgotten what the film is about.

Don't forget to vote - simply place a tick or a cross in the white box next to the film of your choice and either hand the card into the front desk or post it to Helen Charlton by 1 February - Helen's address is already on the card but you will need to provide a stamp.

Collating the nominated films was a fascinating exercise - some of the titles were predictable but others really surprised us. There are some wonderful films to choose from on the short list but of course great films are coming along all the time and if you see one make sure you let us know.

Barry

TELEPHONE INFORMATION AND BOOKING LINE - 01761 300538

EMAIL - reelpeople@hotmail.co.uk

AUDIENCES BETTER THAN EVER - and you like the films!

We have had some great audiences along to the film events this season - over 500 people came along to the Film Festival Events (more about this later!) and the attendance at the main season films has been more consistent than ever this year. And even better, you have given the films an almost universal 'thumbs up'!

Choosing a season of films for you is a great privilege but also a great responsibility - we have been doing this a long time now but we do like to take some risks and it's great when these come off. Thank you for coming along and trusting our judgment and we hope you enjoy the rest of the season.



The Cave of the Yellow Dog
- an early season favourite

FILM FESTIVAL MADNESS?

The full story of our first film festival inside



A RIGHT ROYAL OCCASION!

News of our very own Coronation Banquet



FILM FESTIVAL MEMORIES

THE VIEW FROM THE CHAIR



The wonderful 2007-8 Reel People Committee - left to right: Keith Wisbey, Phil Bull, Chris Moorshead, Karin Campagna, Pat Scott, Nats Bull, Helen Charlton, Sarah Fowler, Tony Matthews and Barry Fowler

Looking back over the photos and publicity from our first film festival what I see is a wonderful coming together of your enthusiasm and loyalty to Reel People, fantastic sponsorship from local and national businesses, an incredible effort from the committee ...and some great moovies.

The idea behind the film festival was to help us mark the beginning of our special tenth 'birthday' season and in doing so take a break from the annual outdoor film and give us the opportunity to introduce you to a group of films that we probably wouldn't be able to include in our main season.

This was a very special weekend and a big thank you for helping to make it work so well. A special thank you also to Lizzy & Christopher King who so generously allowed us to use The Hill Gallery as our "Arthouse" screen for the weekend.

Barry

MOOVIES FESTIVAL CAFE AND KIOSK

Baa! Moo! But Never Boo!

Barry's bread, Phat Phil's Phine Phood and Karin's kiosk provided for many a hungry and thirsty film festival friend! Over the weekend the Moovies Café under the stewardship of chief, cook and bottle-washer Philip and his trusty assistant Cameron served a feast of fifty Indian suppers and at least fifty fantastic Festival or Cream teas.



Yvonne Kirby & Hilary Stevens enjoy a Festival Tea in the Moovies Cafe

The Meeting Room at Coles Gardens proved an excellent venue with regular Reel People members and newcomers alike savouring the home produced fare including scones and cakes baked by Cameron's mum Jane; clotted cream from Beckington's very own Jersey herd; Fosseway Fleece sheep's cheese made in Ditcheat and Westcombe Farmhouse Cheddar made in Batcombe. The aim was to stay local with as many of the fresh ingredients as possible.

A successful new addition to the kiosk offerings was award winning Mendip Moment ice creams (to be continued through the season). Donated Fairtrade tea and coffee enabled generous film viewers the opportunity to enjoy them along with home-style cookies for a contribution of their choosing. The final celebration of the festival was the number 10 birthday cake displaying the first film screened by Reel People in 1997 - Wings of a Dove - and the first film of the festival ten years on - Little Miss Sunshine. An appreciative audience and delighted committee wound their way home on Sunday evening - tired but happy and certainly not hungry!

Karin



Two of our young Festival goers head into 'The Hill Gallery' for the Saturday afternoon screening of the fascinating documentary, Black Gold. The screening was preceded by a talk on Fairtrade by the Frome Fairtrade Group.



Guest Committee member, Barbara Holmes and more customers at the fabulous festival kiosk

MORE FESTIVAL MEMORIES

LITTLE MISS HOTLINE MEETS FRIENDS RE-UNITED

When Karin asked me what it was like manning the Festival Hotline I could say in all honesty that it was great fun - chatting to members and non members when making the bookings and then at the festival putting faces to names and catching up. However one phone call in particular struck a chord - a name from the past, I thought, but that's ridiculous - but something about the voice sounded vaguely familiar. I phoned this lady back and made the bookings and then with some trepidation - was I about to make a fool of myself etc. etc. - I blurted out that I used to go to school with a girl with the same name - in Kent - in Dover. Its Chris B here I said - squeals of recognition followed - plus lots and lots of chat and promises to meet up. We had gone through senior school in the same form and last been in contact 43 years ago!!! If this was a storyline in a film, you'd say how implausible, especially as we moved to the West Country in the same year and my friend has known another reel people committee member for most of that time.

Moral of the story - well a big thank you to reel people, and it really is good to chat - but I think someone else has bagged that phrase.

Chris



A young family arrive for our special Sunday afternoon screening of Happy Feet - just £1 admission



The Committee prove they still have plenty of puff to blow out the candles on the 10th birthday cake

A RIGHT ROYAL OCCASION - THE QUEEN & CORONATION BANQUET



From Chris Moorshead who organised the event so brilliantly -

Yes - I admit it - I remember the Coronation. Watching part of it on one of the few televisions in the village seemed like a miracle - being allowed to stay up late and enjoy the fireworks which exploded over the sea at Eastbourne was stunning - but now it's all a dim and distant memory. So, when the committee decided to schedule The Queen and Coronation Banquet for the end of the first half of our 10th season I was really delighted. We'd reproduce the menu - serve the same wines if possible - we'd go for it!

The preparations for the actual banquet made me chuckle. Constance Spry and Rosemary Hume faced similar challenges to us - a large number of guests in fairly restricted accommodation, a small kitchen which meant that for the numbers involved the only hot items could be soup and coffee. But what made me really laugh, and I quote, was that 'the serving of the food would have to be simple because all the waitresses would be amateurs'!! They obviously had never met a 'reel people' committee!!

Reading through the complete menu brought me up short. This menu, fit for a Queen and worldwide Heads of State, would today be considered the norm. How our eating habits and the availability of fresh food have changed during the Queen's reign. In those days it was daring to use curry powder in a chicken dish - yet today how many of us have curry spices/pastes/sauces in the cupboard as a basic? Only one wine was offered - a Moselle, followed by a Krug Champagne for the loyal toast; yet now our supermarket shelves are overflowing with a wonderful selection of wines from the Old and New World.

It was great fun planning the banquet - the committee were fantastic - and it really was a memorable evening. Thanks to all of you who came and made it possible.

