

Number 34



**THE  
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE  
FILM ARCHIVE  
TRUST**

Registered Charity No. 298527

Newsletter

October 2017 to March 2018

## NEWS FRAMES

Welcome to this October 2017 – March 2018 edition of our newsletter.

It may not have been the best summer weather-wise as apart from a short overly hot burst of temperature in June, rain/showers have seemed to play major roles since that time. Fortunately, an organisation based indoors rather than outdoors, has enabled the volunteers to continue to work uninterrupted by adverse weather conditions. For more details on recent activity and future plans, please read on...

### **MEMBERS SOCIAL FILM EVENINGS:**

By unanimous decision of our regular attendees we have a 'new format' for our monthly members meetings – insomuch as we have dropped the 'meeting' part of the proceedings. Launched as a Members Social Film Evening we concentrate purely on the social aspect of the organisation by just showing films, with a refreshment break at an appropriate time during the proceedings. Members are also encouraged to suggest which films from our collection they would like screened on these evenings – providing they do not form part of an upcoming public show and dependent upon which room the meeting will be held. When in the lower gallery, for technical reasons, films are limited to a single gauge. Should there be any important news to share this is done in a more informal way when the refreshment break is announced. Any business matters are discussed at separate formal Trustee meetings now held at more frequent intervals.

### **NFAT STRUCTURE:**

Along with the new style members' evenings the NFAT has undergone internal changes reflecting the shortage of personnel and their respective roles. Changing the names of these roles does not affect the way the Trust operates it is part of pro-active forward looking policies which recognise the important contributions of its members.

**President:** Cliff Morris; Cliff, our elder statesman, remains as President.

**Chair:** Jane Austin; represents the connection with the late John Earl and his wife Mary.

**Vice chair:** Geoff Easton; a long time member and significant contributor to Trust policy.

**Administration Officer:** Peter Austin. Peter continues to hold responsibility for Secretariat and Treasury in addition to programme planning and archive curator.

**Executive Officer:** Barry Moulang. Barry offers technical development and policy making experience. He seeks to develop new opportunities for NFAT including potential sponsorship and liaison with like-minded film archives and organisations. Barry is also the NFAT webmaster.

**Archive Managers:** Craig Austin and Ray Stone. Craig and Ray possess many practical skills in addition to the vital projector operation. Both have an intimate knowledge of the content of the archive and the practical issues in building programmes from our stock.

**Ex Officio member:** John Butcher our former Treasurer who, though no longer attending members meetings, wishes to remain connected with the organisation.

The only other change is the addition of Technical Assistant, a non-Trustee position, and this has been awarded to Peter Webster for providing much valued support in many areas, including the construction of the projection room cabinets along with the ongoing repair and servicing of equipment. We seek to find other individuals who would take up such a role in future.

### **DONATIONS:**

We have received a number of donations of both film and equipment over the past few months, a significant film collection in particular from the son of a late cinematographer who lived in Bedfordshire. It will take quite some time to run all these films through to catalogue the content – one film was shown at the August members evening and was a 30-minute silent film of the 1978 Bedford River Festival.

Other films have been received from various people across Northamptonshire. They were looking for someone to safeguard these amateur cine films and contacted the NFAT after searching the Internet, finding us either via our website or on our Facebook pages.

We may be dealing with archive materials but modern technology is key to promoting who we are and what we are trying to achieve. It is still early days but thanks must go to Barry for running our web page and updating it on a regular basis.

### **FILM PRESENTATIONS:**

We continue to hold our public presentations both at the Wellingborough Museum and within the county. More pleasing is the fact that this year we encouraged some groups to visit us at the museum to put on specific films for their own groups. The All Saints Church – Tea@Two group - came to us in August and in September members of a Wellingborough-based U3A group were shown a number of films relating to the county. Hopefully, if comments made on the day are followed up, numbers at our evening presentations should also increase.

Please see details of our upcoming presentations on the reverse of this newsletter.

### **BARRY'S CORNER:**

The web site still continues to gain external interest with an increasing number of 'hits' on a daily basis. We also have our Facebook page of course, and this is complementary to the website. Facebook is a place for dialogue and information exchange and is proving to be a popular access medium. The web site carries information about the history and processes of NFAT and is available as a global contact point for individuals and organisations having an interest in our business and capabilities. We have not made sufficient use of these media in the past and it is rewarding to see them begin to bear fruit.

On the technical side we are able to convert 8mm films to digital media via equipment owned and operated by Craig Austin. There is also a current project to allow films of other gauges to be treated in the same manner.

An important aspect of our archival activity has been the adoption of computer software tools to aid in the sorting, classification, and content recording of the many films we hold; this will greatly aid in the development of our film programmes and allow us much easier access to significant items.

### **FOR SALE:**



A collection of 372 editions of Amateur Cine World magazine dating from July 1941 to October 1966.

Issues printed from 1941 to part of 1961 were published monthly, with the exception of those printed between 1942 and 1946 which published quarterly, combining three months per issue. From 1961 the magazine was then published weekly.

The above collection consists of:

173 copies published between 1941 and 1961

199 copies published between 1961 and 1966

Ideally we would like to sell this collection as a job lot as the 1961-1966 magazines have been collated into annual binders.

If anyone is interested in purchasing this collection please contact: [nfat@outlook.com](mailto:nfat@outlook.com) for further information.

### **Dates for your Diary – Members Social Film Evenings**

October 9

November 13

December 11

January 8

February 12

March 12

Meetings start at 7.30pm and are held on MONDAYS at Wellingborough Museum, Castle Way, between Castle Road and Castle Way.

(Limited parking in Castle Lane, easy parking on Castle Road, the multi-storey car park or the council car park adjacent to The Castle Theatre)



### **Forthcoming Events at Wellingborough Museum**



November 14

Railways

March 27

Around Northamptonshire

7.30pm start - Admission: £5

### **In the community**

January 20

Abington Museum (1.30pm)

(Northampton Art Museum and Gallery is closed for refurbishment)

(Please check our Facebook and web page for any updates)




For further information please contact:

Pete Austin 01933 396906

5 Lancaster Street, Higham Ferrers, Northants, NN10 8HY

Email: [nfat@outlook.com](mailto:nfat@outlook.com)

Find us on  Northamptonshirefilmarchivetrust

Web: [thenorthamptonshirefilmarchivetrust.co.uk](http://thenorthamptonshirefilmarchivetrust.co.uk)