



Rusthall Community Cinema

Trustees' Annual Report to 31st May 2019

Charity registration No. 1171282

Principle office: 21 Manor Road, Rusthall, Tunbridge Wells, TN4 8UD

Trustees: Ms Alex Britcher,¹ Mrs Anne Goldstein, Eugene Gardner, Joe Mendell, Mrs Karen Gardner, Kevin Mullery, Peter Kemp, Miss Rachel Bain, Mrs Rosemary Romano

Governing Document: Constitution dated 22nd January 2017

Organisational Structure: Charitable Incorporated Organization

Purpose and Activities

Our purpose is to promote principally cinematic facilities for the occupants of Rusthall and immediate surrounds in the interests of social welfare and with the object of improving the condition of life.

We all suggest the films we would like to see then vote to select those that get screened. A short entertainment (perhaps of educational or cultural significance) is provided before the main feature, then we hold a discussion group for all to exchange views and learn about the films. Free transport is available for the infirm and we charge the bare minimum to enable as many as possible to join us.

The Trustees believe that they have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission as required by section 4 of the Charities Act 2006.

Financial Review

The position of the charity is as described in the attached Income and Expenditure Account. No specific reserve policy is in place although the Trustees intend to maintain a reasonable sum to cushion against poorly attended events and provide for purchase and maintenance of equipment.

¹ Ex-officio

Comment on the Year

Now in our third year of operation we have continued gradual improvement of the environment and frequency of screening.

Recent purchases include a further 50 chairs (by the hall Trustees) bringing our total audience potential to 100 in padded chairs and 36 in plastic. This was necessary as our average attendance in the year rose to 71 (from 55 the previous year) and we screened 28 films (from 21 the previous year). The audience hit 100 or above on four occasions.

We bought two additional speakers for the middle of the hall as more space was occupied after the office used by the nursery was dismantled, enabling us to spread further to the rear of the hall.

During the year we enjoyed our first singalong film *The Sound of Music*, and our first silent (but accompanied) film: *The General*. Also worthy of note, the Trustees' choice film, *Jean de Florette*, proved so popular despite being subtitled French that its sequel *Manon des Sources* was voted into the following season's play list.

We finished the year with 45 volunteers to share the task of staging the films and the Trustees thought it appropriate to express their gratitude by inviting all for meals on two occasions.

This year we promoted ourselves at Speldhurst and Langton Green fetes, and intend to rotate around local villages about every three years.

We were pleased to be a finalist in the Love Where You Live awards for Best Group.

As we start the next year we are planning for the launch of a Film Society to complement the Community Cinema. This will be principally a subscription based endeavour showing films on Sunday afternoons and concentrating on films of remarkably high quality but without necessarily the popularity of the Saturday films. We will also be trialling screening films with subtitles to help hard of hearing visitors unable to benefit from the hall's induction loop. Finally, we are looking forward to the introduction of air conditioning to help us stay cool in a hall full of people.