



Rusthall Community Cinema

Trustees' Annual Report to 31st May 2018

Charity registration No. 1171282

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

Trustees: Charlie Brown, Eugene Gardner, Mrs Karen Gardner, Kevin Mullery, Mrs Judith Offord¹, Ms Jessica Pointon Miss Rachel Bain, Mrs Rosemary Romano, Ms Alex Britcher¹

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

This report highlights the key mileposts of our second year since formation. The most notable component is the equipment which we were able to buy, principally a high quality projector with financial help from KCC councillor James McInroy. This is now permanently mounted on the ceiling of Sunnyside Hall and has much enhanced the picture quality while easing the set up process before each film. After prolonged technical challenges we are now able to screen films in 4K definition.

With thanks to all our supporters who voted for us to receive a grant from The OneFamily Foundation we were also able to buy high quality sound equipment and a secure cabinet to house it permanently at the hall. This replaced the donated sound equipment which we were able to return to the original donor for use in another project. By the end of the year under report we had saved sufficient funds to allow us to buy speakers for the rear of the audience to give a true surround sound experience.

We are currently saving for a laptop computer that we can use to serve our opening slide show and short films and this will be the last component before we can claim to be totally independent of borrowed kit.

We are grateful to Sunnyside Hall Trustees who are just about to complete installing blackouts over the skylights. This will save us having to climb on the roof to brick down black plastic sheets for each film. We have been able to increase the frequency of our events to fortnightly and settled on Saturdays as the day that most people favour.

Our method of film selection remained unchanged throughout the year but minor modifications are planned to simplify the job of the returning officer and make the process more easily understandable.

Our volunteer base is strong in the key positions although it remains a challenge to fill some slots despite attendance at recruitment fairs. We had a stall at both Rusthall and Langton fetes and attracted new interest, particularly from Langton. Our average attendance over the past year of 21 films is 55 with 48% of those being annual members. We screened two family matinee films that were free for all.

Our pre-show entertainment remained principally short films themed to the mirror the main feature, and for some we were able to do a little more. Two memorable occasions were the screening of I, Daniel Blake where we partnered with Nourish Foodbank and raised £146 plus over 300 Kg of food, and the time we showed Babette's Feast and arranged a party at The Daily Bread where the menu in the film was emulated for us.

At the last film of the accounting year we were able to present a bottle of wine to Juliette, our 2000th audience member.