

## Welcome back to Talking Pictures and the brochure!

Welcome to our **twenty-fourth** film club year!

We start at 4.30 pm on **Sunday 10th September** with our usual **start of season drink**.

Please renew your subscription online via the Alhambra website.

£10 gets you a whole £3.00 off every film you see for the whole year - until next April. But **Please wait until 1 September**, as...

The Alhambra is installing a new system to enable this, which will not be available until 1 September.

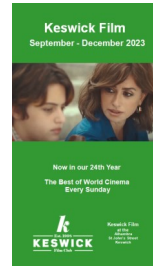
Before you can get the discounted prices for membership, just follow the instructions on the site and join first. Simple!

You can still join at the box office - they will put in your details.

It is some time since Talking Pictures was our Member's Newsletter, as we purloined its name for our temporary 'half season brochures' after Covid - in fact it was August 2019 when it last hit the press. The committee took the decision to restart the brochure and Talking Pictures this season, so here we are again!

The time since 2019 has been difficult for everyone, including the Club. We managed to keep going, with some breaks when even the cinema was forced to close. Our audiences have, inevitably, been down on our previous highs and we have

been struggling to break even on some films; we averaged only 68 over the last year. We are now hoping that the corner has been turned and the crowds will return.



You can obviously help here; if you haven't been for a while, why not come along this season? If you bring a friend or two, so much the better! And please spread the word - we are back!

We are also hoping to get more of you involved in helping to run

the club. We have decided to trim the committee down (see overleaf for more details) and ask for volunteers for tasks that come along, some regularly (eg meet and greet at the cinema before the film starts) some more ad hoc (the festival is the obvious example here). The weekly emails will include a new section - **What Can I Do to Help?** - which will have all the tasks we need help with in the next week or weeks. Please do volunteer when you can, even if just for one week; it might surprise you to find out how much fun it can be!

### An interview with... Vaughan Ames, KFC Chair



*TP: We started interviewing the committee several years ago as a way of introducing them to you, the members. With the break for Covid, this is all so long ago we thought we should do an update. We are starting with Vaughan Ames, the Club Chair since 2011... So, Vaughan, are you still enjoying the role?!*

VA: I am loathe to admit just how much fun it is in case someone stands against me! I get a huge amount of pleasure seeing the cinema fill up to see a film that the committee and I are responsible for showing. I only hope we can get back to full cinemas again soon.

*TP: What do you enjoy the most?*

VA: That is a big question...I think maybe the moment the first film of a season finishes successfully and there have been no hitches! I love it when a plan has come together.

*TP: Fair enough, but are there specific jobs you do that you enjoy the most?*

VA: I do love getting the brochure together, so I am pleased that it is back this season. Hopefully it will help everyone to know what is coming up. Likewise, the weekly emails make me feel 'in touch' with everyone.

*TP: So, remind people how you got involved with the Club..?*

VA: I have always loved movies from my days in London when I used to go to the cinema twice or even three times a week. When I moved back to Keswick from New Zealand in 2010, I met Ann Martin through two of my friends here. She got me involved with the next Festival and onto the Committee. At this point, Rod Evans (*TP: the previous chair*) said he was standing down as Chair. I seemed to be the only one willing to do the job! How lucky was I?!

*TP: A film fan for many years then; do you have a favourite film?*

VA: That question has got easier with the passing years. As I can't remember anything I saw much beyond a week, whatever I saw last! Seriously, I love all sorts of film, from the very arty (I loved 'The Turin Horse' here in 2012) to

big blockbusters (I think I have seen 'Terminator 2' about 20 times! Love it...). The first 'art film' I saw was in London - 'Providence', an Alain Resnais film which opened my eyes to great cinema.

*TP: We gather that you no longer live in Keswick. Why did you move?*

VA: When Covid struck, rather than see Jules, my (then) girlfriend, for several months, I moved into her house in Lancaster. Along the way, I asked her to marry me and she fortunately said 'yes!' We bought a house near Morecambe with an amazing view, which is fantastic. The only downside is I now have to travel to Keswick to see you all.

*TP: Congratulations! We hope it won't stop you being involved with the Club..?*

VA: Not for a while yet at least. Age may stop me first! There is nowhere like Keswick, as I am sure you will agree, and no Club like this one!

*TP: Where do you see the Club going in the next few years?*

VA: Not sure that is really my patch - I always think of myself as the administrator, not the ideas person. Our first battle is to get the audiences back up to pre-Covid level...

*TP: Good luck with that, then.*

## Autumn Season Films

**With seven picked by you, the members, and the Director coming for the first film, it is looking like a great season ahead.**

We are off with a bang with *'And then Come the Nightjars'*, based on the foot and mouth outbreak in 2001, which should raise a lot of local memories, especially as the Director is coming for a Q&A too.

We have a couple of big stars for you - Penelope Cruz in *'L'immensità'* and Isabelle Huppert



in *'La Syndicaliste'*, not to mention Sigourney Weaver in *'Master*

*Gardener'* or Ben Whishaw in *'Passages'*.

We always try to go around the world; this season is not quite as all-encompassing as some years, but we do manage Italy, France, Germany, South Korea, Japan, Spain and Canada outside the UK and USA. Talking of Germany, we were pleased you voted for *'Afire'*, as German films are a pretty rare thing for us.

We have four films from the UK this year, which include *'Scrapper'* - a classic Keswick film - and *'Pretty Red Dress'* - with Tina Turner music a-plenty from Alexandra Burke and an interesting looking plot...

*'Past Lives'* looks like a potential 'Film Of the Season' to me, with a cross-decades, cross-continent love story from South Korea and the USA.



*'Small, Slow but Steady'* might be the most unusual little film, about

a deaf girl who takes up boxing to escape her isolation.

Recommendation: Try to avoid reading reviews of *'Master Gardener'* to get the best out of it...

A rare 18-rated film, *'Passages'* comes with great acting reviews...and it is 18 for a reason!

*'Brother'* looks good to us, which *'unpacks Black grief in a way we haven't seen often'*, and we finish back in the UK with *'Nobody Needs to Know'*, set in the wild beauty of the Hebrides.

Hopefully a film for all tastes here; we hope you enjoy all the ones you get to see!

### Film Club AGM

This year's AGM will be not be held until the start of the new year. This is because we now have to have fully signed-off accounts and, by the time we have our last invoices in for the 2022-23 year, there is not time to complete the process until later in the autumn; leaving the AGM until January guarantees we will have time to do this.

### Weekly Club Newsletter

Hopefully you are already getting the details of the current week's film and any upcoming events through our weekly newsletters on email. If it has stopped arriving, please check your 'junk' folder first or contact us via email at [info@keswickfilmclub.org](mailto:info@keswickfilmclub.org). If you have not yet signed up, please go to [www.keswickfilmclub.org](http://www.keswickfilmclub.org) and follow the tab 'Sign up for our email newsletter' there.

### Club Committee Changes

Over the summer the Committee got together to discuss the club; problems after Covid, plans for the future, even the committee itself. Some of the results of our discussion you have seen already - the rebirth of the Brochure and Talking Pictures for two.

One major change was agreed; we have slimmed down the committee to just 'officers'. Why?

To keep the Club functioning in the future it is vital that we keep its members - You! - happy and involved. Most of this comes down to having good films (!), but the club needs people to run it and, until now, that essentially meant getting on the committee... which some may find boring (again !). The committee does not need to meet

that often, just get the decisions made. That just leaves all the jobs that the committee did, and we decided these could be done by anyone interested, without being on the committee. So, we have kept the six officers and the rest have stood down. This leaves three things for me to do:-

1. Thank all those on the committee who have been running the club, some for a lot of years - Tom Rennie was basically the first member, having set up the club in 1998, Ann Martin who ran the festival for 10 years and Stephen Brown who is still running our website and has since it began. The others have been around for a shorter time, but still done a lot for the club... and they promise to keep volunteering to do jobs in the future. So, on your behalf, I would like to thank them all for everything they have done (and will do!). The club would not have existed without them.
2. Find volunteers to do all the work—see overleaf for more on this
3. We feel we need to bolster our commitment to short films - mainly because they are the most likely offering from local people and a good start in becoming involved in film making. We haven't yet decided on a 'job description', but if you feel you could do this role, why not let us know - write your own description!. Just email us at [info@keswickfilmclub.org](mailto:info@keswickfilmclub.org).

### KFC Spring 2023

Holy Spider	85.12
You Resemble Me	81.82
No Bears	74.58
Utama	73.68
Saint Omer	69.57
Aftersun	60.11
Corsage	59.09
Charcoal	57.78
Taming the Garden	52.04
Virgin Blue (Chinese festival)	50.78
Hit The Road	50.50
Average audience size: 71	