

### Annual General Meeting, 30<sup>th</sup> April 2014

The AGM took place at the Elgiva immediately before the showing of "*The Joy of Six*". It was attended by 22 members and committee; apologies were received from Ros Long, Mary Burgess and Sigrid Poole. A short summary of our meeting is given below:

#### • Chairman's Introduction

- Jon Wallis welcomed members to our 45<sup>th</sup> AGM. He noted that it had been a busy year as we had introduced a number of new activities in response to members' requests for more social activities.
- As well as the regular "on the sofa discussion" sessions coordinated by Amanda Craig, we had agreed with the Elgiva to keep the bar open after the film for two member get togethers – one of these followed *Wadjda* and the second was to follow *The Joy of Six* after this AGM. We also continue to send out regular email newsletters and to update information on our website and our Facebook page.
- We have been pleased to have had a positive response to our pre-show talks, mostly given by Andy Burrows. These have enabled us to raise awareness of the society to non-members in the audience as well as providing some background to the film we are about to see.

#### • Review of the Season

- Tony Renwick presented a short review of the season. Member reactions to films had been generally better than previous seasons with the average of 71% up to the penultimate film higher than the previous season's average of 68.3%. No films had been very poor performers, with the lowest score being 49%, for *Elena*. Our top scorer for the season so far was Tobias Lindholm's Danish thriller *A Hijacking*, scoring 86%. (See the detail for this year's and previous years ratings on our website at [2011-14 film ratings and voting](#) and [2008-14 film ratings](#) )
- We continue to notice a wider spread of reactions to films, with most films scoring the full range from A to E. We recognise that our film selection remains reasonably bold and so accept a wide range of reactions as inevitable.
- This year has continued the trend for more members to give comments and scores on the films we have shown and this peaked with 65 votes for two of the films. After we had to substitute for *My German Friend* one notable comment was that we should not have chosen a replacement (ie *Trance*) that had such a different style to the original selection and we accept that as a very valid point which we will take into account for future substitutions.
- Our classic film selection *Avanti!* shown in memory of our much missed secretary Derek Goddard, was well received and we will continue to show classics (interpreted as broadly more than 50 years old but with considerable leeway).
- Our membership improved from the previous season's 99, achieving 111 including 4 part season members.

#### • Treasurer's Report

- Andy Burrows presented the final accounts for 2012/13 (see [final accounts for 2012-13](#) ). As reported previously, these show a satisfactory result despite a lower membership than 2011/12. Acceptance of the accounts for FY2012/13 was proposed by Ethne Effendowicz, seconded by Michael Rowan and approved by the meeting.
- Andy also presented the provisional accounts for 2013/14 (see [provisional accounts for 2013-14](#)). With improved member numbers this season, we continue to show a profit despite higher expenditure on providing member facilities. With continued profitability over several years we have built up a reserve which is sufficient to enable us to invest some of our funds in improving our internet presence and other promotion of the society. This would also enable us to cushion the subscription for a while should member numbers fall and to cope short term if we have a disastrous membership year for any reason.
- We intend that the subscription for the 2014/15 season will be held at £49 for 15 films, an even better deal than before as we understand that the Elgiva ticket prices will be increasing a little in the near future.

