

## **Berwick Film Society – Annual Report for the year 1<sup>st</sup> July 2021 to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2022**

**The society is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation number 1174531  
registered on 6<sup>th</sup> September 2017**

### **The principal office is:**

5 Castle Street

Norham

Berwick-upon-Tweed

TD15 2LQ

Northumberland

Website: [www.berwickfilmsociety.co.uk](http://www.berwickfilmsociety.co.uk)

Email: [info@berwickfilmsociety.co.uk](mailto:info@berwickfilmsociety.co.uk)

### **The objectives are:**

For the benefit principally of the residents of North Northumberland and the Scottish Borders to:

- advance the education of members of the community and general public in the understanding and appreciation of the arts, in particular film and media arts;
- organise, run or arrange screenings of films, media arts and allied visual exhibition in a manner which allows wide accessibility;
- promote study and appreciation of film and media arts through exhibitions, lectures, workshops, discussions and in any other way the charity chooses.

### **The Trustees are:**

- Genevieve Poole – Co-ordinator
- Maurice Ward - Treasurer
- John Spiers - Membership

The governing constitutional document is “Constitution of a Charitable Incorporated Organisation whose only voting members are its charity trustees”, dated 1<sup>st</sup> Sept 2017.

At a meeting (by email) of the Trustees on 7<sup>th</sup> September John Spiers was appointed for a further three years.

### **Achievements during the year**

At the start of the season restrictions due to Covid were being relaxed and screenings in venues with social distancing became a possibility.

We changed the way membership and films were available to make it more financially viable for those who would not attend every film. This was by reducing the membership season fee and charging a small fee for each film attendance. Our members numbers are reduced considerably and this seems to be a feature in many local organisations. It appears to be a slow progress to reach pre Covid levels of activity.

This has not affected our overall financial performance which is close to break even for this year. We will continue with this new membership structure for the time being.

The future has some uncertainty as our main venue, The Berwick Maltings, will be closing for redevelopment for over one year. An alternative venue is being investigated. This has considerably lower seating capacity. When there is more certainty about the closure and temporary replacement facilities we will devise the best way of continuing to screen as many films as we do now to as many people as possible.

### **Other activities**

The society usually supports the cost of screenings for the Berwick Film & Media Arts Festival, but there was no festival during this year.

### **Administration and management**

All activities for the operation of the society during this year were carried out by the Trustees on a voluntary basis.

### **Finance and Reserves**

Accounting is reported on an Income and Expenditure basis; annual accounts are submitted to the Charity Commission.

It is a policy to hold substantial reserves. We screen the films at The Maltings Theatre and Cinema it has been announced that it has achieved substantial funding and will soon be closed for approximately 2 years for substantial renovations. We do not know what facilities may be available to us during this period. The reserves will cover the purchase of new high quality cinema equipment to enable us to continue screening films in another venue if the need arises.

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