Kirtlington Film Club

Report for Kirtlington Parish Council May 2025

1. Introduction

The film club was set up in 2009. The founder of the club, chair and chief projectionist, Dr John Moore, left the village in summer 2023. Two members of the film club committee, Olwyn Mason and Barbara Kemp, took over running the club as co-chairs when John left. We have two projectionists – Judy Niner and Steve Vickars- and Chris Mason helps with taking money on the night. Films are shown on Saturdays (once a month) in the Village Hall during Autumn, Winter and Spring. We charge £5 per ticket and wine, coffee and tea are available to purchase. Complimentary snacks are provided.

2. The 2024/5 Season

The 2024/5 season ran from October until April 2025. We showed six films, including one foreign language film and our February film, Wilding was shown as a joint event with Sustainable Kirtlington. We have continued to make efforts to expand our social media publicity beyond Kirtlington and the neighboring villages of Bletchingdon and Weston on the Green, for example to Chesterton and Kidlington, and have increased both our mail list numbers to 152 from 129 last season. The average attendance across the 6 films was 43 (up from last season of 39, very much helped by the 63 attending the Wilding film). This is encouraging as it suggests our increased publicity is working as well as providing films and a format for the evening that is popular.

We investigated the installation of our projector in the ceiling of the village hall to move away from the set up of the equipment each showing. However, the use of the hall for sports constrains how and where a projector could be mounted. After consideration, and getting 2 quotes involving different options, we decided against doing this.

3. Finances

Our costs of running the club each season include hire of the village hall, purchase of the film DVD and the licence for showing each film, as well as an annual insurance cover (for the equipment and personal liability). We aim to make a small profit each evening to ensure we have monies in reserve for the purchase of new equipment and any other sundry items needed. Our main purchase for this season was a Sum Up reader so we can take card payments as well as cash. Our cash balance at the end of the 2024/5 season is £2,565.36.

4. Future Plans

We will be meeting in the summer to determine the film programme for the 2024/5 season as well as discussing improvements and developments to keep the club not just sustainable but thriving.

Olwyn Mason and Barbara Kemp

Joint Chairs Kirtlington Film Club

May 2025