

BRITISH FEDERATION OF FILM SOCIETIES

JANUARY 2011 e-NEWSREEL

NEWS

FROM THE NEW CHAIR OF BFFS, CLAIRE ELLIOTT

“At BFFS we are looking forward to the new challenges the year ahead will bring. Working closely with our Members, Regional Groups and individual volunteers as well as funders and partners across the UK, we will ensure that BFFS is supporting community cinema in every way possible. With the dedicated team behind it, BFFS is in a strong position to continue to develop and extend its activities. Thanks for all your support during 2010. “There will be a call for nominations of candidates for election to the Board of Trustees in May, but in the meantime we would be very happy to hear from anyone interested in contributing to the work of the BFFS Board. “I wish you all the best for 2011.”

BFFS MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL 2011

2011 BFFS membership renewals were sent out earlier this month. For more information on joining BFFS this year head to: www.bffs.org.uk/membership/
For 2011 the subscription fee has been increased by £5 to £85, as approved by the Membership at the 2010 AGM.

BFFS ON RADIO 4'S THE FILM PROGRAMME

BFFS featured on a special edition of Radio 4's The Film Programme chatting to Francine Stock about how to set up a pop-up cinema.

The programme features a Q&A with BFFS Patron Ken Loach after a special pop-up screening of *Sweet Sixteen* at a community centre in Govan, Glasgow. You can listen again here: <http://bbc.in/i2vboh>

EDINBURGH INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL TO TAKE NEW DIRECTION

Journalist Mark Cousins, Oscar winner Tilda Swinton and a wider artistic team to be announced have begun to craft the blueprint for the ambitious transformation under the title All That Heaven Allows.

The festival may cease to have a competition section or prizes and will focus more on inviting a team of guest curators to programme their own selection of films or contribute to special themed days within the festival.

The 65th Edinburgh International Film Festival will start on June 15, 2011.

CAMPAIGN TO LIFT PRISON SENTENCE OF JAFAR PANAHI

A group of cinema organisations has started an [online petition](#) to call for the lifting of the prison sentence against Jafar Panahi (*The Circle*, *Offside*, *Crimson Gold*). The sentence, handed down by the Court of the Islamic Republic in Teheran, amounts to six years of imprisonment without remission, accompanied by a ban of twenty years on writing and making films, giving interviews to the press, leaving the territory, or communicating with foreign cultural organisations.

The introduction to the petition reads: “Jafar Panahi is a renowned filmmaker and his films have been shown all over the world. The heavy sentence inflicted upon Jafar deprives him of his freedom, while preventing him both physically and morally from carrying out his work as a filmmaker. Henceforth, he must remain silent, refrain from any and all contact with his fellow filmmakers both in Iran and anywhere else in the world.”

To support the petition go to: <http://www.ipetitions.com/petition/solidarite-jafar-panahi/> (scroll down for English version)

HIDDEN HERSTORIES - JAYABEN DESAI

BFFS was saddened to learn of the recent death of Jayaben Desai, inspirational leader of the Grunwick Strike. You can view an extract about Jayaben Desai from *Hidden Herstories* here: <http://www.spinetv.net/video/hidden-herstories-jayaben-desai>

Hidden Herstories is available on the BFFS Booking Scheme.

PEOPLE WE LIKE - CINÉMOI

[Cinémoi](#) offers the crème de la crème of French film complete with new releases and classics, all with English subtitles, every day from 3pm to 3am. Whether you have always loved the films of Luc Besson and Henri-Georges

Clouzot, or have a soft spot for Marion Cotillard, Cinémoi in February is perfect for you. Tune in to the new introductions by Jonathan Ross about French cinema and interviews with great directors.

See a message from Jonathon Ross here: <http://www.cinemoi.tv/trailers-clips/interview/jonathan-ross-message>

As a special offer to BFFS NewsReel readers who are Virgin Media viewers, Cinémoi is offering a 50% discount on a 3 month subscription. To claim your discount call 0845 880 8008 or visit the Cinémoi website (subscription page) and quote BFFS-MOI.

To keep posted with Cinémoi email info@cinemoi.tv to receive exciting news and the chance to win great cinephile prizes.

BFFS BOOKING SCHEME NEWS

EDUCATION MATTERS

Following on from the 2010 BFFS National Conference theme of Education here are some ideas for education activities.

Klass: Winner of the FIPRESCI prize at the Warsaw Film Festival 2007, this devastating look at the effects of bullying pulls no punches. Two victims of a campaign of violence and abuse by their classmates, are driven to desperation and, ultimately, violent revenge. *Klass* harrowingly examines how young people can be driven to extremes, whilst refraining from demonising them as disturbed or unbalanced. It is essential viewing.

Use the film as a starting point for a discussion or programme as part of an awareness campaign such as [International Stand Up to Bullying Day](http://www.standupday.com) (www.standupday.com) on 25th February or [Anti Bullying Week](http://www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk) (www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk), usually held in November, and contact local anti-bullying support groups. Statistics about bullying in the UK can be found on the NSPCC website.

You can book *Klass* via the BFFS Booking Scheme, contact info@bffs.org.uk.

FILMS YOU MAY HAVE MISSED

Looking for something with a real community feel? Under the Mud is an upbeat comedy made through a unique collaboration between a group of teenage writers and Hurricane Films (Of Time and the City).

As Andrew Collins said in a recent Radio Times review: '...the sheer do-it-yourself energy of the piece, which recalls early Shane Meadows, counts for much.'

You can book this Liverpool fairytale via the BFFS Booking Scheme, contact info@bffs.org.uk or contact info@hurricanefilms.co.uk to request a Q&A.

EVENTS

BFI RESEARCHER'S TALES – THE POST WAR FILM SOCIETY MOVEMENT

BFI National Library, 21 February, 6.15pm

Based on his PhD research into BFFS and the post-war film society movement, Richard MacDonald will be holding a session at the BFI to discuss his findings. Booking required as places are limited. Available to individual library members and BFI Members: <http://www.bfi.org.uk/filmtvinfo/researchers/tales/>

FESTIVALS, FESTIVALS, FESTIVALS

- [Keswick Film Festival](#) : 10-13 February 2011
- [Fort William Mountain Film Festival](#) : 11-15 February 2011
- [Glasgow Film Festival](#) : 17-27 February 2011
- [Witham Cinema Film Festival](#) - Local Connections: 24-27 February 2010
- [Birds Eye View Film Festival](#) : 8-17 March
- [Minghella Film Festival](#) : 11-13 March 2011
- [Forest Row Comedy Film Festival](#) : 17-20 March

- [London Australian Film Festival](#) : March
- [Llanberis Mountain Film Festival](#) : 18-20 March 2011
- [London Asian Film Festival \(Tongues on Fire\)](#) : 18-27 March 2011
- [Bradford International Film Festival](#) : 17-27 March 2011
- [Pennine Film Festival](#) : 21-25 March
- [Flatpack Film Festival](#) : 24-27 March 2011
- [Borderlines Film Festival](#) : 25 March-10 April 2011
- [London Lesbian and Gay Film Festival](#) : 31 March-6 April
- [London Independent Film Festival](#) : 14-25 April 2011
- [East End Film Festival](#) : 27 April-2 May 2011
- [LIDF](#) - The London International Documentary Festival : 5-15 May

NEW RELEASES

- [How Much Does Your Building Weigh, Mr Foster?](#) – Dogwoof: Released 28 January
- Son of Babylon – Dogwoof: Released 11 February
- [Client 9](#) – Dogwoof: Released 4 March
- [Ballast](#) – Axiom: Released 18 March
- [Benda Bilili!](#) – Trinity Filmed Entertainment: Released 18 March

NEWSREEL IS AVAILABLE AS A PRINTABLE PDF – ALL THE LATEST INFORMATION AND STORIES IN ONE DOCUMENT FOR YOU TO SHARE WITH YOUR COMMITTEE.

TO REQUEST A COPY, EMAIL BFFS OPERATIONS ASSISTANT BRYONY FORDE: bryony.bffs@googlemail.com

THE BFFS TEAM