

Suffolk Digital Cinema Network

Annual report 2008-09

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Chairman's report

This year is the 5th anniversary of the Suffolk Digital Cinema Network.

This project, from the start, relied not only on volunteers who wanted to bring cinema to community settings, but also on maintaining the political support of Suffolk's local authorities, sustained support from the regional film council (Screen East) and successful grant applications made to the lottery funding pot. It has therefore relied heavily on the determination of a small group of people who have dealt with the day-to-day challenges of acquiring and maintaining the equipment, making grant applications and engaging with and supporting members of the network. So, I would like to thank Lizzi Cocker who has held the reins of the network, Helen Brookson who is the treasurer, and brings her professional skills, and Trevor Allchin who has the technical skills that are so important for trainings and maintenance of the equipment.

In 2008/9 the long-awaited up-graded web-site has gone live. This is thanks to a Suffolk County Council 'Single Gateway' grant and an Awards for All grant and the skills of our own man, Trevor Allchin. Over the years we have struggled with how we could meet the cost of setting up a more sophisticated web-site to replace the "off-the shelf" one that was set up simply to get us started in 2004. Trevor is still adding to the web-site and it has a very much more professional look.

Membership of the network continues to grow but I think it would be fair to say that no two Suffolk Village Cinemas are alike. Groups are free to run their screenings exactly as it best suits their community as long as everything they do is legal and safe. This brings me on to the importance of the training sessions that Trevor has run over the last five years. As new volunteers become involved with an existing group we need to know whether the skills and information are being passed on sufficiently well or whether training remains essential for new helpers.

As a county-wide organisation we wondered if an event to celebrate our fifth anniversary was appropriate. Suffolk's geographical spread seems to suggest that this is not a very practical idea. However, this should not detract from a sense of achievement. The film industry provides us with an enormous choice of material and the first five years have established access to films in Suffolk villages where many people had stopped going to the cinema.

Finally, we are very pleased to welcome Charlotte as our new administrator. Despite our efforts to keep the organisation of the network as simple as possible there is, inevitably, a fair amount of essential clerical work. Charlotte will work closely with Helen and we thank Lizzi for everything she has done to cover this work.

I look forward to my role as Chairman of the network and hope that we continue to develop new audiences and keep pace with the needs of our members.

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On location: Spring 2008

United Nations is a movement that highlights the need for deeper understanding between people from all over the world. An approach from a leading member of Sudbury's UN community led Babergh into the idea of holding a festival of international films to be shown in the villages that were part of the Suffolk Digital Cinema Network. With funding and support from Babergh, Screen East, Sudbury Town Council, Lavenham Parish Council, Sudbury branch of the UN and the SDCN, a programme of films was devised with the help of Dave Gregory. Seven venues showed eleven films. French, German, Spanish, Mongolian, Swedish, South American films, including three specifically appealing to children, were shown and enjoyed by enthusiastic audiences totalling 527 ticket sales. Several venues added to the atmosphere of the occasion by providing international fare to match the film.

The festival attracted good press coverage and widened the interest in village screenings. There were, however, some practical difficulties around films with subtitles. Audiences had difficulty seeing the subtitles from the back of the audience, especially where the screen had to be at floor level. It was agreed, however, that the international principle could easily be maintained without insisting on foreign languages and so plans for a 2009 world cinema festival have been worked up in partnership with Babergh and Mid-Suffolk District Council.

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Secretary's report

This year the network has continued to progress and strengthen its capacity as an organisation, bringing frequent screenings with a diversity of films to enthuse and entertain people all over the County and beyond.

There have been 271 screenings this year and at the last count there were over 5,300 attendances recorded, although many more people have enjoyed films thanks to the network and a small estimate overall would be around the 10,000 mark - a fantastic achievement.

There are a few main points to draw out from these statistics. Firstly it has been an enormous contribution to the market towns of Halesworth and Sudbury to screen regular cinema to their communities with the variety of film titles offered being both exciting and eclectic, ranging from *The Great Gatsby* through *Mamma Mia* to *Boy in Striped Pyjamas*.

Secondly there have been many enquiries from outside Suffolk - mainly communities that border the county and consequently the network has helped villages in Norfolk, Essex and Cambridgeshire. Also it is worth highlighting that well developed projects should ultimately be sustainable and the Network has seen many groups develop and take on responsibility for their own screenings through purchasing their own kit and operating independently. This in turn leaves us free to promote and support new groups to the scheme.

I look forward to hearing from village communities, welcoming new groups next year to the scheme and the ongoing success of the Network in Suffolk.

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Treasurer's report

This report covers the year to 31 March 2009. During this year we received further additional Revenue grants from Babergh District Council, Suffolk Coastal District Council and Mid Suffolk District Council. Our thanks go to all three District Councils for their continued support of the Network. This takes the total Revenue grants received to date to £15,905. Capital grants remain at £38,989.

The purchase of the fourth set of cinema equipment was completed during the year, and this is now housed in the Stowmarket area and used on a regular basis.

As with last year, the main annual expenses of the Network are the insurance premium, training of new members and equipment upkeep. In addition to the

Revenue grants mentioned above the Network receives income from members subscriptions. Although the accounts for the year to 31 March 2009 show a surplus of £8,086.51, this includes the remaining balance of the grant from "Awards for All" of £970.66. This sum will be spent in the next financial year. The Revenue balance of £7,115.85 is to be used to replace the current equipment as and when this becomes necessary, and will also support any deficit in Revenue expenditure. It will also be used to meet the shortfall between members' subscriptions and the annual insurance premium.

Accounts Summary

SUFFOLK DIGITAL CINEMA NETWORK

Summary of Cash Accounts 01/04/2008 to 31/03/2009

	RESTRICTED FUNDS £	UNRESTRICTED FUNDS £	TOTAL £
Balance brought forward	9,660.00	7,259.55	16,919.55
 <u>RECEIPTS</u>			
Capital Grants	0.00	0.00	0.00
Revenue Grants	0.00	1,750.00	1,750.00
Membership fees	0.00	685.00	685.00
TOTAL RECEIPTS	0.00	2,435.00	2,435.00
 <u>PAYMENTS</u>			
Training	0.00	258.40	258.40
Web site	1,357.56	85.50	1,443.06
Kit 4	7,057.79	0.00	7,057.79
Equipment Repairs/Replacement	0.00	1,165.85	1,165.85
Insurance	0.00	1,233.00	1,233.00
Auditor	0.00	75.00	75.00
Miscellaneous	0.00	34.94	34.94
TOTAL PAYMENTS	8,415.35	2,852.69	11,268.04
 NET SURPLUS FOR YEAR	-8,415.35	-417.69	-8,833.04
 BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD	1,244.65	6,841.86	8,086.51
 <u>Represented by:</u>			
Alliance and Leicester		147.02	147.02
HSBC	1,244.65	6,694.84	7939.49
	1,244.65	6,841.86	8,086.51

Appendix A

List of members

As of 01/04/08, the following organizations are full members of the Network (with Aldeburgh Cinema as an additional, associate member).

Babergh (12)
Babergh District Council
Hartest Cinema
Polstead Village Hall
Sudbury Video & Film Coalition
Quay Theatre Sudbury
Pentlow Film Club
Lavenham Community Council
Ansell Community Centre
Tattingstone Parish Council
Screen at Sproughton
Nayland with Wissington Village Hall
Village Hall Committee – Belchamp Walter
Forest Heath (6)
Cinema at Newmarket
Forest Heath District Council
Mildenhall Parish Council
Red Lodge Millennium Centre
Lakenheath Community Council
Stetchworth (Ellesmere Centre)
Mid Suffolk (10)
Felsham Village Hall
Friends of Mendlesham School
Mid Suffolk District Council
Screen in the Barn, Thrandeston
Stonham Aspal Community Council
Walsham-le-Willows Community Council
Wingfield Arts
Woolpit
Mice (Mostly Improvised Community Entertainment)
Rattlesden
St Edmundsbury (4)
SCACIC
St Edmundsbury Borough Council
Clare Ancient House Museum
Great Barton Film Night
Suffolk Coastal (11)
Blaxhall Village Hall
Film at Fram
Great Glemham Village Hall
Otley Community Council
Parham Village Hall
Suffolk Coastal District Council

Kyson School PTA
Ambush Cinema
Playford Parish Hall
Westleton
Nacton
Waveney (3)
New Cut Arts, Halesworth
Suffolk Artlink
Walpole Minema

Appendix B

Committee 2008-09

Chair: Damian Evans, Westleton

01728 648400 damian@sticklebackmusic.com

Vice Chair: Cllr Sue Wigglesworth, Polstead Village Hall

01787 210029 Sue.Wigglesworth@babbergh.gov.uk

Secretary: Lizzi Cocker, Forest Heath District Council

01638 719257 Lizzi.Cocker@Forest-Heath.gov.uk

Treasurer: Helen Brookson, Stonham Aspal Community Council

01449 711610 helen@brookson.com

Trevor Allchin, Technician

01986 835957 trevor.allchin@btopenworld.com

Peter Lincoln, Gt Glemham Village Hall

01728 663707 pandrlincoln@talktalk.net

Dave Bowman, Mildenhall Parish Council

01638 715989 davidbowman@hotmail.com

David Edwards, Gt Barton Film Night

01284 788118 david.edwards007@yahoo.co.uk

Zoey Furzer, Mid Suffolk District Council

01449 724638 Zoey.Furzer@midsuffolk.gov.uk

Appendix C

Screenings 1 April 2008 – 31 March 2009

Ambush Cinema

Film Title	Date Shown	Adults	Children
Shoah	15/03/2009	11	

Ansell Community Centre – see Hollywood in Hadleigh

Clare Ancient House Museum

Film Title	Date Shown	Adults	Children
The Sting	23/10/2008	39	
Casablanca	28/02/2009	49	

Felsham Village Hall

Film Title	Date Shown	Adults	Children
Stardust	21/02/2009	19	6

Film at Fram

Film Title	Date Shown	Adults	Children
Lady Chatterley	01/04/2008	39	
Bruce Almighty	06/05/2008	29	
Perfect Storm	03/06/2008	31	
Ghandi	24/06/2008	31	
Ghosts	01/07/2008	15	
Bicycle Thieves	05/08/2008	52	
Stepping Out	02/09/2008	30	
La Vie en Rose	04/10/2008	37	
Catch Me If You Can	04/11/2008	34	

Great Barton Film Night

Film Title	Date Shown	Adults	Children
Last King of Scotland	05/04/2008	26	
Atonement	03/05/2008	54	
Brief Encounter	07/06/2008	62	
Ladies in Lavender	01/09/2008	59	
Casablanca	25/10/2008	70	
The other Boleyn Girl	01/11/2008	40	
Love Actually	01/12/2008	36	
Mamma Mia	01/01/2009	115	
The Duchess	01/02/2009	80	
Brassed Off	01/03/2009	34	

Great Glemham Village Hall

Film Title	Date Shown	Adults	Children
Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid	11/04/2008	24	
Little Miss Sunshine	19/09/2008	23	
The Third Man	10/10/2008	25	
L'Auberge Espagnole	14/11/2008	22	

The Jungle Book	15/11/2008	19	24
Paint Your Wagon	05/12/2008	18	
The Talented Mr Ripley	09/01/2009	13	
An Affair to remember	14/02/2009	43	
Elizabeth	13/03/2009	29	
Honey I shrunk the Kids	14/03/2009	6	8

Hartest Cinema

Film Title	Date Shown	Adults	Children
There Will Be Blood	10/09/2008	32	
London to Brighton	10/10/2008	15	
Juno	10/12/2008	23	
Sweet Smell of Success	09/01/2009	27	
Man on Wire	13/02/2009	23	
No Country for Old Men	07/03/2009	22	

Hollywood in Hadleigh

Film Title	Date Shown	Adults	Children
Atonement	23/05/2008	63	
La Vie en Rose	20/06/2008	90	
Last King of Scotland	18/07/2008	58	
Into the Wild	22/08/2008	86	

Kyson School PTA (free showing)

Film Title	Date Shown	Adults	Children
Kung Fu Panda	12/12/2008	7	270

Lakenheath Community Council (Data not submitted)

Film Title	Date Shown	Adults	Children
	25/04/2008		
	30/05/2008		
	27/06/2008		
	03/01/2009		
	30/01/2009		
	27/02/2009		
	27/03/2009		

Lavenham Community Council

Film Title	Date Shown	Adults	Children
The Chorus	02/04/2008	88	
La Vie en Rose	07/05/2008	90	
Kirikou & Sorceress	30/05/2008	12	24
Charlie Wilson's War	04/06/2008	37	
Hairspray	02/07/2008	32	
The Other Boleyn Girl	06/08/2008	101	
Tea with Mussolini	03/09/2008	63	
Pursuit of Happiness	01/10/2008	24	
The Chronicles of Narnia	24/10/2008	15	46
Into the Wild	05/11/2008	23	

Mamma Mia	03/12/2008	155	
Elizabeth: The Golden Age	07/01/2009	33	
Wall-E	13/02/2009	28	51
The Duchess	04/03/2009	101	1

Leavenheath Village Hall Committee

Film Title	Date Shown	Adults	Children
The Dark Knight	14/03/2009	36	6

Mildenhall Parish Council (Data not submitted)

Film Title	Date Shown	Adults	Children
	17/04/2008		
	09/05/2008		
	22/05/2008		
	23/05/2008		
	13/06/2008		
	19/06/2008		
	20/06/2008		
	04/07/2008		
	18/07/2008		
	24/07/2008		
	25/07/2008		
	21/08/2008		
	22/08/2008		
	25/09/2008		
	23/10/2008		

Nayland with Wissington Village Hall (Full data not submitted)

Film Title	Date Shown	Adults	Children
	01/05/2008		
	02/05/2008		
	05/06/2008		
	06/06/2008		
	10/07/2008		
	11/07/2008		
	11/09/2008		
	12/09/2008		
	16/10/2008		
	17/10/2008		
	12/12/2008		
Mamma Mia	30/01/2009	66	
Shakespeare in Love	20/02/2009	23	

New Cut Arts, Halesworth (Data not submitted- films shown weekly throughout the year)

Film Title	Date Shown	Adults	Children
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Otley Community Council

Film Title	Date shown	Adults	Children
St Trinians	17/05/2008	40	5

Parham Village Hall

Film Title	Date Shown	Adults	Children
Captain Corelli's Mandolin	23/08/2008	40	3
Cold Comfort Farm	23/10/2008	10	
To Kill a Mockingbird	08/11/2008	29	1
Oh Brother, Where Art Thou?	06/12/2008	24	1
Walk The Line	31/01/2009	14	
A Streetcar Named Desire	21/03/2009	18	

Pentlow Film Club

Film Title	Date Shown	Adults	Children
Oh What a Lovely War!	18/04/2008	19	
Michael Clayton	16/05/2008	10	
The Importance of Being Earnest	21/09/2008	16	
A Private Function	18/10/2008	13	
Atonement	15/11/2008	15	
Ratatouille	13/12/2008	14	2
In Bruges	17/01/2009	13	
Volver	21/02/2009	16	
Master & Commander	21/03/2009	11	

Playford Parish Hall

Film Title	Date Shown	Adults	Children
The Wizard of Oz	22/12/2008	10	20

Polstead Village Hall

Film Title	Date Shown	Adults	Children
Volver	18/04/2008	93	
Etre Et Avoir	19/04/2008	36	
Magic Flute	16/05/2008	92	
The Kite Runner	13/06/2008	112	
Ratatouille	15/08/2008		54
Happy-go-lucky	29/08/2008	76	
The Other Boleyn Girl	19/09/2008	71	
Hobson's Choice	17/10/2008	63	
The Edge of Love	07/11/2008	110	
Mamma Mia	17/12/2008	102	
Mamma Mia	19/12/2008	100	
Becoming Jane	16/01/2009	82	
The Third Man	13/02/2009	98	
The Duchess	20/03/2009	114	

Quay Theatre / Sudbury Video & Film Coalition (Full data not submitted – films shown weekly throughout the year)

Film Title	Date Shown	Adults	Children
Wartime Memories	15/11/2008	15	
History of Theatre	26/03/2009	22	

Screen at Sproughton

Film Title	Date Shown	Adults	Children
The Motorcycle Diaries	16/05/2008	24	

Stonham Aspal Community Council

Film Title	Date Shown	Adults	Children
Brick Lane	11/03/2009	38	
The Chorus	10/09/2008	12	
The Notebook	12/11/2008	18	

Village Hall Committee (Belchamp Walter)

Film Title	Date shown	Adults	Children
Mamma Mia	23/01/2009	18	0
Mamma Mia	24/01/2009	12	4
Happy Go Lucky	28/02/2009	33	4
The Pianist	27/03/2009	12	4
The Kite Runner	28/03/2009	9	0

Walpole Minema

Film Title	Date Shown	Adults	Children
Spoon	02/08/2008	40	
Deep End	03/08/2008	40	
George Formby Titles	15/08/2008	40	
The Italian Job	16/08/2008	40	
John Mekas Shorts	17/08/2008	40	

Westleton

Film Title	Date Shown	Adults	Children
Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid	14/08/2008	209	11
Goodbye Mr Chips	22/12/2008	40	

Woolpit

Film Title	Date Shown	Adults	Children
Some Like It Hot	03/10/2008	49	
Seven Brides for Seven Brothers	05/12/2008	42	
Santa Claus, The Movie	22/12/2008	40	120
The African Queen	06/02/2009	41	
Wall-E	16/02/2009	20	80
To Kill a Mockingbird	13/03/2009	43	