



NOVEMBER 2019 NEWSLETTER

Hello to all our members,

"Exciting admin" is normally an oxymoron, but we have some exciting admin to address in this month's newsletter.

Let's give a warm welcome to Vivienne Bond as our new President. Vivienne has a reputation for strong focus, conviction and good humour, and will no doubt be a great leader.

A fond farewell is in order for Sally Ahern, our previous President. We appreciate her endless positivity and extreme dedication, especially in organising the Warburton Film Festival. I hope she is enjoying a well-deserved rest after all her hard work, and we are proud to still have her on the committee going forward.

The committee has completed next year's screening program, and bookings for the Christmas dinners are now open.

We also have a double-bill of Fritz poems, and I've formulated a cool idea for a review series for next year's newsletters – but you'll have to wait until February to see the surprise. ;)

NEXT YEAR'S GENERAL PROGRAM

Based on your votes, we have assembled a solid program with a diverse assortment of international films and a good balance of dramas, thrillers and comedies.

I hope you enjoy the films we have in store for you next year:

February:	<i>The Hundred-Year-Old Man Who Climbed Out of the Window and Disappeared</i>	2013 Swedish comedy
March:	<i>Secrets and Lies</i>	1996 British drama
April:	<i>Living Is Easy With Eyes Closed</i>	2013 Spanish comedy-drama
May:	<i>Amour</i>	2013 French drama-romance
June:	<i>Goldstone</i>	2016 Australian Western
July:	<i>Arctic</i>	2018 Icelandic thriller
August:	<i>The Last Suit</i>	2018 Argentinian drama
September:	<i>The Crying Game</i>	1992 British-Irish thriller
October:	<i>The Grapes of Wrath</i>	1940 American drama
November:	<i>The Secret in their Eyes</i>	2009 Spanish-Argentinian crime drama
December:	<i>What's Up Doc?</i>	1972 American comedy

2019 CHRISTMAS DINNER

We will be having our annual Christmas dinner at **6 PM** on **December 10** at the Upper Yarra Arts Centre in **Warburton**, and **December 17** at the Healesville Memorial Hall in **Healesville**.

Entry is **\$10**, and you are strongly advised to book ahead. You can reserve your spot and pay at the November screening, or you can book ahead via email and pay at the dinner.

Booking contacts for each venue are below:

Warburton dinner:

10 December

beawickskaandorp@hotmail.com

Healesville dinner:

17 December

lorrainesorrell@yahoo.com.au

The venues have a maximum of **60 seats**, so get in quick!

The *booking deadline* is the Friday before each dinner: **6 December** for *Warburton* and **13 December** for *Healesville*

Members will be able to renew their membership at the dinner, or in February at our first 2020 screenings. **EFTPOS** for membership renewal will be available at both dinners and at the February screenings.

Healesville members are encouraged to bring your own plates and cutlery, and since there are no facilities for you to wash your dishes/cutlery, you are advised to bring a bag to carry them home in.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

The 2020 Membership fees are as follows:

Regular:	\$70
Concession:	\$65
Youth Membership (Under 25):	\$35

As mentioned earlier, you can renew your membership at the December or February screenings.

FRITZ'S POEMS

Youth

It is an amazing film, the movie "Youth"
About the mindsets that ageing can bring.
It has clever insights and hometruths
About emotions, beliefs and that personality thing.
Then contradicting it all in words and deed,
Throwing up crazy situations.
The acting in those is brilliant indeed
With its non-verbal communications.
We see Hitler, Buddha and the Queen.
A beauty queen and a big belly –
The most unreal world that I've ever seen.
That's why I am glad I live here in the valley.



F.R – September 9

Aurore

We saw Aurore on a cold, rainy day.
It's about "joie de vivre", as the French say.

A film that brilliantly managed to show
That there still is joy as older we grow.
That you can handle hassles in your stride.
Relationship problems can be put aside.
Situations so real, the acting so true.
A portrait from a very French point of view.

Inspiring laughter, shining a positive light
On the family's self-imposed plight.
So many emotions we could feel, see and hear

But in the end, the message was clear:
That in spite of ageing, trouble and strife
Suck every bit of juice from the marrowbone of life.



F.R – 19 October

STAR RATINGS AND REVIEW FOR *AURORE*



3.9 from Healesville 4 from Warburton's viewers

3.95 overall

My rating: 3 out of 5

Aurore is a charming, funny French drama about age, hardship and finding fulfilment later in life, but the central budding relationship rings hollow.

The film has very authentic performances, witty dialogue and natural moments of humour. The languid, slightly erratic pacing conveys a sense of lives unfolding, with their business, frustration and crushing slowness, not just a plot.

I also found *Aurore*'s characters much more relatable than those of *Youth* (and I'm not just saying that because I'm 28, and therefore closer in age to *Aurore*'s protagonist than the much older Michael Caine).

Where *Youth* reeked of narcissism, *Aurore* is far more mature and sensitive in illustrating how we never really have life fully figured out, even if we're 50 and about to become a parent or grandparent.

I also really appreciated how *Aurore* shows that age and beauty – for that matter, age and sexuality – are not mutually exclusive, and passionate romance and sexual drive are often undiminished with age. This fact is demonstrated most amusingly by the lively

elderly woman who tells Aurore about an intense physical relationship she had only three years before.

But the major plot-thread of *Aurore* (the film's eponymous protagonist) reconnecting with an old high-school boyfriend lacks impact.

Aurore and "Totoche" (the boyfriend) have some endearingly awkward chemistry early in their renewed friendship, and have a stunning moment of emotional synergy during an opera-oriented dinner party.

Even so, they have little meaningful connection throughout the film.

Aurore has far more relaxed, open chemistry with her ex-husband; they don't love each other enough to stay together, but they evidently still like each other's company. She initiates a relationship with a friend-of-a-friend named Hervé, and while he is a fairly inane man who doesn't listen well, their relationship seems quite comfortable.

Totoche ending his relationship with Aurore out of fear, as he does not want to revisit the past, is very understandable, and this appears to bring the plot-thread to a sad but satisfying conclusion.

So having Aurore and Totoche abruptly get together at the end is unconvincing.

They only fully accept each other into their lives during respective moments of extreme emotion – Aurore's daughter giving birth, and Totoche's house burning down – and little throughout the rest of the film suggests that they will stay together once the adrenaline wears off.

Aurore is a sweet, poignant drama with outstanding natural performances, but the conclusion feels unearned and therefore unfulfilling

NOVEMBER'S SCREENING

Ellipsis

2017 Australian drama

Rated M

85 minutes (approx.)



With shades of Richard Linklater's *Before* trilogy, *Ellipsis* is a touching slice-of-life drama about two people who meet by chance in crowded Sydney and embark on an adventure-filled night together.

WARBURTON SCREENING: Tuesday November 12

HEALESVILLE SCREENING: Tuesday November 19

DECEMBER'S SCREENING

Local Hero

1983 British comedy-drama

Rated PG

111 minutes (approx.)

WARBURTON SCREENING: Tuesday December 10

HEALESVILLE SCREENING: Tuesday December 17