



BEACONSFIELD FILM SOCIETY
TREASURER'S REPORT
1st October 2008 to 31st December 2009.

This is the first accounting period of the Society. The report is a commentary on and should be read in conjunction with the Income and Expenditure Account for the fifteen months to 31st December 2009

There is an operating surplus of £7,196.

This is represented by the following assets less liabilities of the Society:

Bank accounts £12,212; cash float £160; and expenses paid in advance £232. From which must be deducted subscriptions of £5,320 received from members in 2009, but for the year commencing on 1st January 2010; and expenses of £88 paid in 2010 relating to last year.

Membership. Subscriptions for the period were £14,836. Each member paid £30, or pro rata if they joined in June 2009 or later, when the Society started to clear its waiting list. 453 members paid the full amount and a further 141 paid pro rata giving a total membership at the period end of 594.

Ticket sales. Of the £15,565 total, members paid £12,130 (78%) and guests £3,435 (22%). Members paid £5 and guests £10 per ticket. Members and non-members who helped on the night were free.

In 2008 and 2009 there were two showings per month on Friday and Saturday. The following are attendance percentages broken down by quarter based on a maximum capacity of 151 seats per night.

	2008		2009		Total
	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	
Friday	90%	96%	69%	64%	77%
Saturday	66%	64%	44%	52%	56%
Total	78%	80%	56%	58%	66%

Donation. The donation of £500 was from Beaconsfield Old Church School Charity. Specifically for start up costs and towards the establishment of the Society's website.

Bank Interest. At the period end £11,822 was held on deposit and £390 on current account. But interest rates are nominal and only £10 was earned over the period. Commercial rates are significantly lower than personal rates and seeking out a better return was not considered worth the effort.

Administration Services. Total paid for the period was £6,510. The Administrator is self employed. During the period the Society had two paid Administrators. Becky Bourne (daughter of Geoff Bourne our Honorary Secretary) followed by Sarah McCaffrey who is a member of the Society.

The role of Administrator includes - Taking bookings by telephone and email - attending all performances - dealing with queries - with help, collecting on the door receipts, reconciling with bookings and providing the Treasurer with a record of transactions - incepting all printed materials including the quarterly program publicity - liaison with our wine supplier - membership records. In future the role will also include administration of the website.

Film Hire. Total for the period was £3,323. Most of this amount is royalties paid to distributors for the right to show films. Sometimes we are required to obtain the film from the distributor and this is included in the above amount.

Film Purchased. Total for the period £194. When allowed by distributors films are purchased outright and donated to the Film School after we have viewed them.

Treasurers Report 1st October 2008 to 31st December 2009 continued.

Film deliveries. Total for the period was £543. Films provided by distributors must be collected and returned for which a courier is used. A committee member also performed this service for which a mileage allowance was paid (£46 of the above total).

Wine and soft drinks. Total for the period was £2,461. A glass of wine or a soft drink is offered to members and guests attending screenings. The Society's first supplier was Laithwaites but since August we have been supplied by Beaconsfield Wine Cellars on a sale or return basis. Cost of wine was £2,336.

Printing. Professional printing for the period was £863. Apart from ad hoc items, quarterly leaflets and laminated membership cards were produced.

General Expenses. Total for the period £283. Includes reference books £27 - cash boxes £30 - champagne for guest speaker £40 - flowers for past Administrator £57 - sandwiches and refreshments for Film School Tour £71 - committee member expenses on visit to the National Film and Television School's Show held annually at the BFI on the South Bank £58.

Start-up costs. £3,153. This amount was paid in November 2008, December 2008 and March 2009 to The Rooster Consultancy. It was for work relating to implementing the initial booking system, attendance sheets, membership cards and liaising with members on various issues. Also webpage design and early updates, including rules, procedures and program notes. The Principal of The Rooster Consultancy is Annick Devillard, wife of Anthony Pickavance, Chairman of the Society.

Website development £1,840. **Website space and update** £385. The Society relies heavily on an effective website for communicating with members and attracting new members and needs to be updated on a regular basis. Development was paid in two instalments, August and November 2009. Having first looked at an alternative quote the work was undertaken by The Rooster Consultancy which is also referred to above.

Promotional material. Total £573. This relates to expenditure in October 2008, December 2008 and February 2009 on decorations, low value gifts and raffle prizes for the purpose of promoting the Society.

Interim report. A report together with an income and expenditure account for the first six months to 31st March 2009 was produced and posted, and remains, on the Society's website for the time being. This gives more detail relating to that period. Small differences occurred because of the unexpected volume of transactions when the Society was started and because of the advanced payment booking system. The booking system changed in May to ticket payment on the night and has settled down. Differences still occur from time to time between the list of those expected to attend and those who actually attend, but I am satisfied all monies collected are banked.

The next twelve months to 31st December 2010. Opening reserves at £7,196 are good particularly as the first accounting period included expenditure which will not be repeated this year. When setting the subscription rate £20 (£1.67 per month) compared with the previous fifteen months £30 (£2 per month) we have taken in to account possible new expenditure and an estimate of members who will not renew.

A third of the membership have not attended a screening or only attended once. In arriving at a subscription rate for 2010 it was prudent to assume a number of members will not renew and we based the subscription of £20 on 394 out of 594 renewing. So far 360 have renewed. This will be sufficient to cover anticipated expenses and maintain reasonable reserves.

There are plans to hold additional screenings, to increase the number of Speakers and to hold a Film Festival in the autumn.

The proposal to give £1000 to the Beaconsfield Film and Television School which will be voted upon at the Annual General Meeting is not included in these accounts and will be a charge on the 2010 year if approved by the members.

Leslie Morant