

Bishop's Castle Film Society  
Annual General Meeting 2018-19  
3<sup>rd</sup> April 2019

### Chair's Report

I have little to comment on this year. The film programme has been a varied one, with something for most tastes; members, and guests, have responded positively. Compared with when I first wrote one of these reports (2013-14) both membership numbers and audience figures have declined. There is probably little we can do about this. Age, and a change in cultural taste, is against us. Film societies, as with other voluntary associations, do not seem to attract younger people. It is a forlorn expectation that we might recruit among them. Although we have considered various ways of boosting our membership little has come of them. My feeling is that we should continue as we are – with income just about enough to cover our various costs. If we can prevent membership levels from falling we might succeed. On the other hand, we might reach a point when we have to consider the future of the Society.

There is a further factor: at present, with a change of management at the Three Tuns, the future of the Society's venue is uncertain. Initial signs seem encouraging, but there might come a cost or, worse still, an accommodation issue to be confronted. Where would we go if the Tuns were to become unavailable?

On a positive note: there is no serious rival to the distinctive cinematic experience we offer. Bishop's Castle and the surrounding region would be the poorer without it.

Lastly, my thanks as always to the Committee for its work during the year; and to Dave Simpson and his team for setting up the projection equipment.

Jeff Hill  
March 2019