June 2024

Waverley Film Society

June Meeting:

Waverley Film Society will meet at Wadham House, 52 Wadham Parade, Mount Waverley (MEL 61 E2), on **Wednesday, 12th of June.** Apologies can be left with Brett on 9807 3426.

This month we will screen : *A Fish Called Wanda* (1988). In London, four very different people team up on a jewel heist, then try to double-cross one another for the loot, complicated by their efforts to fool a very proper barrister.





Last Meeting

- 25 members attended. There were four apologies.
- Attendees awarded 12 Angry Men 4.3 stars.
- Subscriptions for 2024 are now due. The subscription of \$40 is unchanged from 2023.

Next Meeting

The film to be screened on Wednesday, July 10th is: *Little Voice* (1998). Liv is a very shy and reclusive young woman. Her mother's boyfriend hears her sing and persuades her to perform onstage.



Posters are available for posting in community spaces to advertise the society and the next screening.

contact@waverleyfilm.org is the new email address for the society

A FISH CALLED WANDA (1988)

Director: Charles Crichton, John Cleese Writer: John Cleese, Charles Crichton Cinematography: Alan Hume Editing: John Jympson Music: John Du Prez **Cast** includes:

(Reference: www.imdb.com)

Cludes:John CleeseArchieJamie Lee CurtisWandaKevin KlineOttoMichael PalinKenMaria AitkinWendy

Trivia

- Actor, executive producer, and writer John Cleese chose the name "Archie Leach", Cary Grant's real name, because he was born twenty miles away from where Grant was born, and because it was the closest Cleese could get to being Grant.
- Michael Palin's father stuttered, so Palin used a lot of his real-life experience when playing Ken Pile, including the fact that Ken's stutter is less pronounced around people he trusts (George Thomason and Wanda Gershwitz) and worse around people with whom he is uncomfortable (Otto West).
- Archie Leach's daughter Portia was played by John Cleese's real-life daughter Cynthia Cleese.

Review: Absolutely brilliant comedy (*The Void 2005*)

To make a comedy that can be lauded with the comment 'absolutely hilarious' isn't an easy thing to do. It's not so difficult, however, when you are one of the funniest men on god's green earth; and the extremely talented John Cleese has certainly managed to write a fine piece of comedy here. Teaming up with Monty Python buddy Michael Palin and Ealing studios director Charles Crichton, these talented comedians have managed to create a film that is most certainly one of the funniest; laugh per minute and lasting hilarity when it's over, movies ever made. The plot is taken straight from the classic Ealing comedy era (no wonder it works so well) and it follows four crooks that have stolen a bunch of jewels and now decide to double cross one another to take the loot solely for themselves. The plot thickens when the female of the bunch decides that the best way to get the loot would be to get close to a grassed-up co-conspirator's barrister; John Cleese.

Aside from an inch-perfect screenplay, *A Fish Called Wanda* also benefits from a fine cast of actors to deliver it. John Cleese steals every scene he's in, as you might expect, and he more than justifies his reputation as one of, maybe even the, finest British comedy actor ever. He is joined by a talented pair of Americans; Kevin Kline and Jamie Lee Curtis, along with, as mentioned, his fellow Python Michael Palin. Kline is certainly one of the most underrated actors working today, and his comic timing in this movie is right on the money. Makes you wonder how much better he could have been used over the years. "Scream Queen" Jamie Lee Curtis also does well in the title role; and Michael Palin obviously knows his way round a comedy script. The jokes in the film come thick and fast, and I can't think of a single one that didn't work. It's the big gags that are the real stand out of the movie, though, and one in particular that sees Kevin Kline trying to explain to Cleese's wife what he's doing in their home is absolutely priceless. I nearly fell of my chair laughing. This film is a must see.