

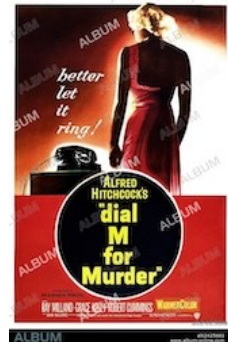
April Meeting:

Waverley Film Society will meet at Wadham House, 52 Wadham Parade, Mount Waverley (MEL 61 E2), on **Wednesday, 9th of April**.
Apologies can be left with Brett on 9807 3426.

Please pay Marlene the 2025 subscription (\$40) as soon as possible.

This month we will screen : *Dial M for Murder* (1954)

A former tennis star arranges the murder of his unfaithful wife.



Last Meeting

- Twenty-six people attended and there were four apologies.
- Attendees awarded *The Lavender Hill Mob* 4.2 stars.
- The 2025 AGM was held before the screening, during which the 2024 activities were reviewed.
- Graeme (President), Brett (Secretary), and Marlene (Treasurer) retained their committee positions (in a tight contest!)
- The subscription for 2025 will remain at \$40.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 14th.

The film to be screened is *Calendar Girls* (2003).

A group of friends decide to pose nude in a calendar to raise funds for medical research after a husband dies of cancer.



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

The society's website is www.waverleyfilm.org

Our email address is contact@waverleyfilm.org

DIAL M FOR MURDER (1954) *(Reference: www.imdb.com)*

Director: Alfred Hitchcock

Writers: Frederick Knott

Cinematography: Robert Burks

Editing: Rudi Fehr

Music: Dimitri Tiomkin

Cast includes:

Tony Wendice

Ray Milland

Margot Wendice

Grace Kelly

Mark Halliday

Robert Cummings

Chief Inspector Hubbard

John Williams

Trivia

- Alfred Hitchcock wanted Cary Grant to star, but Warner Brothers felt that he would be miscast as a villain.
- John Williams won the 1953 Tony Award for Best Featured Actor in the play for "Dial M for Murder" as Inspector Hubbard. He re-created the role in this movie.
- Alfred Hitchcock made a special effort to shoot scenes indoors, almost exclusively. Only a few brief shots, usually involving Chief Inspector Hubbard, take place outside. Hitchcock believed the decision to shoot most scenes indoors would create a sense of claustrophobia.
- Alfred Hitchcock had chosen a very expensive robe for Grace Kelly to wear when she answered the phone. Kelly balked and said that no woman would put on such a robe just to answer the ringing telephone; she would answer it in her nightgown. Hitchcock agreed to do it her way and he allowed Kelly to make all costume decisions for herself in their subsequent movies together.
- Alfred Hitchcock: Hitchcock can be seen on the left side of the reunion photograph. As he is only seen in a photo, this is the final Hitchcock movie in which he does not appear in person.

Review: M for Masterclass of Hitchcock (chiragrathod09 2024)

Alfred Hitchcock's *Dial M for Murder* is a quintessential thriller that epitomizes the director's mastery of suspense and psychological tension. Released in 1954 and adapted from Frederick Knott's play, the film revolves around a meticulously plotted murder scheme that unravels with gripping intensity.

The story follows retired tennis champion Tony Wendice, played with chilling calmness by Ray Milland, who devises a plan to murder his wealthy wife Margot, portrayed by Grace Kelly, in a bid to inherit her fortune. What unfolds is a tense game of cat and mouse filled with clever twists and a tight narrative structure that keeps viewers on the edge of their seats.

Hitchcock's skilled direction shines through the film's confined setting, primarily taking place in the Wendice apartment. The claustrophobia of the environment amplifies the drama and allows the performances to take centre stage. Milland and Kelly deliver compelling performances, efficiently portraying the complexity of their characters' relationship. The supporting cast, including Robert Cummings as the unwitting accomplice, adds depth to the unfolding events.

The film's dialogue is sharp, reflecting the characters' intelligence and manipulating just the right amount of tension and intrigue. Hitchcock's signature style is evident in his meticulous attention to detail and the way he builds suspense through visual storytelling, rather than relying heavily on action.

Dial M for Murder is not just a thriller but a study of morality, trust, and betrayal. Its timeless appeal lies in how it challenges audiences to contemplate the lengths one might go to for greed and the consequences that follow. With its engaging plot and rich character dynamics, Hitchcock's film remains a landmark achievement in the realm of suspense cinema that continues to resonate with viewers today.