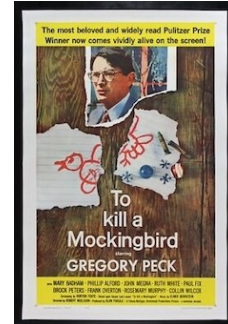


April Meeting:

Waverley Film Society will meet at Wadham House, 52 Wadham Parade, Mount Waverley (MEL 61 E2), on **Wednesday, 8th of April**. Apologies can be left with Brett on 9807 3426.

The film to be screened is *To Kill a Mockingbird* (1952).

A widowed lawyer in Alabama defends a black man on a false rape charge, while teaching his children about prejudice.

**Last Meeting**

- Twenty members attended the screening and there was one apology.
- Attendees awarded *The Party* 3.2 stars.
- The AGM was held before the screening, including a review of 2025 activities.
- The Committee elected for 2026 was Graeme Brownfield (President), Brett Gaffney (Secretary) and Marlene Watts (Treasurer).
- Subscriptions were kept at \$40 for 2026.

**Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 13th.

The film to be screened is *Philomena* (2013).

A journalist helps a woman to find her son, whom she was forced to place for adoption.



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

TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD (1952) *(Reference: www.imdb.com)*

Director: Robert Mulligan

Writers: Harper Lee, Horton Foote

Cinematography: Russell Harlan

Music: Elmer Bernstein

Editing: Aaron Stell

Trivia

Cast includes:

Atticus Finch

Dill Harris

Sheriff Heck Tate

Brock Peters

Scout

Jem

Gregory Peck

John Megna

Frank Overton

Tom Robinson

Mary Badham

Philip Alford

- After being offered the role of Atticus Finch, Gregory Peck quickly read Harper Lee's novel in one sitting and called director Robert Mulligan immediately afterwards to say that he would gladly play it.
- Gregory Peck's summation speech, which runs for 6 minutes and 30 seconds, was nailed in a single take.
- Mary Badham became the youngest girl to receive an Academy Award nomination for best supporting actress for her role as Scout.
- Mary Badham (Scout) and Gregory Peck (Atticus) became close during filming, and kept in contact for the rest of his life. Peck always called her "Scout", her character role, while Badham called Peck "Atticus".
- Brock Peters, who played Tom Robinson in the film, delivered Gregory Peck's eulogy on the date of his funeral and burial, Monday, June 16, 2003.
- Writer Harper Lee owned a percentage of the production, and spent about three weeks on the production set at Universal Studios.

Review: One of the most important films of all time *(FilmOtaku 2003)*

To Kill a Mockingbird is the movie based on the Harper Lee novel of the same name about Scout, Jem and their father, Atticus Finch who is an attorney in a small southern town. It is both a coming of age story about the children as well as a hard-hitting drama, as Atticus defends a black man who is on trial for the rape of a white woman.

.....
The defence of a man wrongly accused of a crime is a common story line, but *To Kill a Mockingbird* stands out for several reasons. Among them, the date that the film was released: 1962, on the cusp of the civil rights movement in America, and the fact that it takes place in the south in the 1930's. Also, it is not the first film to explore the experiences of children and their own personal growth, but *To Kill a Mockingbird* stands out because of its sheer honesty and the natural performances by the child actors portraying these rich characters.

But most of all, this film is special because of Gregory Peck's portrayal of Atticus Finch, a true hero. He is such an incredible man, and so inherently good. I smile when I see his interaction with his children, ... and (admire) his incredible strength of character. The American Film Institute recently named Atticus Finch the number one hero of all time, a choice I consider both brave and insightful in an age where our heroes generally either wield weapons or have superhuman physical strength. Atticus Finch fights evil as well, but with his strong moral fibre and his mind.

To Kill a Mockingbird is an exceptional film that stands the test of time and will remain an important addition to film history for as long as the genre exists.