

Dear Windmill Cinema supporter,

We are contacting you because you filled in a yellow leaflet at the Windmill Cinema recently and expressed interest in the idea of a cinema club. We have made some progress with this idea, and now want to bring you up to date.

The first thing to say is thank you to you and the other 1,000+ people who gave us their contact details. We have been delighted with the response. About 600 of you gave us e-mail addresses, so we are able to contact you quickly and for free! We will write to those without e-mail, but this will take a little time, so please feel free to share this e-mail with friends and neighbours. About 400 of the 1,000 supporters come from the Littlehampton area, and another 350 from the Rustington area. Interestingly, a further 125 are from other West Sussex areas, such as Barnham, Yapton, Worthing and Findon.

Hopefully, you will have read today's article in the Littlehampton Gazette which has the latest news on the swimming centre and the Windmill. Briefly, the swimming centre seems to be safe for the next 8 years; the Windmill's future is much less certain. The theatre groups are likely to be able to use the Windmill for the remaining 3 years of Inspire's lease, but no films are scheduled after 14th February 2013, and there is no plan in place to buy a digital projector.

In light of this, we are determined to keep the pressure on Arun District Council not to remove the subsidy which enables Inspire to show films throughout the year. So, please would you come to the protest march on Wednesday 16th January starting at 10.45 a.m. from the swimming centre, to the Windmill, on to the Arun Civic Centre, and finishing in the Millennium Chamber of Littlehampton Town Council. This is an opportunity to show the strength of feeling that exists. We also urge you (if you haven't already done so) to contact your Arun District Councillor and explain to them how much you like coming to the Windmill to see films, and how much you value the comfortable seats, short journey, safe and well-lit car park, etc. The final decision will be taken at two meetings: 11th February at 5 p.m., and 20th March at 6 p.m. both at Arun Civic Centre. We urge as many of you as possible to attend one or both of these meetings to show the Councillors how strongly you feel.

If the worst comes to the worst and we need to form a cinema club to keep films at the Windmill going, we need some help. We think it would require two sorts of volunteer: 1) a group of about a dozen people who are prepared to organise the various aspects of the club (choosing the films, advertising the programme, managing the volunteers, overseeing finances, organising refreshments, technical issues); and 2) a larger pool of volunteers prepared to carry out occasional duties as ushers, selling the tickets, serving refreshments. If you are willing to volunteer, please let us know which kind of role you are interested in, and whether you have any relevant experience that might help the club. Without a reasonable number of people prepared to do this, the club simply will not happen.

We very much look forward to hearing from you. Meanwhile, we hope to see you at the protest march on 16th January. If you would like more information, please look at www.seawallscampaign.weebly.com

With best wishes

Pat King and Phil McErlain