

May Meeting:

Waverley Film Society will meet at St John's Uniting Church, 37 Virginia Street, Mt Waverley at 7.40 on **Wednesday, 8th of May.**

Apologies can be left with Brett on 9807 3426. Visitors are welcome. Bring your friends.

This month we will screen ***Saving Grace (2000)***

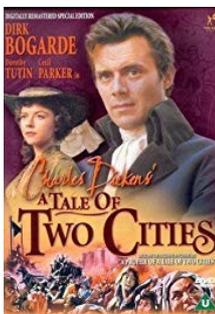
See page 2 for more information.

**The Gary and Warren Smith Community Raffle**

Please return your ticket stubs and the cash proceeds to Jenni Sampson at the May meeting.

**Last Month**

- Twenty seven people attended. There were six apologies and two new members.
- **A Tale of Two Cities** recorded a rating of 4.1 stars.
- The 1935 version of the film, starring Ronald Coleman, Elizabeth Allan, and Edna May Oliver, was well received. The program (and this newsletter!) had promoted the 1958 version but the DVD was mislabelled.
- Members were reminded that raffle books need to be returned in May.
- Possible free tickets were available for an upcoming release of *Peterloo*.

**Next Month**

Wednesday, June 12th

Murder on the Orient Express (2017)

Crime/Mystery

When a murder occurs on the train on which he's travelling, celebrated detective Hercule Poirot is recruited to solve the case.

Posters advertising this screening will be available. Please post them in community spaces.



Saving Grace (2000)

Director	Nigel Cole	Cast includes:	
Writing	Mark Crowdy (story) Craig Ferguson (screenplay) Mark Crowdy (screenplay)	Brenda Blethyn Craig Ferguson Martin Clunes Tcheky Karyo Lesley Phillips Valerie Edmond	Grace Matthew Dr. Bamford Jacques Vicar Nicky
Music	Mark Russell		
Cinematography	John de Borman		

Trivia

- Some of the marijuana plants used in the shooting were real. The British government gave permission to the filming crew the use of 150 marijuana plants, under supervision of the authorities.
- This movie was the inspiration for Martin Clunes' TV Movie and long-running Series, Doc Martin.
- The level of Grace's wine, when she's talking to her late husband's lover, goes from half to almost full as the camera switches from a side to a behind view.

Review: A lovable feel-good comedy (moviesleuth2 2009)

Charming doesn't even begin to describe "Saving Grace;" it's absolutely irresistible! Anyone who ventures into this movie will leave with their spirits soaring high (haha).

Grace Trevethyn has just lost her husband, ...who has left her with no money and outstanding debts. Faced with losing everything, she needs a lot of cash...fast! Her gardener, Matthew, asks for advice on a plant he is secretly growing. Grace realizes that his plant is marijuana, so they decide to use her gardening skills to grow it and then sell it to pay off her outstanding debts.

The most notable quality about "Saving Grace" is its likability. Every character is extremely sympathetic, and, save for the first 20 or so minutes, the film is non-stop good cheer. Everyone wants a happy ending for everyone, even if it means turning a blind eye to some rather illegal activities.

The acting is top-notch. Brenda Blethyn is one of Britain's finest actresses, and here is why. She turns what could have been a caricature into a fully living and breathing individual. She's a nice lady, but she's not stupid. Craig Ferguson is equally amiable as Matthew. He's a deadbeat loser, but he's so likable that it doesn't matter. The rest of the ensemble cast fits in this category as well, but special mention has to go to Tcheky Karyo. The French actor always has a aura of menace about him, and that suits him well, but he also has great comedy skills.

Nigel Cole finds the perfect tone for "Saving Grace." It's all about the charm. One of the problems I have with British humor is that all the energy seems to be drained out of the film. Not so here. The film is thoroughly likable and always amusing. That's not to say that "Saving Grace" is just a likable movie that will leave you with a grin and a good feeling. While this movie is not an out and out comedy, it does boast two or three scenes that are nothing short of hysterical.

If there's any problem with the film, it's that the climax is a little confusing. The questions are answered though, and the ending boasts an unexpected twist.

See "Saving Grace," especially when you're having a bad day.