

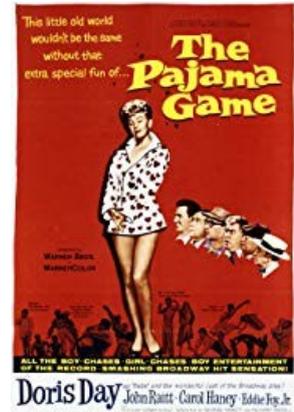
February Meeting:

Waverley Film Society will meet at St John's Uniting Church, 37 Virginia Street, Mt Waverley at 7.40 on **Wednesday, 12th of February**. Apologies can be left with Brett on 9807 3426. Visitors are welcome. Bring your friends.

This month we will screen *The Pajama Game* (1957)

The workers in a pajama factory are seeking a considerable pay rise. One of the workers falls for a man hired by the bosses to oppose the workers.

See page 2 for more information about the film.



Our Annual General Meeting will be held prior to the March meeting.

The March meeting will start a little earlier to accommodate the AGM.

Nomination forms for positions on the committee will be available at the February meeting.



Last Month

- Thirty-three people attended, including three visitors — Sueie, Chris and Erika. There were eight apologies.
- We now have 41 members
- **The Old Man and the Sea** recorded a rating of 3 stars.
- Brian distributed copies of the 2020 program. We thanked Brian and Ann for their work in its preparation.
- Everyone enjoyed the Christmas supper.

Next Screening

The next screening will be on Wednesday, March 11th, 2020.

High Noon (1952)

Western. A marshal gets no help when he determines to defend his town against revengeful bad men

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



The Pajama Game (1957)

(Reference: www.imdb.com)

Director George Abbott
Stanley Donan

Writing George Abbott
Richard Bissell

Film Editing William Ziegler

Cinematography Harry Stradling

Choreography Bob Fosse

Music Ray Heindorf
Howard Jackson

Cast includes:

Doris Day Babe Williams

John Raitt Sid Sorokin

Carol Haney Gladys Hotchkiss

Eddy Foy Jr Vernon Hines

Reta Shaw Mabel

Barbara Nichols Poopsie

Thelma Pelish Mae

Trivia

- The original Broadway production of "The Pajama Game" opened at the St. James Theater in New York on May 13, 1954, ran for 1,063 performances and won the 1955 Tony Award for the Best Musical.
- In her autobiography, Doris Day recounted how, as one of only four cast members who hadn't appeared in the Broadway production, it was challenging to fall into the groove of a company that had been playing the show for more than one thousand performances together. She described the experience as trying to find her place in a well-oiled machine .
- One of the main problems in the factory is that the workers want a 7-1/2 cent raise and are willing to go on strike to get it. Nowadays this doesn't seem like much, but the average mill/garment worker in 1954 (when the play was written) made on average about \$1.25 an hour, or about \$50 a week. The raise would add \$3.00 to each pay cheque, so the 7-1/2 cents would be about a 16% increase.
- John Raitt's only leading film role. While he cut an undeniably dashing and muscular figure on screen, and possessed a high baritone unlike any other, Raitt's wooden acting and utter lack of screen presence dashed any hopes of further movie roles.
- Famous director Bobby Fosse known for the movie *Cabaret* and many Broadway shows was a choreographer for the movie as well as the stage play.
- Carol Haney won the Tony Award for best supporting actress for playing Gladys, and re-created her role in the film.
- Number and configuration of empty beer bottles on Babe's kitchen table changes throughout scene.

Review: Makes you feel you're watching the Broadway show!! Fabulous! (Doylef May, 2001)

With all of the original cast members intact (John Raitt, Reta Shaw, Gwen Verdon, Eddie Foy, Jr.) except for the exceptionally talented Doris Day filling in for Janis Paige, 'The Pajama Game' is rollicking good fun and a smash hit once again with all of Bob Fosse's show-stopping choreography given top-rate exposure. Who would think a story about a labor dispute in a pajama factory could be turned into such a joyous musical?

Day sings her heart out on 'Hey There' and other tunes, while Raitt reprises his Broadway role as the factory foreman who comes up against the stubborn and feisty Babe, head of the grievance committee.

Day and Raitt can do no wrong, whether they're singing a ballad or a jump tune, whether singing or dancing, whether sparring or smooching.

Carol Haney is priceless doing 'Steam Heat' and 'Hernando's Hideaway' with great finesse.

It's all great fun done up in gaudy technicolor and undoubtedly one of the great film musicals of the '50s, the kind that we sorely miss today. One great song-and-dance routine follows another with no shortage of imagination as to staging and concept. A treasure! See it and enjoy!!