

## April Meeting:

Waverley Film Society will meet at Mount Waverley Uniting Church (formerly St Johns), 37 Virginia Street, Mt Waverley at **7.40** on **Wednesday, 13th of April**. Apologies can be left with Graeme on 9807 0582

This month we will screen *The African Queen* (1951).

In Africa during WW1 a drunken river boat captain is persuaded by a missionary to attack an enemy ship.



## Community Raffle

This year we will participate in the Community Raffle sponsored by Gary and Warren Smith. The Raffle Books, each containing ten \$2 tickets, will be distributed at this meeting. Please check that the number of your book is recorded. The ticket stubs and cash can be returned at the May or June meetings.

## Covid Arrangements

The Covid arrangements for this meeting are the same as in March. If you have not come in recent months, please bring along a certificate, either on paper or registered in a phone. The certificates of those who came recently are already recorded.



## Last Meeting

- 21 members attended and there were five apologies;
- *The Importance of Being Earnest* was awarded 3.6 stars;
- The 2022 AGM was held before the screening. 2021 activities were reviewed. Minutes to be written up.
- Committee for 2022 is Graeme (President), Marlene (Treasurer), and Brett (Secretary).
- Membership fee for 2022 retained at \$25. Membership fees are now due.
- Decision to participate in Community raffle. Secretary to arrange handling of raffle books.

## Next Meeting

The film to be screened on Wednesday, May 11th, 2022 is:

*The Sleuth* (1972).

A writer of crime novels invites his wife's lover to meet him, setting up a battle of wits in a game with potentially dangerous consequences.



## The African Queen (1951)

(Reference: [www.imdb.com](http://www.imdb.com))

**Director** John Huston  
**Writing** C S Forester (novel)  
James Agee & John Huston  
(adapted for the screen))  
**Cinematography** Jack Cardiff  
**Music** Allan Gray

**Producer** Sam Spiegel  
**Cast includes:**  
Humphrey Bogart Charlie Allnut  
Katherine Hepburn Rose Sayer  
Robert Morley Rev. Samuel Sayer  
Peter Bull Captain of Louisa  
Theodore Bikel First Officer

### Trivia

- Humphrey Bogart won the Academy Award for Best Actor for his performance in this movie, making him the last man born in the 19th century to ever win a leading role Oscar.
- Shooting was slow going. Tempers often flared and the cast and crew faced constant dangers and difficulties including torrential rains that would close down shooting, wild animals, poisonous snakes and scorpions, crocodiles, armies of ants, water so contaminated that they couldn't even brush their teeth with it, and food that was less than appetizing.
- The African Queen was actually the L.S. Livingston, which had been a working diesel boat for 40 years. The steam engine was a prop, and the real diesel engine was hidden under stacked crates of gin and other cargo. The "African Queen" sank and had to be raised twice during filming of the movie.
- Because the boat used in the film was too small to carry cameras and equipment, portions of it were reproduced on a large raft in order to shoot close-ups of Humphrey Bogart and Katharine Hepburn
- The boat shown going down the rapids, shot through a telephoto lens, was actually a model boat about eight feet long.
- About half of the film was shot in England. For instance, the scenes in which Charlie and Rose are seen in the water were all shot in studio tanks at Isleworth Studios. These scenes were considered too dangerous to shoot in Africa. Robert Morley shot all of his scenes in London, including footage of him preaching, which was edited together with shots of the natives praying, which was filmed in Africa.
- Berlin's film trade union requested that *The African Queen* be withdrawn from the Berlin Film Festival because of its "anti-German tendencies".

### Review. Don't take this one for granted (gftbiloxi June 2005)

Based on the famous C.S. Forester novel, which it follows quite closely, *The African Queen* is the simple story of pragmatic river-rat Charlie Allnut (Bogart) and high-minded Methodist missionary spinster Rose Sayer (Hepburn) who are thrown together by chance when German troops sweep through Africa during World War I. Once safely aboard his beat-up riverboat "The African Queen," Allnut desires nothing more than to dodge the Germans until war's end; Rose, however, determines to strike a blow against the Germans by sailing the boat down river to attack a German battleship.

There are so many fine things about this movie that they are hard to list. Filmed on location in the Congo, the cinematography is remarkably fine without being obtrusive; the script, which is at once subtle and very purposeful, has a remarkably natural tone; the two stars--who play the vast majority of the film alone together--give justly famous performances; and Huston's direction is so fine that we never feel even the slightest hint of directorial manipulation. As an adventure, it has a sense of realism that most adventure stories lack; as a character study it is remarkably detailed and finely wrought; as a love story, it is quite touching without engaging in common sentimentality. And it can be enjoyed by many people of diverse backgrounds and ages without the faintest qualm.