

Dear Friends

We are still exploring offerings on-line, and here are some ideas and activities for you to consider this month. But we're happy to add that we can also offer our first "live" event in several months in Canberra! The venue is different and has been chosen for its social distancing numbers: we hope to be back in CMAG and the NFSA theatre in the new year as covid-19 limitations decrease, and in Melbourne as soon as conditions permit.

THE ORIGINS OF AUSTRALIAN ROCK (Our LIVE Event)

Friday 30 October at 2 pm

Function room, Yowani Golf Club, 455 Northbourne Avenue, Lyneham

This Friday with Friends session will be presented by the conveners of the U3A 'History of Rock' program: rock historian and former ABC presenter David Kilby, local musician Hugh Watson and Creedence tragic Alex Gosman.

From the first wave of Australian rock in the 1950s, through JO'K, the Easybeats, Lonnie Lee and Col Joye to Billy Thorpe & the Aztecs, the Loved One and the Masters Apprentices and on to Spectrum, Daddy Cool, Saints and the Skyhooks to name a few. Our presenters will be discussing the importance of these bands in the development of Australian rock music, and playing some tracks for you. There will be many you remember, some you never knew and some you may want to forget; but it will be fun.

Drinks are available from the licensed bar and maybe brought into the Function room. There is also cafe open for lunch.

Because of covid-19 restrictions, **bookings are essential. Please go to [TryBooking](#)** to register. A nominal charge of \$3 (Friends members) or \$5 (others) will apply (plus a 50 cents booking fee).

PORDENONE SILENT FILM FESTIVAL 3-10 October

This famed film festival in Italy is operating on line this year, for the first time, and for a registration fee of just €9.90 (about 16 Australian dollars) you can enjoy this remarkable feast! Here's a description extracted from [the website](#):

When we were forced to set aside our usual thematic programming, our archivist colleagues stepped forward to offer rarely-seen treats that capture the full spectrum of the silent era's cinematic wonders. And then when we contacted our

family of musicians, they embraced the challenge and delivered exceptional accompaniments.

*The eleven programmes we're presenting this year reflect the riches of the art form comedies, dramas and travelogues from cinema's baby steps to the full flowering of the medium. There are famous names like **G.W. Pabst, Laurel and Hardy, Cecil B. DeMille, and Sessue Hayakawa**, as well as filmmakers whom you may never have heard of before, but they all represent the best of cinema's first three decades. **Each day of the week and twice on the weekends we'll post a new film programme available for 24 hours, ensuring the participation of viewers in all time zones.** In addition to the films themselves, we're delighted to be offering live streamed discussions after each programme, together with new special content like Master Classes with our musicians, and book presentations.*

VISIT THE HIVE AT NFSA

[The NFSA](#) has reopened with its new exhibition "The Hive". Opening hours are 10 am to 4 pm daily. Bignelli's café is open for lunch (except Sundays). Bookings are not necessary for "The Hive" but prebooking is essential for screenings and presentations. Distancing measures are in place.

VISIT NFSA ON YOUTUBE

Have you seen [the NFSA's YouTube page](#)? With over 600 items to choose from, there are film clips, talks, interviews and much more to explore, taking you inside the work of the Archive.

VINYL LOUNGE THIS FRIDAY

The virtual vinyl lounge operates on the first Friday of each month. [Join in this coming Friday.](#)

TV NOSTALGIA - THE HONEYMOONERS

Again this month we are suggesting another dip into early Australian television programming which you can visit on-line. One of the earliest sitcoms to be aired on Australian television in the mid 1950s was **The Honeymooners**, and there are several complete episodes [on YouTube](#).

Starring and created by Jackie Gleason, **The Honeymooners** followed the lives bus driver Ralph Kramden (Gleason), his wife Alice and his best friend Ed Norton,

as they get involved with various scenarios and schemes in their day-to-day living. Most episodes revolved around Ralph's poor choices in absurd dilemmas which frequently showed his quick-to-judge attitude in a comedic tone. The show occasionally featured more serious issues such as women's rights. The series first aired in 1955-56 in the US, and shortly thereafter on Australian television

Nearly all 1950s sitcoms featured upper middle class families, with the father wearing a suit and tie around their suburban single-family house, and the mother in an attractive dress and pearls. *The Honeymooners* was one of the first U.S. television shows to portray working-class married couples in a gritty, non-idyllic manner, as the show is mostly set in the Kramdens' kitchen in a neglected Brooklyn apartment building.

Although the official series ran for only 39 episodes, it lives on today in different guise. The wildly successful Hanna-Barbera cartoon franchise **The Flintstones** is based directly on **The Honeymooners**, with Ralph and Alice Kramden corresponding to Fred and Wilma Flintstone, and Ed and Thelma Norton to Barney and Betty Rubble. You can read much more about the series and its influence at [Wikipedia](#)

We hope you are able to enjoy some of these options - and that you are all keeping well.

Regards,

Sue

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Sue Terry,
Secretary,
Friends of the NFSA