

There are several ways that you can organise cinema screenings within your community. You can:

- Promote community cinema events as social or fundraising events
- Form a Film Society
- Hire a mobile cinema operator

COMMUNITY CINEMA EVENTS

A local volunteer or group will book the venue - usually the village hall or community centre - hire the equipment and obtain the film through a distributor or a retail outlet (depending on the licensing arrangements). They will also organise and publicise the event, together with any complementary activities like refreshments, fundraising activities or other entertainment.

Cinema equipment available for community use is based at:

- The Palace Theatre, Newark
- North Notts Community Arena in Worksop

The equipment is portable (fits a standard saloon car boot), and you will need to collect and return. The loan arrangement can also include film hire. The hire arrangement is primarily for use by venues in Newark & Sherwood and Bassetlaw, although there may be some availability for venues in other areas.

To find out about availability and booking conditions, contact North Notts Community Arena on 01909 480 164, email: reception@nnca.org.uk or the Palace Theatre Newark on 01636 655 750, email: palace@nsdc.info.

For further information on hiring cinema equipment, download [Factsheet 3: Equipment](#) from

www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/arts/film

FILM SOCIETY

There is more than one way to run a film society, and the method of operation that you choose can affect the hire costs for films and the audiences that you can market your screenings to.

Film societies operate mainly on a membership scheme basis, which have a number of advantages to community venues such as:

- There is income up-front for venue screenings over a season.
- It encourages audience attendance at every screening.
- Members get a reduced rate of admission over guest tickets.
- You can be much more adventurous with your programme of films

The British Federation of Film Societies (BFFS) has produced a guide to starting a new film society called the [BFFS Starter Pack](#), which is available to view on their website.

www.bffs.org.uk/resources/advice.htm

If you decide to start up as a film society, it is worth joining the BFFS for access to all their resources. It is free to join for the first year, and the site offers valuable advice and guidance including lists of film distributors.

www.bffs.org.uk

MOBILE CINEMA OPERATORS

There are a number of commercial mobile cinema operators, who transport their own screening equipment to smaller venues and offer a menu of films. This kind of operator offers the service of film booking, technical presentation and assistance with advertising, at a commercial cost.

A local operator, based in Nottinghamshire is Filmscene

www.filmsceneuk.com

There are a number of other mobile cinema operators based outside the county, who may provide a service into Nottinghamshire, so you may wish to research these on the web.

TRY IT OUT

You may feel certain that there is a potential for community cinema where you live, but it is always a good idea to test out the market with a trial event. You might do this either by organising it all yourself, or using a mobile cinema operator to run a trial event (see above).