

Jane Harper's novel *The Dry* was turned into film starring Eric Bana; it became the most popular Australian film of 2021. So it's no surprise that a film of her second novel about detective Aaron Falk will soon be released, again directed by Robert Connolly and featuring Bana in the lead role. And again it was filmed in Victoria, with the landscape an important element in the drama, though now the setting is forested mountain wilderness rather than farmland. Five women who work for the same corporation go on a bush trek and one goes missing. The missing woman happens to be a whistle-blower, which makes the others suspects. Falk and federal agent Carmen Cooper (Jacqueline McKenzie) set out to find her-if she is still alive.

Beverages & Food

Coffee, tea and slices for all regular screenings.

Please feel free to bring your own evening dinners, nibbles, or a takeaway from a local business. Tables will be available at evening screenings. Licensed bar at all screenings.

Saturday Program Movie Times*

3 pm (doors open 2:30 pm) 7 pm (doors open 6 pm)

*See online for Maleny Film Festival screening times

Venue:

Maleny Community Centre, 23 Maple Street, Maleny

Ticket Costs for Members:

\$8 for Regular members, FREE for Gold members Tickets are available 2 weeks prior to each screening, online, at Maleny Info Centre or at the door. Members-Only Screenings are FREE for all members (see members-only program online).

Ticket Costs for Non-Members:

Adults-\$13, Students-\$8, Child under 16-\$5
Tickets are available online or at Maleny Info Centre from Friday
on the day prior to screening and also at the door.

Membership

See online for details of benefits, costs and membership types.

Maleny Film Society...

- · screens the best of world cinema
- promotes social interaction & film appreciation
- collaborates with community groups

Bringing you the best of world cinema 09/09/23 - 13/01/24



Rachel's Farm

Australia - Documentary - 91 min - PG

Directed and narrated by Australian actor/director Rachel Ward, this film follows the journey of discovery that took her from despair to hope as she learned how to confront the challenges of repairing the ecological health of the badly damaged farm she and her husband purchased in northern NSW, implementing land management practices that could restore its environmental integrity. Set within the context of global climate change and the impact of the past three years of devastating bushfires followed by equally devastating rains and floods, this uplifting film delivers a powerful and positive message about the need to move away from traditional farming practices toward a more ecological approach in order to regenerate the land's productivity and enable more sustainable farming and rural communities.

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Saturday Movie Times

Matinee 3 pm (doors open 2:30 pm) Evening 7 pm (doors open 6pm)



Driving Madeleine (La Belle Course) France - Drama - 91 min - MA

A woman engages a taxi driver to take her across Paris. The passenger is 92-year-old Madeleine Keller (Line Renaud). She has had a fall and their destination is an old people's home. The driver Charles (Dany Boon) is at first bored and uncommunicative. After all, much of his life is spent behind the wheel. And he has only two remaining points on his licence. Madeleine's memories of her long life are triggered by places they see on the trip, and she tells Charles about her experiences, many of them heartbreaking. Her stories eventually engage Charles and he becomes more and more intrigued by this remarkable woman's life. What develops is a heart-warming and unexpected relationship between two unlikely people. Famous Paris landmarks add to the film's charms.



The New Boy

Australia - Drama - 116 min - M

Inspired by his own experience of Catholic boarding school, indigenous film-maker Warwick Thornton began writing the script well before release of his acclaimed films *Samson and Delilah* and *Sweet Country*. A nun, played by Cate Blanchett, takes charge of a remote orphanage in the 1940s. She is intrigued and unsettled by an unruly, free-spirited boy who seems to have certain inexplicable powers. Deborah Mailman (another nun) and Wayne Blair (farmhand) help look after the children and provide some humour. Thornton's ambitious examination of the collision between colonising Christianity and indigenous spirituality is open to interpretation. Reviewers have raved about 11 year-old Aswin Reid's performance in the title role and the cinematography.



Maria Into Life (Maria Reve) France - Comedy - 93 min - M

Maria's marriage of twenty-plus years has grown stale; she feels unappreciated, and her life has fallen into a rut. Then she begins her new job as the cleaner at a school of fine arts, and befriends the school's whimsical janitor, and one of the art students. These two quite different souls awaken her to how she can expand the boundaries of her dull and routine life, and make it more exciting and alive than she had ever expected. Maria's coming-to-life happens gradually and in unexpected ways. It is presented with nuance and humour, at times poking fun at the pretentiousness of art and those who practise it. Light-hearted but also emotionally rich, this film won the audience award at the 2022 International Festival of Francophone Film.



The Bank of Dave UK - Comedy/Drama - 107 min - M

Dave Fishwick (Rory Kinnear), a popular, knockabout chap living in Burnley, Lancashire, has made his money as a retailer of vans and minibuses. After generously lending money to needy friends and customers over the years, Dave decides to formalise his loans by opening a 'corner store' bank. However, Dave's application to register with the London banking establishment is viewed with disdain. After all, the (FRB) Financial Review Committee hasn't approved a new bank for 150 years! So, a stuffy lawyer, Hugh, (Joel Fry) is sent up north to investigate. What ensues is both disarming and delightful. Closing credits feature a photograph of the real Dave, informing us that The Bank of Dave is still operating and has lent \$57 million, with profits donated to charity



BarbieBarbie – USA – Fantasy/Comedy – 114 min – PG

A smash hit that has attracted much serious commentary, Barbie is a cultural phenomenon. It is both a critique and a joyful celebration of another cultural phenomenon: the controversial doll. Barbie (Margot Robbie) has an idyllic life in 'Barbie Land' where Ken (Ryan Gosling) is just one of her accessories. Crossing into the real world she encounters feminist resentment, while Ken picks up notions of male superiority. Back in Barbie Land, Ken establishes patriarchal rule which Barbie challenges with the help of a mother and daughter from the real world. The film has a lot to say about sexism as well as the tension between conformity and individualism. But ultimately it is just a lot of fun: a visual delight in which Robbie and Gosling shine and you will find yourself chuckling.



Chevalier
USA - Drama - 108 min - M

We are in 18th century France at the beginning of the French revolution. The illegitimate son of a plantation owner and a black slave is sent to Paris to be educated. Despite considerable racial prejudice, he becomes a champion fencer, violin virtuoso, composer, and conductor. Marie Antoinette makes him a chevalier (knight), and is not the only woman captivated by his charms. This may sound like a work of fiction, but is in fact all true. The film follows the rise of Joseph Bologne in French society, and the limits eventually imposed on him as a mixed race man, leading him to investigate his African heritage as well. Visually sumptuous, this film introduces us to a little known part of history, and raises questions about race and identity.