



Welcome to WNCC's 17th season. We have a different venue for the beginning of the season, have reverted to Members' preferred Thursday evenings and have this new format for our celebrated notes - however, our commitment to presenting a varied and high quality programme of films remains unchanged.

The Committee is jointly responsible for the majority of matters concerning the week by week running of the Club and would welcome new members - please speak to any current member of the Committee if you are interested in becoming more

involved in your Club. If you would prefer to offer occasional help in other areas - for example, projection, refreshments, providing suitable music or writing notes - such assistance would be welcomed.

Whether you are here for the first time tonight or have been coming for several seasons, don't be afraid to join in and have your say - that's what being a member of Woking's New Cinema Club is all about.

Iain McGlashan  
Chairman

UK/US, 1993, Colour  
Certificate U, 138 minutes

*Cast*

Stevens	Anthony Hopkins
Miss Kenton	Emma Thompson
Lewis	Christopher Reeve
Lord Darlington	James Fox
Mr Stevens Sr.	Peter Vaughn
Cardinal	Hugh Grant
Benn	Tim Pigott-Smith
Dupont D'Ivry	Michael Lonsdale

Director	James Ivory
Producers	Paul Bradley John Calley Ismail Merchant Mike Nichols Donald Rosenfeld

Cinematography	Tony Pierce-Roberts
Music	Richard Robbins
Film Editing	Andrew Marcus

*The Remains of the Day* is a quint-essentially British film. Coming from the stable of Merchant-Ivory, it reunites Anthony Hopkins and Emma Thompson from their previous production, *Howard's End* (1992). It is the central performance of Hopkins as the "Gentleman's Gentleman" James Stevens, who has never learned to express his own needs or serve his own interests, that drives the narrative.

The film opens in 1958, when Darlington Hall has a new American owner (Christopher Reeve), keen to restore the estate to its former glory. Stevens is embarking on a journey across England and, in the course of his trip, through many breathtaking flashback sequences, he reviews his life in service to Lord Darlington (James Fox) and what it was like to be in the middle

of political intrigues, relationships, and day to day life in the 1930s, whilst powerless to avert any short-comings.

The story is based on the 1989 Booker Prize-winning novel by Japanese-born writer Kazuo Ishiguro and is adapted by Ruth Prawer Jhabvala, in her thirteenth Merchant-Ivory collaboration. It is a beautifully detailed piece of film-making, from the nuances of the domestic hierarchy to the events "upstairs", which Stevens observes but can never venture to comment on. Thompson plays the prickly but wistful young house-keeper Sally Kenton, who is desired by Stevens and who in turn loves him; but no matter how hard she tries to draw him out, he cannot admit his feelings.

I don't believe a man can consider himself fully content until he has done all he can to be of service to his employer.

James Stevens (Hopkins)

The relationship between the two principles is played out under the shadow of the Nazis' rise to power in Germany. Lord Darlington, a German sympathiser, is determined to fight for peace no matter what the cost. Nevertheless, the viewer only sees this as a backdrop to the more important interaction between Miss Kenton and Mr Stevens, which occurs over more than twenty years, always hoping that something will crack Stevens' perfect veneer of emotional dearth.

The film was shot on many different locations, although taking place at one stately home. The exterior shots were filmed at Dyrham Park, a mansion built around the turn of the eighteenth century, and the interiors were filmed at Corsham Court in Wiltshire, now the home of Lord Methuen; Badminton House in Gloucestershire, the seat of the Dukes of Beaufort; and Powderham Castle, near Exeter.

Emma Thompson began filming *The Remains of the Day* less than a week after finishing *Much Ado About Nothing*. The following extract is from Thompson's exclusive diary during its making, for *Premiere* magazine:

Monday November 9 1993

Came in to work, only to discover that I had the next two days off and could go home that night. Jim [Ivory] looked at me as I was about to breeze off again and said, "Why does Ismail [Merchant] pay you so much for this? You're never here." I said, "Well, think of this as the fee for *Howard's End* and the fee for *H. End* as the fee for this, and then it works." He laughed and said it was just what he had said to Ismail.



*The Remains of the Day* was nominated for eight Oscars but left the ceremony empty-handed. James Ivory, Anthony Hopkins and Emma Thompson were all nominated for Academy Awards but lost out to Steven Spielberg (for *Schindler's List*), Tom Hanks (*Philadelphia*) and Holly Hunter (*The Piano*) respectively. In my opinion, Anthony Hopkins was robbed of an Oscar by a performance that did not deserve the accolades it received and only won because of the subject matter it dealt with. Perhaps that is a controversial statement but after you have seen *The Remains of the Day*, I am sure that you, too, will believe that an injustice was done and that Britain should have walked away with at least one of the four main Oscars of 1994.

Jonathan Beare



## Obituary Column

The summer break has seen the loss of some great names in the entertainment industry. Tributes compiled by Geraldine Beare.

*Pandro Berman* (1905-96): Hollywood producer whose credits include the Astaire/Ginger Rogers films, *Butterfield 8* (1962) and *The Prize* (1963).

*Cubby Broccoli* (1909-96): Film producer best known for his James Bond movies.

*Patrick Cargill* (1918-96): Actor and dramatist whose credits include *Father*, *Dear Father* and *Hancock* episodes for television; and numerous stage and film parts including *Help!* (1965).

*Claudette Colbert* (1903-96): Actress best known for her Oscar-winning performance in *It Happened One Night* (1934) and *It's a Wonderful World* (1938).

*Greer Garson* (1903-96): Actress best known for her Oscar-winning performance in *Mrs Miniver* (1942) and *Goodbye Mr Chips* (1939).

*Joseph Green* (1900-96): Yiddish film director with a sense of humour, whose film credits include *Yiddle with his Fiddle* (1936).

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**Fred Hift (1921-96):** Film publicist and journalist who helped publicise many of the major films of recent decades including *Exodus* (1960), *Cleopatra* (1963) and *The Return of the Pink Panther* (1975).

**Dick Hills (1926-96):** Comedy writer best known for his work with Morecambe and Wise but who also wrote for Tommy Cooper, Jasper Carrott and Russ Abbot.

**Dorothy Hyson (1914-96):** Stage and film star, widow of the late Anthony Quayle (d. 1989) and daughter of the legendary Dorothy Dickson (d. 1995 aged 102), her credits include *The Ghoul* (1933) with Boris Karloff and Gielgud's *Lady Windermere's Fan* (1945).

**Preston Lockwood (1912-96):** British actor whose familiar voice and face was seen and heard in many TV and radio productions, including the voice of Dennis the Dachshund, the ghost in the early days of Hamlet cigar advertisements and as Lord Chancellor in *Rumpole*.

**Alfred Marks (1921-96):** Actor, singer and comedian whose credits include *Can-Can* (1954), *Spring and Port Wine* (1960s) and *Desert Mice* (1959).

**Pamela Mason (1916-96):** Author and actress, wife of the late James Mason (d. 1984), whose credits include *I Met A Murderer* (1939), which she both wrote and starred in.

**Jon Pertwee (1919-96):** Actor best known for his roles in *Worzel Gummidge* and *Dr Who* and for his enormous range of characters in the radio series *The Navy Lark*.

**Pasqualino De Santis (1927-96):** Italian cinematographer whose credits include *Death in Venice* (1971) and *Romeo and Juliet* (1968).

**Jeremy Sinden (1950-96):** Actor son of Donald Sinden whose credits include *Brideshead Revisited* (1981) and *The Wind in the Willows* (1995/6).

**Tamara Tourmanova (1919-96):** Ballerina and film actress whose credits include *Invitation to the Dance* (1954), *Torn Curtain* (1966) and *The Private Life of Sherlock Holmes* (1970).

**Jo Van Fleet (1919-96):** Actress whose credits include *East of Eden* (1955) and *Gunfight at the OK Corral* (1957).

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## Our Next Presentation

3 October 1996

### The Usual Suspects

1995/US/120m/18/dir Bryan Singer

Gabriel Byrne, Kevin Spacey,  
Pete Postlethwaite

Last year's must-see thriller, *Suspects* has a corkscrew plot which is too complex to sum up in a few lines. In brief, when five hardened criminals are held overnight in a police cell they plan a heist to get even with the NYPD. Thus begins a hugely complex chain of events which will keep you on the edge of your seat.

Performance Ends 10.20pm (approx.)

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